
	<p><b>Lancaster County School District</b></p> <p><i>Request for Proposal</i></p>	<p><b>Solicitation Number</b> 202224  <b>Date Issued</b> 6/7/22  <b>Procurement Officer</b> Trevor Hammond, NIGP-CPP, CPPB  <b>Phone</b> (803) 416-8828  <b>E-Mail Address</b> <a href="mailto:Trevor.Hammond@lcsd.k12.sc.us">Trevor.Hammond@lcsd.k12.sc.us</a></p>	
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Description: ***Student Accident and Athletic Insurance***

*The Term "Offer" Means Your "Bid" or "Proposal"*

SUBMIT OFFER BY (Opening Date/Time): **6/27/2022 at 10:00 AM – EST** See "Deadline for Submission of Offer" provision

QUESTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: **6/16/2022 at 10:00 AM - EST** See "Questions from Offerors" provision

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: **One (1) original, Five (5) hard copies and one (1) USB containing a PDF version of the ORIGINAL proposal and a REDACTED copy (clearly marked)**

*Offers must be submitted in a sealed package. Solicitation Number & Opening Date & Time must appear on package exterior.*

**SUBMIT YOUR OFFER TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:**

**PHYSICAL & MAILING ADDRESS:**  
 Lancaster County School District  
 Attn: Trevor Hammond, Procurement Director  
 300 South Catawba Street  
 Lancaster, SC 29720

See "Submitting Your Offer" provision

CONFERENCE TYPE: <b>n/a</b> DATE & TIME: <small>As appropriate, see "Conferences - Pre-Bid/Proposal &amp; Site Visit" provisions</small>		LOCATION: <b>n/a</b>	
AWARD & AMENDMENTS	Award will be posted at the Physical Address stated above on or about 7/12/22. The award, this solicitation, and any amendments will be posted at the following web address: <a href="http://www.lancastercsd.com">www.lancastercsd.com</a>		
You must submit a signed copy of this form with Your Offer. By submitting a bid or proposal, You agree to be bound by the terms of the Solicitation. You agree to hold Your Offer open for a minimum of sixty (60) calendar days after the Opening Date.			
NAME OF OFFEROR <small>(Full legal name of business submitting the offer)</small>		OFFEROR'S TYPE OF ENTITY: <small>(Check one)</small>	
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE <small>(Person signing must be authorized to submit binding offer to enter contract on behalf of Offeror named above.)</small>		<input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate entity (not tax-exempt) <input type="checkbox"/> Tax exempt corporate entity <input type="checkbox"/> Government entity (federal, state, or local) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
TITLE <small>(Business title of person signing above)</small>		<small>(See "Signing your Offer" provision)</small>	
PRINTED NAME <small>(Printed name of person signing above)</small>	DATE SIGNED		
Instructions regarding Offeror's name: Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the Offeror above. An offer may be submitted by only one legal entity. The entity named as the Offeror must be a single and distinct legal entity. Do not use the name of a branch office or a division of a larger entity if the branch or division is not a separate legal entity, <i>i.e.</i> , a separate corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, etc.			
STATE OF INCORPORATION		<small>(If Offeror is a corporation, identify the State of Incorporation.)</small>	
TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NO.		<small>(See "Taxpayer Identification Number" provision)</small>	

**PAGE TWO**  
(Return Page Two with Your Offer)

<b>HOME OFFICE ADDRESS</b> (Address for Offeror's home office / principal place of business)	<b>NOTICE ADDRESS</b> (Address to which all procurement and contract related notices should be sent.) (See "Notice" clause)
	Area Code & Number: Extension: Facsimile:
	E-mail Address:

<b>PAYMENT ADDRESS</b> (Address to which payments will be sent.) (See "Payment" clause)	<b>ORDER ADDRESS</b> (Address to which purchase orders will be sent) (See "Purchase Orders" and "Contract Documents" clauses)
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<input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Home Office Address <input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Notice Address (check only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Home Office Address <input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Notice Address (check only one)
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**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMENDMENTS**  
 Offeror acknowledges receipt of amendments by indicating amendment number and its date of issue. (See "Amendments to Solicitation" Provision)

Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date

<b>DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT</b> See "Discount for Prompt Payment" clause	10 Calendar Days (%)	20 Calendar Days (%)	30 Calendar Days (%)	___ Calendar Days (%)
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**Minority Participation:**

Are you a SC Certified Minority Vendor: Yes  No

If yes, SC Certification #: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Non SC Certified Minority Vendor: Yes  No

# Solicitation Outline

- I. Scope of Solicitation
- II. Instructions to Offerors
  - A. General Instructions
  - B. Special Instructions
- III. Scope of Work/Specifications
- IV. Information for Offerors to Submit
- V. Qualifications
- VI. Award Criteria
- VII. Terms and Conditions
  - A. General
  - B. Special
- VIII. Cost Proposal Schedule
- IX. Attachments to Solicitation
- X. Minority Participation

## I. SCOPE OF SOLICITATION

The Lancaster County School District is seeking proposals from qualified firms to provide student accident and athletic insurance for the Lancaster County School District per the requirements and specifications of this solicitation.

**Acquire Services:** The purpose of this solicitation is to acquire services complying with the enclosed description and/or specifications and conditions.

**Maximum Contract Period – Estimated:** July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027. Dates provided are estimates only. Any resulting contract will begin on the date specified in the notice of award. Contract is for one (1) initial year with the option to renew the agreement on an annual basis for up to four (4) one-year periods. Maximum contract period is five (5) years. See clause entitled “Term of Contract – Effective Date/Initial Contract Period”.

## II. INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS – A. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

### **DEFINITIONS, CAPITALIZATION, AND HEADINGS:**

Clause headings used in this solicitation are for convenience only and shall not be used to construe meaning or intent. Even if not capitalized, the following definitions are applicable to all parts of the solicitation, unless expressly provided otherwise.

1. **Amendment** – means a document issued to supplement the original solicitation document.
2. **Authority** – means the State Fiscal Accountability Authority or its successor in interest.
3. **Board** – means the Lancaster County School District Board of Trustees.
4. **Business** – means any corporation, partnership, individual, sole proprietorship, joint stock company, joint venture, or any other legal entity.
5. **Change Order** - means any written alteration in specifications, delivery point, rate of delivery, period of performance, price, quantity, or other provisions of any contract accomplished by mutual agreement of the parties to the contract.
6. **Contract** - See clause entitled “Contract Documents & Order of Precedence.”
7. **Contract Modification** – means a written order signed by the procurement officer, directing the contractor to make changes which the clause of the contract titled “Changes”, if included herein, authorizes the Procurement Officer to order without the consent of the contractor.

8. **Contractor** - means the Offeror receiving an award as a result of this solicitation.
9. **Cover Page** – means the top page of the original solicitation on which the solicitation is identified by number. Offerors are cautioned that amendments may modify information provided on the cover page.
10. **District** – means Lancaster County School District (LCSD)
11. **Offer** – means the bid or proposal submitted in response to this solicitation. The terms “Bid” and “Proposal” are used interchangeably with the term “Offer.”
12. **Offeror** – means the single legal entity submitting the offer. The term “Bidder” is used interchangeably with the term “Offeror.” See bidding provisions entitled “Signing Your Offer” and “Bid/Proposal As Offer To Contract.”
13. **Page Two** – means the second page of the original solicitation, which is labeled Page Two.
14. **Procurement Officer** – means the person, or his successor, identified as such on either the cover page, an amendment, or an award notice. Procurement Officer means the Chief Procurement Officer.
15. **Solicitation** – means this document, including all its parts, attachments, and any amendments.
16. **Subcontractor** – means any person you contract with to perform or provide any part of the work.
17. **Us (or) We** - means the using government unit.
18. **Using Governmental Unit** – means the unit(s) of government identified as such on the Cover Page.
19. **Work** - means all labor, materials, equipment, services, or property of any type, provided or to be provided by the contractor to fulfill the contractor’s obligations under the contract.
20. **You and Your** – means Offeror

**Amendments to Solicitation:** (a) The solicitation may be amended at any time prior to opening. All actual and prospective Offerors should monitor the following web site for the issuance of amendments: <https://sites.google.com/lcsd.k12.sc.us/lcsd-procurement/solicitations-awards>. (b) Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation (1) by signing and returning the amendment, (2) by identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose on page two, (3) by letter, or (4) by submitting a bid that indicates in some way that the bidder received the amendment. (c) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

Because this solicitation is posted electronically, the District may not be aware of all potential Offerors, particularly those that attained a copy from this web site or other unknown sources. ***It is the proposer’s responsibility to check this web site periodically to determine if any amendments have been issued. Any amendments issued by the District shall become a formal part of this solicitation.***

**Authorized Agent:** All authority regarding this procurement is vested solely with the responsible Procurement Officer. Unless specifically delegated in writing, the Procurement Officer is the only government official authorized to bind the District with regard to this procurement or the resulting contract.

**Award Notification:** Notice regarding any award, cancellation of award, or extension of award will be posted at the location and on the date specified on the cover page or, if applicable, any notice of extension of award. The date and location of posting will be announced at opening. Should the contract resulting from this solicitation have a potential value of one hundred thousand dollars or more, such notice will be sent to all Offerors responding to the solicitation and any award will not be effective until the eleventh day after such notice is given.

**Bid/Proposal as Offer to Contract:** By submitting your bid or proposal, you are offering to enter into a contract with the district. Without further action by either party, a binding contract shall result upon final award. Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the Offeror on the cover page. An offer may be submitted by only one legal entity; “joint bids” are not allowed.

**Bid Acceptance Period:** In order to withdraw your offer after the minimum period specified on the cover page, you must notify the Procurement Officer in writing.

**Bid in English & Dollars:** Offers submitted in response to this solicitation shall be in the English language and in US dollars, unless otherwise permitted by the solicitation.

**Board as Procurement Agent:** The Procurement Officer is an employee of the district acting on behalf of the Lancaster County School District pursuant to the Lancaster County School District Procurement Code. Any contracts awarded as a result of this procurement are between the contractor and the district. The Board is not a party to such contracts, unless and to the extent that the Board is a using district department, and bears no liability for any party's losses arising out of or relating in any way to the contract.

**Certificate of Independent Price Determination:** GIVING FALSE, MISLEADING, OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION ON THIS CERTIFICATION MAY RENDER YOU SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION UNDER SECTION 16-9-10 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS. (a) By submitting an offer, the offeror certifies that-

(1) The prices in this offer have been arrived at independently, without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other offeror or competitor relating to—

(i) Those prices;

(ii) The intention to submit an offer; or

(iii) The methods or factors used to calculate the prices offered.

(2) The prices in this offer have not been and will not be knowingly disclosed by the offeror, directly or indirectly, to any other offeror or competitor before bid opening (in the case of a sealed bid solicitation) or contract award (in the case of a negotiated solicitation) unless otherwise required by law; and

(3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the offeror to induce any other concern to submit or not to submit an offer for the purpose of restricting competition.

(b) Each signature on the offer is considered to be a certification by the signatory that the signatory-

(1) Is the person in the offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices being offered in this bid or proposal, and that the signatory has not participated and will not participate in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification; or

(2)(i) Has been authorized, in writing, to act as agent for the offeror's principals in certifying that those principals have not participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification [As used in this subdivision (b)(2)(i), the term "principals" means the person(s) in the offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices offered in this bid or proposal];

(ii) As an authorized agent, does certify that the principals referenced in subdivision (b)(2)(i) of this certification have not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification; and

(iii) As an agent, has not personally participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification.

(c) If the offeror deletes or modifies paragraph (a)(2) of this certification, the offeror must furnish with its offer a signed statement setting forth in detail the circumstances of the disclosure.

**Certification Regarding Debarment and Other Responsibility Matters:**

(a)(1) By submitting an offer, Offeror certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that-

(i) Offeror and/or any of its Principals-

(A) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any state or federal agency;

(B) Have not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for: commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) contract or subcontract; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or receiving stolen property; and

(C) Are not presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity with, commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this provision.

(ii) Offeror has not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any public (federal, state, or local) entity.

(2) "Principals," for the purposes of this certification, means officers; directors; owners; partners; and, persons having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g., general manager; plant manager; head of a subsidiary, division, or business segment, and similar positions).

(b) Offeror shall provide immediate written notice to the Procurement Officer if, at any time prior to contract award, Offeror learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

(c) If Offeror is unable to certify the representations stated in paragraphs (a)(1), Offeror must submit a written explanation regarding its inability to make the certification. The certification will be considered in connection with a review of the Offeror's responsibility. Failure of the Offeror to furnish additional information as requested by the Procurement Officer may render the Offeror non-responsible.

(d) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the certification required by paragraph (a) of this provision. The knowledge and information of an Offeror is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

(e) The certification in paragraph (a) of this provision is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making award. If it is later determined that the Offeror knowingly or in bad faith rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the district, the Procurement Officer may terminate the contract resulting from this solicitation for default.

**Code of Laws Available:** The South Carolina Code of Laws, including the Consolidated Procurement Code, is available at: <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/statmast.php> The South Carolina Regulations are available at: <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/coderegs/statmast.php>

**Completion of Forms/Correction of Errors:** All prices and notations should be printed in ink or typewritten. Errors should be crossed out, corrections entered and initialed by the person signing the bid. Do not modify the solicitation document itself (including bid schedule). Please DO NOT use any form of correction tape or fluid if an error is made on the Bid Schedule or any other documents to be submitted with your bid. This can cause your bid to be rejected. Please mark through the error, writing the correct amount or information, and initialing the correction.

**Deadline for Submission of Offer:** Any offer received after the Procurement Officer of the district or his designee has declared that the time set for opening has arrived, shall be rejected unless the offer has been delivered to the designated purchasing office or the District's mail room which services that purchasing office prior to the bid opening.

**Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest or Unfair Competitive Advantage:** You warrant and represent that your offer identifies and explains any unfair competitive advantage you may have in competing for the proposed contract and any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your participation in this competition or your receipt of an award. The two underlying principles are (a) preventing the existence of conflicting roles that might bias a contractor's judgment, and (b) preventing an unfair competitive advantage. If you have an unfair competitive advantage or a conflict of interest, the district may withhold award. Before withholding award on these grounds, an Offeror will be notified of the concerns and provided a reasonable opportunity to respond. Efforts to avoid or mitigate such concerns, including restrictions on future activities, may be considered. Without limiting the foregoing, you represent that your offer identifies any services that relate to either this solicitation or the work and that has already been performed by you, a proposed subcontractor, or an affiliated business of either.

**District Office Closings:** If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal district processes so that offers cannot be received at the district office designated for receipt of bids by the exact time specified in the solicitation, the time specified for receipt of offers will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal district processes resume. In lieu of an automatic extension, an amendment may be issued to reschedule bid opening. If district offices are closed at the time a pre-bid or pre-proposal conference is scheduled, an amendment will be issued to reschedule the conference.

**Drug Free Work Place Certification:** By submitting an offer, contractor certifies that, if awarded a contract, contractor will comply with all applicable provisions of The Drug-free Workplace Act, Title 44, Chapter 107 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended.

**Duty to Inquire:** Offeror, by submitting an offer, represents that it has read and understands the solicitation and that its offer is made in compliance with the solicitation. Offerors are expected to examine the solicitation thoroughly and should request an explanation of any ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the solicitation. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror's risk. All ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation shall be interpreted to require the better quality or greater quantity of work and/or materials, unless otherwise directed by amendment. Offeror assumes responsibility for any patent ambiguity in the solicitation that Offeror does not bring to the District's attention. (See clause entitled "Questions from Offerors".)

**Ethics Certificate:** By submitting an offer, the Offeror certifies that the Offeror has and will comply with, and has not, and will not, induce a person to violate Title 8, Chapter 13 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended (ethics act). The following statutes require special attention: Section 8-13-700, regarding use of official position for financial gain; Section 8-13-705, regarding gifts to influence action of public official; Section 8-13-720, regarding offering money for advice or assistance of public official; Sections 8-13-755 and 8-13-760, regarding restrictions on employment by former public official; Section 8-13-775, prohibiting public official with economic interests from acting on contracts; Section 8-13-790, regarding recovery of kickbacks; Section 8-13-1150, regarding statements to be filed by consultants; and Section 8-13-1342, regarding restrictions on contributions by contractor to candidate who participated in awarding of contract. The district may rescind any contract and recover all amounts expended as a result of any action taken in violation of this provision. If contractor participates, directly or indirectly, in the evaluation or award of public contracts, including without limitation, change orders or task orders regarding a public contract, contractor shall, if required by law to file such a statement, provide the statement required by Section 8-13-1150 to the procurement officer at the same time the law requires the statement to be filed. [02-2A075-2]

**Open Trade Representation:** By submitting an Offer, Offeror represents that Offeror is not currently engaged in the boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction with whom South Carolina can enjoy open trade, as defined in SC Code Section 11-35-5300.[02-2A083-1]

**Prohibited Communications and Donations:** Violation of these restrictions may result in disqualification of your offer, suspension or debarment, and may constitute a violation of law.

- (a) During the period between publication of the solicitation and final award, ***you must not communicate, directly or indirectly, with the District or its employees, agents, or officials regarding any aspect of this procurement activity, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Procurement Officer.*** All communications must be solely with the Procurement Officer.
- (b) You are advised to familiarize yourself with Regulation 19-445.2165, which restricts donations to a governmental entity with whom you have or seek to have a contract. ***You represent that your offer discloses any gifts made, directly or through an intermediary, by you or your named subcontractors to or for the benefit of the Using Governmental Unit during the period beginning eighteen months prior to the Opening Date.***

**Protests:** Any prospective bidder, Offeror, contractor, or sub-contractor who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation of a contract shall protest within fifteen (15) days of the date of issuance of the applicable solicitation document at issue. Any actual bidder, Offeror, contractor, or sub-contractor who is aggrieved in connection with the intended award or award of a contract shall protest within ten (10) days of the date notification of award is posted in accordance with this code. A protest shall be in writing, shall set forth the grounds of the protest and the relief requested with enough particularity to give notice of the issues to be decided, and must be received by the appropriated Chief Procurement Officer within the time provided. (see clause entitled "Protest-CPO")

**Questions from Offerors:** (a) Any prospective Offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, drawings, specifications, etc., must request it in writing. Questions regarding the original solicitation, or any amendment, must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than nine (9) days prior to opening unless an earlier date is stated on the cover page. Label any communication regarding your questions with the name of the procurement officer, and the solicitation's title and number. Oral explanations or instructions will not be binding. Any information given a prospective Offeror concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective Offerors as an amendment to the solicitation, if that information is necessary for submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to other prospective Offerors. **We will not identify you in our answer to your question(s).** (b) The District seeks to permit maximum practicable competition. Offerors are urged to advise the Procurement Officer – as soon as possible – regarding any aspect of this procurement, including any aspect of the solicitation that unnecessarily or inappropriately limits full and open competition.

**Rejection/Cancellation:** The district may cancel this solicitation in whole or in part. The district may reject any or all bids in whole or in part (Article 5-1710 of the Lancaster County School District's procurement code).

**Responsiveness/Improper Offers:** (a) Bid as Specified. Offers for supplies or services other than those specified will not be considered unless authorized by the Solicitation. (b) Multiple Offers. Offerors may submit more than one Offer, provided that each Offer has significant differences other than price. Each separate Offer must satisfy all Solicitation requirements. If this solicitation is an Invitation for Bids, each separate offer must be submitted as a separate document. If this solicitation is a Request for Proposals, multiple offers may be submitted as one document, provided that you clearly differentiate between each offer and you submit a separate cost proposal for each offer, if applicable. (c) Responsiveness. Any Offer which fails to conform to the material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected as nonresponsive. Offers which impose conditions that modify material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected. If a fixed price is required, an Offer will be rejected if the total possible cost to the District cannot be Mandatory for all solicitations. Table of Clauses – Redline from v2.0.1 to v2.0.2 Page 10 Clause # Text Guidance on Use determined. Offerors will not be given an opportunity to correct any material nonconformity. Any deficiency resulting from a minor informality may be cured or waived at the sole discretion of the Procurement Officer. [R.19-445.2070 and Section 11-35-1520(13)] (d) Price Reasonableness: Any offer may be rejected if the Procurement Officer determines in writing that it is unreasonable as to price. [R. 19-445.2070]. (e) Unbalanced Bidding. The District may reject an Offer as nonresponsive if the prices bid are materially unbalanced between line items or subline items. A bid is materially unbalanced when it is based on prices significantly less than cost for some work and prices which are significantly overstated in relation to cost for other work, and if there is a reasonable doubt that the bid will result in the lowest overall cost to the District even though it may be the low evaluated bid, or if it is so unbalanced as to be tantamount to allowing an advance payment. (f) **Do not submit bid samples or descriptive literature unless expressly requested.** Unsolicited bid samples or descriptive literature will not be examined or tested, will not be used to determine responsiveness, and will not be deemed to vary any of the provisions of the solicitation. S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 19-445.2077(D)

**Signing Your Offer:** Every offer must be signed by an individual with actual authority to bind the Offeror. (a) If the Offeror is an individual, the offer must be signed by that individual. If the Offeror is an individual doing business as a firm, the offer must be submitted in the firm's name, signed by the individual, and state that the individual is doing business as a firm. (b) If the Offeror is a partnership, the offer must be submitted in the partnership's name, followed by the words "by its Partner," and signed by a general partner. (c) If the Offeror is a corporation, the offer must be submitted in the corporate name, followed by the signature and title of the person authorized to sign. (d) An offer may be submitted by a joint venture involving any combination of individuals, partnerships, or corporations. If the Offeror is a joint venture, the offer must be submitted in the name of the joint venture and signed by every participant in the joint venture in the manner prescribed in paragraphs (a) through (c) above for each type of participant. (e) If an offer is signed by an agent, other than as stated in subparagraphs (a) through (d) above, the offer must state that it has been signed by an agent. Upon request, Offeror must provide proof of the agent's authorization to bind the principal.

**Submitting Your Offer or Modification:** (a) Offers and offer modifications shall be submitted in sealed envelopes or packages (unless submitted by electronic means) - (1) Addressed to the office specified in the Solicitation; and (2) Showing



the time and date specified for opening, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the bidder. (b) If you are responding to more than one solicitation, each offer must be submitted in a different envelope or package. (c) Each Offeror must submit the number of copies indicated on the Cover Page. (d) Offerors using commercial carrier services shall ensure that the Offer is addressed and marked on the outermost envelope or wrapper as prescribed in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this provision when delivered to the office specified in the Solicitation. € Facsimile or e-mail offers, modifications, or withdrawals, will not be considered unless authorized by the Solicitation. (f) Offers submitted by electronic commerce shall be considered only if the electronic commerce method was specifically stipulated or permitted by the solicitation. (g) It is the Offeror's responsibility to ensure that bids submitted by electronic commerce were received by the Procurement Officer.

**Submitting Confidential Information:** For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "CONFIDENTIAL" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains information that is exempt from public disclosure because it is either (a) A trade secret as defined in Section 30-4-40(a)(1), or (b) Privileged and confidential, as that phrase is used in Section 11-35-410. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the words "TRADE SECRET" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains a trade secret as that term is defined by Section 39-8-20 of the Trade Secrets Act. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "PROTECTED" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends is protected by Section 11-35-1810. All markings must be conspicuous; use color, bold, underlining, or some other method in order to conspicuously distinguish the mark from the other text. Do not mark your entire response (bid, proposal, quote, etc.) as confidential, trade secret, or protected! If your response, or any part thereof, is improperly marked as confidential or trade secret or protected, the district may, in its sole discretion, determine it nonresponsive. If only portions of a page are subject to some protection, do not mark the entire page. By submitting a response to this solicitation or request, Offeror (1) Agrees to the public disclosure of every page of every document regarding this solicitation or request that was submitted at any time prior to entering into a contract (including, but not limited to, documents contained in a response, documents submitted to clarify a response, and documents submitted during negotiations), unless the page is conspicuously marked "TRADE SECRET" or "CONFIDENTIAL" or "PROTECTED", (2) Agrees that any information not marked, as required by these bidding instructions, as a "Trade Secret" is not a trade secret as defined by the Trade Secrets Act, and (3) Agrees that, notwithstanding any claims or markings otherwise, any prices, commissions, discounts, or other financial figures used to determine the award, as well as the final contract amount, are subject to public disclosure. In determining whether to release documents, the district will detrimentally rely on Offeror's marking of documents, as required by these bidding instructions, as being either "Confidential" or "Trade Secret" or "PROTECTED". By submitting a response, Offeror agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Lancaster County School District, its officers and employees, from every claim, demand, loss, expense, cost, damage or injury, including attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from withholding information by the District, that Offeror marked as "Confidential" or "Trade Secret" or "PROTECTED". (All references to S.C. Code of Laws.)

**Tax Credit for Subcontracting with Disadvantaged Small Businesses:** Pursuant to Section 12-6-3350, a taxpayer having a contract with this District who subcontracts with a socially and economically disadvantaged small business is eligible for an income tax credit equal to four percent of the payments to that subcontractor for work pursuant to the contract. The subcontractor must be certified as a socially and economically disadvantaged small business as defined in Section 11-35-5010 and regulations pursuant to it. The credit is limited to a maximum of fifty thousand dollars annually. A taxpayer is eligible to claim the credit for ten consecutive taxable years beginning with the taxable year in which the first payment is made to the subcontractor that qualifies for the credit. After the above ten consecutive taxable years, the taxpayer is no longer eligible for the credit. A taxpayer claiming the credit shall maintain evidence of work performed for the contract by the subcontractor. The credit may be claimed on Form TC-2, "Minority Business Credit." A copy of the subcontractor's certificate from the Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business (OSMBA) is to be attached to the contractor's income tax return. Questions regarding the tax credit and how to file are to be referred to: SC Department of Revenue, Phone: (803) 898-5786, Fax: (803) 898-5888. Questions regarding subcontractor certification are to be referred to: Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business Assistance, Phone: (803) 734-0657, Fax: (803)734-2498.

**Withdrawal or Correction of Offer:** Offers may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before the exact time set for opening. If the solicitation authorizes facsimile offers, offers may be withdrawn via facsimile received at any time before the exact time set for opening. A bid may be withdrawn in person by a bidder or its authorized representative if, before the exact time set for opening, the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the bid. The withdrawal and correction of offers is governed by Article 5-1520 of the Lancaster County School District's procurement code.

## **II. INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS – B. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**Clarification:** Pursuant to Article 5-1520.8, the Procurement Officer may elect to communicate with you after opening for the purpose of clarifying either your offer or the requirements of the solicitation. Such communications may be conducted only with Offerors who have submitted an offer which obviously conforms in all material aspects to the solicitation. Clarification of an offer must be documented in writing and included with the offer. Clarifications may not be used to revise an offer or the solicitation.

**Contents of Offer (RFP):** (a) Offers should be complete and carefully worded and should convey all of the information requested. (b) Offers should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of offeror's capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Emphasis should be on completeness and clarity of content. (c) The contents of your offer must be divided into two parts, the technical proposal and the business proposal. Each part should be bound in a single volume. (d) If your offer includes any comment over and above the specific information requested in the solicitation, you are to include this information as a separate appendix to your offer. Offers which include either modifications to any of the solicitation's contractual requirements or an offeror's standard terms and conditions may be deemed non-responsive and not considered for award.

**Descriptive Literature – Labelling:** Include offeror's name on the cover of any specifications or descriptive literature submitted with your offer.

**Opening Proposals - Information Not Divulged:** In competitive sealed proposals, neither the number or identity of offerors nor prices will be divulged at opening.

**Protest – CPO – Address:** Any protest must be addressed to the Chief Procurement Officer, Lancaster County School District, and submitted in writing

- (a) By email to [Trevor.Hammond@lcsd.k12.sc.us](mailto:Trevor.Hammond@lcsd.k12.sc.us)
- (b) By facsimile at 803-283-0563
- (c) By post or delivery to: 300 South Catawba Street, Lancaster, SC 29720

## **III. SCOPE OF WORK / SPECIFICATIONS**

It is the intent of Lancaster County School District to contract with qualified firm to provide complete marketing, program administration, and claims services for Student Accident and Athletic Insurance.

### **SCOPE OF WORK:**

These specifications cover professional services to furnish all supervision, labor, materials, training, technical support, supplies and equipment necessary to provide the services requested. The responsibilities listed herein are to provide general expectations, and are not intended to be exhaustive of all duties necessary to carry out the services called for in this solicitation.

Though historically paid by the District, premiums for secondary student accident and athletic coverage may be paid by the parents or the District. Based on premium costs and budget availability, the District may elect to cover the entire cost, share the cost with the parents, or defer payment to the parents. The District is relying on the respondents to provide a best-in class policy and offer solutions for addressing the costs associated with these policies based their expertise and experience with other clients.

Coverage shall be compulsory secondary protection unless otherwise stated by law. (Examples, Tri-Care and Medicaid). In the case of governmental provided insurance, the District provided accidental coverage shall become primary.

Student compulsory secondary accidental coverage shall be provided to all students in Lancaster County School District including after-school childcare as provided by schools and under the supervision of the District. Protection shall be provided for students while traveling to and from school sponsored/supervised activities.

### Compulsory Blanket Athletic Insurance

1. The District currently has 2,707 student athletes involved in athletic programs District-wide. This count is based on the 2021-2022 school year, and should not be construed as a guaranteed maximum or minimum number of potential enrollees. Some students may participate in more than one sport.
2. Offerors of athletic accidental benefits need NOT exceed a \$25,000 aggregate maximum as catastrophic accident coverage of athletes is provided through the South Carolina High School League.
3. In the Athletic program, heat exhaustion/stroke MUST be covered.
4. In the Athletic program, coverage shall be provided for fire ants and poisoning.
5. Insurer must have coverage in force during the official season of each sport and at any time during the year than an injury is incurred under a degree of school supervision. An example is football payers working out with weights. Another is supervised practice.
6. Coverage shall be provided on all student athletes including student cheerleaders, and school mascots participating in a sporting event.
7. Number of athletes to be covered are those reported to the SC High School League.
8. Athletes are required to have primary coverage or proof of governmental coverage prior to be allowed to participate in sports activities.
9. No District student shall be refused coverage for any reason under any plan chosen by the District. The only eligible qualification shall be that the student is currently enrolled with Lancaster County School District when coverage is requested. This includes afterschool childcare programs provided and supervised by schools.

### Athletic Risk Management/Prevention – District Initiatives

The examples below illustrate the District's on-going commitment to safety of our athletes.

1. All coaches must complete the SCHSL courses on Concussion, Heat Acclimation, and Sudden Cardiac Arrest before their season begins. Additionally, many Athletic Directors have either obtained or are in the process of obtaining the Certified Athletic Administrator (CAA) designation through the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrator Association (NIAAA).
2. The District employs a District-wide helmet management plan to ensure helmets meet all safety requirement
3. Each high school has an Emergency Action Plan that includes guidance for concussion management and return to play protocols.
4. AED's are provided to all schools schools.
5. Athletic Directors and Coaches are provided professional development opportunities.
6. Certified Athletic Trainers and medical professionals are provided at all home games. A sideline medical doctor is provided at all home varsity football games.

## Compulsory Blanket Student Accident

1. It is expected that the Compulsory blanket student accident program coverage will be comprehensive in nature such that it will cover a student at any school sponsored event, (excluding athletic) whether that student is a participant or a spectator; and whether that event occurs after regular school hours or on the weekends or school holidays.
2. Coverage shall be provided for fire ant, poisoning, and heat exhaustion/stroke.
3. Blanket student coverage will automatically include all students enrolled in the Lancaster County School District at any time during any given year. No roster of student names will be provided; however, if required on the initial claim form, a school official from the school where the student is enrolled can verify that the student was enrolled at the time the accident occurred.
4. Insurer shall provide coverage for all band participants to include heat exhaustion, fire ants, and poisoning.
5. Insurer shall provide coverage for all ROTC participants to include heat exhaustion, fire ants and poisoning.
6. Student blanket coverage will include overnight field trips and other special trips sponsored by the District during the year. This will include summer District sponsored trips, and senior class trips or such events.

## Voluntary Coverage – Paid by Students/Parents (24-Hour Accident Coverage)

1. The District requests a voluntary coverage option for the student accident coverage. This coverage, if purchased by the student/parent, will provide the same benefits as the student accident blanket coverage when student is NOT covered by the school policy regardless of location where accident occurs.
2. Parents/students will remit payment directly to provider. District will not be involved except to provide enrollment forms or information. District will actively promote this coverage.
3. Offeror must submit a sample of the 24-Hour Student Accident Insurance Program brochure or policy listing the benefits along with the application.
4. The District requests a dental benefits option for Voluntary Coverage.
5. The District requests a death benefit option for Voluntary Coverage

## **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**

Proposers shall address the following:

### Administrative Services

1. Fully describe policy services; explain customer support capability.
2. Explain the capability of the proposing firm to provide the required services to the District.
3. State that student compulsory coverage is provided for all students enrolled in Lancaster County School District, to include after school childcare programs provided by and controlled by the District
4. State that athletic compulsory coverage is provided for all athletes, cheerleaders, mascot as reported to the SC High School League.
5. State that voluntary student accident, life insurance, and dental insurance will be offered to students of Lancaster County School District.
6. State that a representative (a company that has a working office in South Carolina) will be available as a liaison between the provider and the school district. This may include correspondence (fax, phone calls, and emails) with parents.
7. Provider has the capacity to provide online enrollment the voluntary accidental insurance program.
8. State the policy period.
9. For the compulsory coverage, no enrollments forms or materials will be needed. For the voluntary insurance coverage, the District expects a form to be submitted that can be distributed to the schools and be available via a website.

10. Fully describe how personal information is protected, and provide assurances regarding safeguards against data breaches. Include information on how affected enrollees are notified in case of a data breach.

#### Premium

1. Proposers shall provide a schedule of premium rates for all policies requested in this RFP.
2. Premiums are to be quoted based on the full school year (provide policy effective dates).
3. All covered options shall be quoted to the nearest (5) five cents (Example: Not \$6.51 but \$6.50, not \$6.94 but \$6.95)
4. The Provider shall have the opportunity to notify the District of any change in premium, upwards or downwards, as their loss experience may indicate after the initial period (two years) and subsequent renewal years. Any such request for a change in premium must occur only once at the beginning of any remaining renewal period and in accordance with terms and conditions of the RFP. Any increase must be consistent with any change in the medical care portion of the Consumer Price Index and the District's loss experience.
5. Proposers shall agree to hold the District harmless and shall not charge the District, either during the contract year or upon renewal of any subsequent contract year, any re-rating for any payments made in excess of valid claims.

#### Losses/Claims

1. The District will accept a PDF claim form that can be distributed to schools. The school is requesting that the form not be posted for public access. The schools will verify an accident and then provide the student/parent with a signed claim form.
2. Offerors must provide a claims representative and toll free number accessible to parents and students with claim questions.
3. The District requires detailed loss reports at the end of each quarter, and an annual report at the end of each policy year.
4. Offeror shall provide the name of a representative of the firm that has a working office in South Carolina and will be the liaison for the District and the Offeror.

#### Required Documents

1. Provider shall provide to the District, at no additional cost, an adequate supply of brochures for each District location that describes the benefits and provisions of each coverage offered.
2. Provider shall provide a claim form in Word 2013 or later or PDF format with instructions for parents/students on how to complete the form.
3. Provide updated forms (claims, information brochures, etc.) to the Risk Manager by the end of May of each year for distribution to the schools for the next enrollment period.
4. All forms must be available in English and Spanish.
5. The District will expect a Master Policy to be issued no later than August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

#### **IV. INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT**

Submit one (1) original, five (5) hard copies and one (1) USB containing a PDF version of the ORIGINAL proposal and a REDACTED copy. Please title the USB with the firm's name for identification purposes. The proposal shall speak for itself on behalf of the proposers. Proposers are discouraged from submitting supplementary materials or from making calls upon the District after the proposals have been submitted. Failure to comply with format requirements may cause the submittal to be removed from further consideration.

Information presented in the RFP shall conform to the following:

- All pages are to be numbered.
- Information submitted shall be tabbed and organized as stated below.
- Each section must re-state the subheading or question, followed by your response
- Font size shall not be less than 10 point.
- Submittals shall be provided in a three-ring binder or stapled upper left-hand corner.
- Responses must be concise and sufficient in detail to provide a thorough evaluation and assessment.
- Responses shall be limited to a maximum of **fifty (50) single faced pages** of information organized into tabs as noted below.

**COVER PAGE** Submittal Cover must include the following information:

- a. Firm's name
- b. Firm's address
- c. RFP #202224 and the date of submittal
- d. RFP Description: STUDENT ACCIDENT AND ATHLETIC INSURANCE SERVICES

**TAB 1 Signatory and Information Sheets:** Completed original of the RFP Cover Page, Page Two, and Minority Participation Affidavit (Pages 1, 2, and 21). Appropriate signatures are required. The Cover Page must be signed by a person having the authority to commit the Offeror to a contract.

**TAB 2 Executive Summary:** A business or executive summary of the Offeror's firm to include historical information. This section is limited to three (3) pages.

**TAB 3 Offeror Experience and Capabilities:** Compose a comprehensive description of the firm's experience in providing the services as listed in the Scope of Work, and how your firm will meet the unique needs of BCSD outlined in this solicitation. Include the firm's experience providing student and athletic insurance services to public K-12 school districts.

**TAB 4 Policies Offered and Corresponding Premiums:** Provide a comprehensive list of covered items, coverage limits per covered item, policy premiums, etc. Ensure mandatory items listed in the Scope of Work are highlighted. Provide a list of non-covered items. Provide a separate cost estimate utilizing the estimates of 15,000 students and 2,800 athletes. Include cost per student and total cost for each policy offered.

**TAB 5 Staffing, Resources and Data Security:** Identify the in-state point of contact that will be the primary liaison between the District and the provider. Include all staffing and resources available to support the District and its students with coverage and claims questions. Detail online services, and provide a description of how confidential student information will be protected, and the company's protocols for notifying the District and enrollees of data breaches.

**TAB 6 References:** Provide at least three (3) references to include contact name, title, company, address, telephone number, email address, and fax number. References should be similar in scope and size of the work called for in this solicitation. Provide the types of services provided, dates of service, and general details regarding the services provided. It is preferred that references include two K-12 school districts located in South Carolina.

**TAB 7 Evidence of Responsibility:** Offeror must provide proof of satisfactory D&B rating or AM Best rating. A satisfactory rating is defined as A- or better. Verification of South Carolina Department of Insurance license. Disclose any failed projects, suspensions, debarments, and significant litigation.

**TAB 8 Appendix:** Include any additional information regarding additional or optional services, which are not requested in the RFP that are offered for the benefit of the District.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or any portion of said proposals, to waive minor technicalities, and to make any and all award decisions based on the best interests of the District.

## V. QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFEROR

**GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS:** To be eligible for award of a contract, a prospective contractor must be responsible. In evaluating an Offeror's responsibility, the State Standards of Responsibility and information from any other source may be considered. If requested by BCSD, an Offeror must furnish satisfactory evidence of its ability to meet all contractual requirements. Unreasonable failure to supply information promptly in connection with a responsibility inquiry may be grounds for determining that you are ineligible to receive an award.

**QUALIFICATIONS - MANDATORY MINIMUM:** To be considered for award, an Offeror must demonstrate the following minimum requirements:

- a) A minimum of five (5) years of experience in providing the services included in the Scope of Work. The District may elect to consider (i) key personnel, any predecessor business, and any key personnel of any predecessor business, including any facts arising prior to the date a business was established, and/or (ii) any subcontractor you identify.
- b) Offeror must have a satisfactory record of performance from at least three (3) references. It is preferred that two references are K-12 school districts within South Carolina. Work with other South Carolina agencies may be considered if the relative size and scope of the work provided is similar to the work called for in this RFP.

**QUALIFICATIONS -- REQUIRED INFORMATION:** Submit the following information or documentation for you and for any subcontractor (at any tier level) that you identify pursuant to the clause titled Subcontractor – Identification. Err on the side of inclusion. You represent that the information provided is complete.

- a) The general history and experience of the business in providing work of similar size and scope to include experience of project manager and project personnel (Refer to TABS 2, 3 & 4 above).
- b) A list of engagements completed in the past five (5) years of projects substantially similar in size and scope to the project detailed in this RFP (Refer to TABS 3 & 5 above).
- c) Information reflecting the firm's fiscal responsibility. Include the most current D&B rating or AM Best rating of A- or better. Include Certificates of Insurance to demonstrate evidence of appropriate insurance coverage. (Refer to TAB 6 above).
- d) List of failed projects, suspensions, debarments, and significant litigation (Refer to TAB 6 above).

**SUBCONTRACTOR – IDENTIFICATION:** If you intend to subcontract, at any tier level, with another business for any portion of the work and that portion either (1) exceeds 10% of your cost, (2) involves access to any "District information," as defined in the clause entitled "Information Security - Definitions," if included, or (3) otherwise involves services critical to your performance of the work (err on the side of inclusion), your offer must identify that business and the work which they are to perform. Identify potential subcontractors by providing the business name, address, phone, taxpayer identification number, and point of contact. In determining your responsibility, the District may contact and evaluate your proposed subcontractors.

## VI. PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND AWARD CRITERIA

**Award Criteria – Proposals:** Award will be made to the highest ranked, responsive and responsible offeror whose offer is determined to be the most advantageous to the district.

**Proposal Evaluation Criteria:** Upon receipt of all proposals by the date and time specified in the RFP, the District's Procurement Department shall review all proposals for responsiveness to the proposal instruction manual. The District shall retain the right to consider any proposal as non-responsive based solely on its judgment that the proposal does not satisfactorily meet the criteria of this proposal manual or the District's Procurement Code. Those proposals found to be responsive shall be evaluated individually by the district selection committee based on the merits of the technical proposal submitted as it relates to the evaluation criteria.

POTENTIAL AND ACTUAL PROPOSERS SHALL **NOT** CONTACT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OR THE DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE AT ANY TIME DURING THE EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS WITH THE PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING THE OUTCOME OF THE COMPETITION.

**EVALUATION OF OFFERS**

- a) **RESPONSIVENESS:** Upon receipt of all proposals, by the date and time specified in the RFP, the Procurement Office shall review all proposals for responsiveness to the proposal instructions. The District shall retain the right to consider any proposal as non-responsive based solely on its judgment that the proposal does not satisfactorily meet the criteria of the proposal instructions or the District's Procurement Code. Those proposals found to be responsive shall be further evaluated by an evaluation committee.
- b) **EVALUATION CRITERIA:** Following receipt of proposals from all interested persons and firms, proposals shall be reviewed by a District Selection Committee. The proposals that meet the stated qualifications and submission requirements shall be ranked utilizing the stated evaluation criteria (see below). Once an initial ranking of all proposals has been conducted, the District may elect to award to the top ranked firm or conduct interviews with the three highest ranked firms. If the Selection Committee elects to interview the top ranked firms, a list of firms selected for interview shall be sent to all firms that submitted a proposal.

Extent to which the services meet the Scope of Work, and documented experience in the K-12 environment (preference given to experience in South Carolina).	25 Points
Experience and qualifications of assigned staff.	25 Points
Protocols for protection of personal information.	25 Points
Best value and extent of coverage as determined by the District.	25 Points

**INTERVIEWS:** The District Selection Committee reserves the right to conduct interviews with the highest ranked Offeror(s) after the initial evaluation has been completed. The primary purpose of the interviews shall be to provide such further information as may be required by the District Selection Committee to fully acquaint itself with the relative qualifications of the short-listed firms with regard to the project(s) and the Owner's needs. Elaborate presentations are discouraged, the Owner's preference being for an interactive discussion of key issues and to hear the proposers' responses to interview questions. Interviews shall be conducted in-person at a BCSD facility. Any cost associated with the interview process shall be borne by the Consultant.

**NEGOTIATIONS:** Offerors shall be ranked from highest to lowest total point scores. Negotiations shall commence with the offeror receiving the highest total score and shall proceed down the rankings until the District has successfully negotiated the fees and contract terms with an offeror or the District determines that no satisfactory contract can be negotiated.

**VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS – A. GENERAL**



**Assignment, Novation, and Change of Name, Identity, or Structure:** (a) Contractor shall not assign this contract, or its rights, obligations, or any other interest arising from this contract, or delegate any of its performance obligations, without the express written consent of the responsible procurement officer. The foregoing restriction does not apply to a transfer that occurs by operation of law (e.g., bankruptcy; corporate reorganizations and consolidations, but not including partial asset sales). Notwithstanding the foregoing, contractor may assign monies receivable under the contract provided that the District shall have no obligation to make payment to an assignee until thirty (30) days after contractor (not the assignee) has provided the responsible procurement officer with (i) proof of the assignment, (ii) the identity (by contract number) of the specific District contract to which the assignment applies, and (iii) the name of the assignee and the exact address or account information to which assigned payments should be made. (b) If contractor amends, modifies, or otherwise changes its name, its identity (including its trade name), or its corporate, partnership, or other structure, or its FEIN, contractor shall provide the procurement officer prompt written notice of such change. (c) Any name change, transfer, assignment, or novation is subject to the conditions and approval required by Regulation 19-44.2180, which does not restrict transfers by operation of law.

**Bankruptcy - General:** (a) Notice. In the event the contractor enters into proceedings relating to bankruptcy, whether voluntary or involuntary, the contractor agrees to furnish written notification of the bankruptcy to the district. This notification shall be furnished within two (2) days of the initiation of the proceedings relating to the bankruptcy filing. This notification shall include the date on which the bankruptcy petition was filed, the identity of the court in which the bankruptcy petition was filed, and a listing of all district contracts against which final payment has not been made. This obligation remains in effect until final payment under this contract. (b) Termination. This contract is voidable and subject to immediate termination by the district upon the contractor's insolvency, including the filing of proceedings in bankruptcy.

**Choice-of-Law:** The agreement, any dispute, claim, or controversy relating to the agreement, and all the rights and obligations of the parties shall, in all respects, be interpreted, construed, enforced and governed by and under the laws of the State of South Carolina, except its choice of law rules. As used in this paragraph, the term "Agreement" means any transaction or agreement arising out of, relating to, or contemplated by the solicitation.

**Contract Documents & Order of Precedence:** (a) Any contract resulting from this solicitation shall consist of the following documents: (1) a Record of Negotiations, if any, executed by you and the Procurement Officer, (2) the solicitation, as amended, (3) documentation of clarifications or discussions of an offer, if applicable (4) your offer (5) any statement reflecting the District's final acceptance (a/k/a "award"), and (6) purchase orders. These documents shall be read to be consistent and complementary. Any conflict among these documents shall be resolved by giving priority to these documents in the order listed above. (b) The terms and conditions of documents (1) through (5) above shall apply notwithstanding any additional or different terms and conditions in any other document, including without limitation. (i) a purchase order or other instrument submitted by the District (ii) any invoice or other document submitted by Contractor or (iii) any privacy policy, terms of use, or end user agreement. Except as otherwise allowed herein, the terms and conditions of all such documents shall be void and of no effect. (c) No contract, license, or other agreement containing contractual terms and conditions will be signed by the District. Any document(s) signed or otherwise agreed to by persons other than the Procurement Officer shall be void and of no effect.

**Discount for Prompt Payment:** (a) Discounts for prompt payment will not be considered in the evaluation of offers. However, any offered discount will form a part of the award, and will be taken if payment is made within the discount period indicated in the offer by the offeror. As an alternative to offering a discount for prompt payment in conjunction with the offer, offerors awarded contracts may include discounts for prompt payment on individual invoices. (b) In connection with any discount offered for prompt payment, time shall be computed from the date of the invoice. If the Contractor has not placed a date on the invoice, the due date shall be calculated from the date the designated billing office receives a proper invoice, provided the district annotates such invoice with the date of receipt at the time of receipt. For the purpose of computing the discount earned, payment shall be considered to have been made on the date that appears on the payment check or, for an electronic funds transfer, the specified payment date. When the discount date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal

holiday when Federal Government offices are closed and Government business is not expected to be conducted, payment may be made on the following business day.

**Disputes:** (a) Choice-of-Forum. All disputes, claims, or controversies relating to the agreement shall be resolved exclusively by the Chief Procurement Officer in accordance with the district's procurement code, or in the absence of jurisdiction, only in the Court of Common Pleas for, or a federal court located in the State of South Carolina. Contractor agrees that any act by the Government regarding the agreement is not a waiver of either the Government's sovereign immunity or the Government's immunity under the Eleventh Amendment of the United States Constitution. As used in this paragraph, the term "Agreement" means any transaction or agreement arising out of, relating to, or contemplated by the solicitation. (b) Service of Process. Contractor consents that any papers, notices, or process necessary or proper for the initiation or continuation of any disputes, claims, or controversies relating to the agreement; for any court action in connection therewith; or for the entry of judgment on any award made, may be served on contractor by certified mail (return receipt requested) addressed to contractor at the address provided as the notice address on page two or by personal service or by any other manner that is permitted by law, in or outside South Carolina. Notice by certified mail is deemed duly given upon deposit in the United States mail.

**Equal Opportunity:** Contractor is referred to and shall comply with all applicable provisions, if any, of Title 41, Part 60 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including but not limited to Sections 60-1.4, 60-4.2, 60-4.3, 60-250.5(a), and 60-741.5(a), which are hereby incorporated by reference.

**False Claims:** According to the S.C. Code of Laws § 16-13-240, "a person who by false pretense or representation obtains the signature of a person to a written instrument or obtains from another person any chattel, money, valuable security, or other property, real or personal, with intent to cheat and defraud a person of that property is guilty" of a crime.

**Fixed Pricing Required:** Any pricing provided by contractor shall include all costs for performing the work associated with that price. Except as otherwise provided in this solicitation, contractor's price shall be fixed for the duration of this contract, including option terms. This clause does not prohibit contractor from offering lower pricing after award.

**Force Majeure:** The contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs if the failure to perform the contract arises out of causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the contractor. Such causes may include, but are not restricted to acts of God or of the public enemy, acts of the District in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restriction, strikes, freight embargoes, and unusually severe weather; but in every case the failure to perform must be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the contractor. If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a sub-contractor, and if such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both the contractor and the sub-contractor, and without the fault or negligence of either of these, the contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs for failure to perform, unless the supplies or services to be furnished by the sub-contractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit the contractor to meet the required delivery schedule.

**No Indemnity or Defense:** Any term or condition is void to the extent it requires the district to indemnify. Defend, or pay attorney's fees to anyone for any reason.

**Notice:** (a) After award, any notices shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given (1) upon actual delivery, if delivery is by hand, (2) upon receipt by the transmitting party of automated confirmation or answer back from the recipient's device if delivery is by telex, telegram, facsimile, or electronic mail, or (3) upon deposit into the United States mail, if postage is prepaid, a return receipt is requested, and either registered or certified mail is used. (b) Notice to contractor shall be to the address identified as the notice address on page two. Notice to the district shall be to the Procurement Office address on the cover page. Either party may designate a different address for notice by giving notice in accordance with this paragraph.

**Open Trade:** During the contract term, including any renewals or extensions, Contractor will not engage in the boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction with whom South Carolina can enjoy open trade, as defined in SC Code Section 11-35-5300.

**Payment & Interest:** (a) The District shall pay the Contractor, after the submission of proper invoices or vouchers, the prices stipulated in this contract for supplies delivered and accepted or services rendered and accepted, less any deductions provided in this contract. Unless otherwise specified herein, including the purchase order, payment shall not be made on partial deliveries accepted by the Government. (b) Unless otherwise provided herein, including the purchase order, payment will be made by check mailed to the payment address on "Page Two." (c) Notwithstanding any other provision, payment shall be made in accordance with S.C. Code Section 11-35-45, or Chapter 6 of Title 29 (real property improvements) when applicable, which provides the Contractor's exclusive means of recovering any type of interest from the Owner. Contractor waives imposition of an interest penalty unless the invoice submitted specifies that the late penalty is applicable. Except as set forth in this paragraph, the District shall not be liable for the payment of interest on any debt or claim arising out of or related to this contract for any reason. (d) Amounts due to the District shall bear interest at the rate of interest established by the South Carolina Comptroller General pursuant to Section 11-35-45 ("an amount not to exceed fifteen percent each year"), as amended, unless otherwise required by Section 29-6-30. (e) Any other basis for interest, including but not limited to general (pre- and post-judgment) or specific interest statutes, including S.C. Code Ann. Section 34-31-20, are expressly waived by both parties. If a court, despite this agreement and waiver, requires that interest be paid on any debt by either party other than as provided by items (c) and (d) above, the parties further agree that the applicable interest rate for any given calendar year shall be the lowest prime rate as listed in the first edition of the Wall Street Journal published for each year, applied as simple interest without compounding. (f) The District shall have all of its common law, equitable and statutory rights of set-off.

**Publicity:** Contractor shall not publish any comments or quotes by district employees, or include the district in either news releases or a published list of customers, without the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer.

**Purchase Orders:** Contractor shall not perform any work prior to the receipt of a purchase order from the using governmental unit. The using governmental unit shall order any supplies or services to be furnished under this contract by issuing a purchase order. Purchase orders may be used to elect any options available under this contract, e.g., quantity, item, delivery date, payment method, but are subject to all terms and conditions of this contract. Purchase orders may be electronic. No particular form is required. An order placed pursuant to the purchasing card provision qualifies as a purchase order.

**Survival of Obligations:** The parties' rights and obligations which, by their nature, would continue beyond the termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration of this contract shall survive such termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration, including, but not limited to, the rights and obligations created by the following clauses: Indemnification - Third Party Claims, Intellectual Property Indemnification, and any provisions regarding warranty or audit.

**Taxes:** Any tax the contractor may be required to collect or pay upon the sale, use or delivery of the products shall be paid by the District, and such sums shall be due and payable to the contractor upon acceptance. Any personal property taxes levied after delivery shall be paid by the District. It shall be solely the District's obligation, after payment to contractor, to challenge the applicability of any tax by negotiation with, or action against, the taxing authority. Contractor agrees to refund any tax collected, which is subsequently determined not to be proper and for which a refund has been paid to contractor by the taxing authority. In the event that the contractor fails to pay, or delays in paying, to any taxing authorities, sums paid by the District to contractor, contractor shall be liable to the District for any loss (such as the assessment of additional interest) caused by virtue of this failure or delay. Taxes based on Contractor's net income or assets shall be the sole responsibility of the contractor.

**Termination Due to Unavailability of Funds:** Payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal periods shall be subject to the availability and appropriation of funds therefor. When funds are not appropriated or otherwise made

available to support continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal period, the contract shall be canceled. In the event of a cancellation pursuant to this paragraph, contractor will be reimbursed the resulting unamortized, reasonably incurred, nonrecurring costs. Contractor will not be reimbursed any costs amortized beyond the initial contract term.

**Third Party Beneficiary:** This Contract is made solely and specifically among and for the benefit of the parties hereto, and their respective successors and assigns, and no other person will have any rights, interest, or claims hereunder or be entitled to any benefits under or on account of this Contract as a third party beneficiary or otherwise.

**Waiver:** The district does not waive any prior or subsequent breach of the terms of the contract by making payments on the contract, by failing to terminate the contract for lack of performance, or by failing to strictly or promptly insist upon any term of the contract. Only the Chief Procurement Officer has actual authority to waive any of the district's rights under this contract. Any waiver must be in writing.

## **VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS – B. SPECIAL**

**Bankruptcy – Government Information:** (a) All government information (as defined in the clause herein entitled "Information Security - Definitions") shall belong exclusively to the State, and Contractor has no legal or equitable interest in, or claim to, such information. Contractor acknowledges and agrees that in the event Contractor enters into proceedings relating to bankruptcy, whether voluntary or involuntary, government information in its possession and/or under its control will not be considered property of its bankruptcy estate.

(b) Contractor agrees to notify the State within forty-eight (48) hours of any determination that it makes to file for bankruptcy protection, and Contractor further agrees to turn over to the State, before such filing, all government information that is in Contractor's possession in a format that can be readily utilized by the State.

(c) In order to protect the integrity and availability of government information, Contractor shall take reasonable measures to evaluate and monitor the financial circumstances of any subcontractor that will process, store, transmit or access government information.

### **Changes:**

(1) Contract Modification. By a written order, at any time, and without notice to any surety, the Procurement Officer may, subject to all appropriate adjustments, make changes within the general scope of this contract in any one or more of the following:

(a) drawings, designs, or specifications, if the supplies to be furnished are to be specially manufactured for the district in accordance therewith;

(b) method of shipment or packing;

(c) place of delivery;

(d) description of services to be performed;

(e) time of performance (i.e., hours of the day, days of the week, etc.); or,

(f) place of performance of the services.

Subparagraphs (a) to (c) apply only if supplies are furnished under this contract. Subparagraphs (d) to (f) apply only if services are performed under this contract.

(2) Adjustments of Price or Time for Performance. If any such change increases or decreases the contractor's cost of, or the time required for, performance of any part of the work under this contract, whether or not changed by the order, an adjustment shall be made in the contract price, the delivery schedule, or both, and the contract modified in writing accordingly. Any adjustment in contract price made pursuant to this clause shall be determined in accordance with the Price Adjustment Clause of this contract. Failure of the parties to agree to an adjustment shall not excuse the contractor from proceeding with the contract as changed, provided that the district promptly and duly make such provisional adjustments in payment or time for performance as may be reasonable. By proceeding with the work, the contractor shall not be deemed to have prejudiced any claim for additional compensation, or an extension of time for completion.

(3) Time Period for Claim. Within 30 days after receipt of a written contract modification under Paragraph (1) of this clause, unless such period is extended by the Procurement Officer in writing, the contractor shall file notice of intent to assert a claim for an adjustment. Later notification shall not bar the contractor's claim unless the district is prejudiced by the delay in notification.

(4) Claim Barred After Final Payment. No claim by the contractor for an adjustment hereunder shall be allowed if notice is not given prior to final payment under this contract.

**Compliance with Laws:** During the term of the contract, contractor shall comply with all applicable provisions of laws, codes, ordinances, rules, regulations, and tariffs.

**Contractor's Liability Insurance - General:**

(a) Without limiting any of the obligations or liabilities of Contractor, Contractor shall procure from a company or companies lawfully authorized to do business in South Carolina and with a current A.M. Best rating of no less than A: VII, and maintain for the duration of the contract, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work and the results of that work by the contractor, his agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors.

(b) Coverage shall be at least as broad as:

(1) Commercial General Liability (CGL): Insurance Services Office (ISO) Form CG 00 01 12 07 covering CGL on an "occurrence" basis, including products-completed operations, personal and advertising injury, with limits no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit. This contract shall be considered to be an "insured contract" as defined in the policy.

(2) Auto Liability: ISO Form Number CA 00 01 covering any auto (Code 1), or if Contractor has no owned autos, hired, (Code 8) and non-owned autos (Code 9), with limits no less than \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury and property damage.

(3) Worker's Compensation: As required by the State of South Carolina, with Statutory Limits, and Employer's Liability Insurance with limit of no less than \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury or disease.

(c) The District, its officers, officials, employees and volunteers of any of them, must be covered as additional insureds on the CGL policy with respect to liability arising out of work or operations performed by or on behalf of the Contractor including materials, parts or equipment furnished in connection with such work or operations. General liability coverage can be provided in the form of an endorsement to the Contractor's insurance at least as broad as ISO Form CG 20 10 11 85 or if not available, through the addition of both CG 20 10 and CG 20 37 if a later edition is used.

(d) For any claims related to this contract, the Contractor's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects the District's officers, officials, employees and volunteers of the District. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the District, the officers, officials, employees and volunteers of the District, shall be excess of the Contractor's insurance and shall not contribute with it.

(e) Prior to commencement of the work, the Contractor shall furnish the District with original certificates and amendatory endorsements or copies of the applicable policy language effecting coverage required by this section. All certificates are to be received and approved by the District before work commences. However, failure to obtain the required documents prior to the work beginning shall not waive the Contractor's obligation to provide them. The District reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements required by this section, at any time.

(f) Should any of the above described policies be cancelled before the expiration date thereof, notice will be delivered in accordance with the policy provisions. In addition, the Contractor shall notify the District immediately upon receiving any information that any of the coverages required by this section are or will be changed, cancelled, or replaced.

(g) Contractor hereby grants to the District a waiver of any right to subrogation which any insurer of said Contractor may acquire against the District by virtue of the payment of any loss under such insurance. Contractor agrees to obtain any endorsement that may be necessary to affect this waiver of subrogation, but this provision applies regardless of whether or not the District has received a waiver of subrogation endorsement from the insurer.

(h) Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and approved by the District. The District may require the Contractor to purchase coverage with a lower deductible or retention or provide proof of ability to pay losses and related investigations, claim administration, and defense expenses within the retention.

(i) The District reserves the right to modify these requirements, including limits, based on the nature of the risk, prior experience, insurer, coverage, or other special circumstances.

**Contractor Personnel:** The contractor shall enforce strict discipline and good order among the contractor's employees and other persons carrying out the contract. The contractor shall not permit employment of unfit persons or persons not skilled in tasks assigned to them.

**Contractor's Obligation - General:** The contractor shall provide and pay for all materials, tools, equipment, labor and professional and non-professional services, and shall perform all other acts and supply all other things necessary, to fully and properly perform and complete the work. The contractor must act as the prime contractor and assume full responsibility for any subcontractor's performance. The contractor will be considered the sole point of contact with regard to all situations, including payment of all charges and the meeting of all other requirements.

**Contractor's Use of District Property:** Upon termination of the contract for any reason, the District shall have the right, upon demand, to obtain access to, and possession of, all District properties, including, but not limited to, current copies of all District application programs and necessary documentation, all data, files, intermediate materials and supplied held by the contractor. Contractor shall not use, reproduce, distribute, display, or sell any data, material, or documentation owned exclusively by the District without the District's written consent, except to the extent necessary to carry out the work.

**Default:** (a) (1) The District may, subject to paragraphs (c) and (d) of this clause, by written notice of default to the Contractor, terminate this contract in whole or in part if the Contractor fails to: (i) Deliver the supplies or to perform the services within the time specified in this contract or any extension; (ii) Make progress, so as to endanger performance of this contract (but see paragraph (a)(2) of this clause); or (iii) Perform any of the other material provisions of this contract (but see paragraph (a)(2) of this clause). (2) The District's right to terminate this contract under subdivisions (a)(1)(ii) and (1)(iii) of this clause, may be exercised if the Contractor does not cure such failure within 10 days (or more if authorized in writing by the Procurement Officer) after receipt of the notice from the Procurement Officer specifying the failure. (b) If the District terminates this contract in whole or in part, it may acquire, under the terms and in the manner the Procurement Officer considers appropriate, supplies or services similar to those terminated, and the Contractor will be liable to the District for any excess costs for those supplies or services. However, the Contractor shall continue the work not terminated. (c) Except for defaults of subcontractors at any tier, the Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs if the failure to perform the contract arises from causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Examples of such causes include (1) acts of God or of the public enemy, (2) acts of the District in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, (3) fires, (4) floods, (5) epidemics, (6) quarantine restrictions, (7) strikes, (8) freight embargoes, and (9) unusually severe weather. In each instance the failure to perform must be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. (d) If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a subcontractor at any tier, and if the cause of the default is beyond the control of both the Contractor and subcontractor, and without the fault or negligence of either, the Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs for failure to perform, unless the subcontracted supplies or services were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time for the Contractor to meet the required delivery schedule. (e) If this contract is terminated for default, the District may require the Contractor to transfer title and deliver to the District, as directed by the Procurement Officer, any (1) completed supplies, and (2) partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, plans, drawings, information, and contract rights (collectively referred to as "manufacturing materials" in this clause) that the Contractor has specifically produced or acquired for the terminated portion of this contract. Upon direction of the Procurement Officer, the Contractor shall also protect and preserve property in its possession in which the District has an interest. (f) The District shall pay contract price for completed supplies delivered and accepted. The Contractor and Procurement Officer shall agree on the amount of payment for manufacturing materials delivered and accepted and for the protection and preservation of the property; if the parties fail to agree, the Procurement Officer shall set an amount subject to the Contractor's rights under the Disputes clause. Failure to agree will be a dispute under the Disputes clause. The District may withhold from these amounts any sum the Procurement Officer determines to be necessary to protect the District against loss because of outstanding liens or claims of former lien holders. (g) If, after termination, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, or that the default was excusable, the rights and obligations of the parties shall, if the

contract contains a clause providing for termination for convenience of the District, be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the District. If, in the foregoing circumstances, this contract does not contain a clause providing for termination for convenience of the District, the contract shall be adjusted to compensate for such termination and the contract modified accordingly subject to the contractor's rights under the Disputes clause. (h) The rights and remedies of the District in this clause are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.

**Illegal Immigration:** By signing your offer, you certify that you will comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and agree to provide to the district upon request any documentation required to establish either: (a) that Title 8, Chapter 14 is inapplicable to you and your subcontractors or sub-subcontractors; or (b) that you and your subcontractors or sub-subcontractors are in compliance with Title 8, Chapter 14. Pursuant to Section 8-14-60, "A person who knowingly makes or files any false, fictitious, or fraudulent document, statement, or report pursuant to this chapter is guilty of a felony, and, upon conviction, must be fined within the discretion of the court or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both." You agree to include in any contracts with your subcontractors language requiring your subcontractors to (a) comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14, and (b) include in their contracts with the sub-subcontractors language requiring the sub-subcontractors to comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14.

**Indemnification – Third Party Claims – General:** Notwithstanding any limitation in this agreement, and to the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall defend and hold harmless Indemnitees for and against any and all suits or claims of any character (and all related damages, settlement payments, attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, losses or liabilities) by a third party which are attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property arising out of or in connection with the goods or services acquired hereunder or caused in whole or in part by any act or omission of contractor, its subcontractors, their employees, workmen, servants, agents, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not caused in part by an Indemnitee, and whether or not such claims are made by a third party or an Indemnitee; however, if an Indemnitee's negligent act or omission is subsequently determined to be the sole proximate cause of a suit or claim, the Indemnitee shall not be entitled to indemnification hereunder. Contractor shall be given timely written notice of any suit or claim. Contractor's obligations hereunder are in no way limited by any protection afforded under workers' compensation acts, disability benefits acts, or other employee benefit acts. This clause shall not negate, abridge, or reduce any other rights or obligations of indemnity which would otherwise exist. The obligations of this paragraph shall survive termination, cancelation, or expiration of the parties' agreement. This provision shall be construed fairly and reasonably, neither strongly for nor against either party, and without regard to any clause regarding insurance. As used in this clause, "Indemnitees" means the Lancaster County School District, its instrumentalities, agencies, departments, boards, political subdivisions and all their respective officers, agents and employees.

**Licenses and Permits:** During the term of the contract, the contractor shall be responsible for obtaining, and maintaining in good standing, all licenses (including professional licenses, if any), permits, inspections and related fees for each or any such licenses, permits and /or inspections required by the state, county, city or other government entity or unit to accomplish the work specified in this solicitation and the contract.

**Ownership of Data and Materials:** All data, material and documentation prepared for the District pursuant to this contract shall belong exclusively to the District.

**Price Adjustments:** (1) Method of Adjustment. Any adjustment in the contract price made pursuant to a clause in this contract shall be consistent with this Contract and shall be arrived at through whichever one of the following ways is the most valid approximation of the actual cost to the Contractor (including profit, if otherwise allowed): (a) by agreement on a fixed price adjustment before commencement of the pertinent performance or as soon thereafter as practicable; (b) by unit prices specified in the Contract or subsequently agreed upon; (c) by the costs attributable to the event or situation covered by the relevant clause, including profit if otherwise allowed, all as specified in the Contract; or subsequently agreed upon; (d) in such other manner as the parties may mutually agree; or, (e) in the absence of agreement by the parties, through a

unilateral initial written determination by the Procurement Officer of the costs attributable to the event or situation covered by the clause, including profit if otherwise allowed, all as computed by the Procurement Officer in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, subject to the provisions of Title 11, Chapter 35, Article 17 of the S.C. Code of Laws. (2) Submission of Price or Cost Data. Upon request of the Procurement Officer, the contractor shall provide reasonably available factual information to substantiate that the price or cost offered, for any price adjustments is reasonable, consistent with the provisions of Section 11-35-1830.

**Price Adjustment - Limited -- After Initial Term Only:** Upon approval of the Procurement Officer, prices may be adjusted for any renewal term. Prices shall not be increased during the initial term. Any request for a price increase must be received by the Procurement Officer at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the applicable term and must be accompanied by sufficient documentation to justify the increase. If approved, a price increase becomes effective starting with the term beginning after approval. A price increase must be executed as a change order. Contractor may terminate this contract at the end of the then current term if a price increase request is denied. Notice of termination pursuant to this paragraph must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than fifteen (15) days after the Procurement Officer sends contractor notice rejecting the requested price increase.

**Price Adjustments – Limited by CPI “All Items”:** Upon request and adequate justification, the Procurement Officer may grant a price increase up to, but not to exceed, the unadjusted percent change for the most recent 12 months for which data is available, that is not subject to revision, in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all urban consumers (CPI-U), “all items” for services, as determined by the Procurement Officer. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics publishes this information on the web at [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov).

**Relationship of the Parties:** Neither party is an employee, agent, partner, or joint venturer of the other. Neither party has the right or ability to bind the other to any agreement with a third party or to incur any obligation or liability on behalf of the other party.

**Restrictions on Presenting Terms of Use or Offering Additional Services:**

- (a) Citizens, as well as public employees (acting in their individual capacity), should not be unnecessarily required to agree to or provide consent to policies or contractual terms in order to access services acquired by the government pursuant to this contract (hereinafter “applicable services”) or, in the case of public employees, to perform their job duties; accordingly, in performing the work, contractor shall not require or invite any citizen or public employee to agree to or provide consent to any end user contract, privacy policy, or other terms of use (hereinafter “terms of use”) not previously approved in writing by the procurement officer. Contractor agrees that any terms of use regarding applicable services are void and of no effect.
- (b) Unless expressly provided in the solicitation, public contracts are not intended to provide contractors an opportunity to market additional products and services; accordingly, in performing the work, contractor shall not-for itself or on behalf of any third party-offer citizens or public employees (other than the procurement officer) any additional products or services not required by the contract.
- (c) Any reference to contractor in items (a) or (b) also includes any subcontractor at any tier. Contractor is responsible for compliance with these obligations by any person or entity that contractor authorizes to take any action related to the work.
- (d) Any violation of this clause is a material breach of contract. The parties acknowledge the difficulties inherent in determining the damage from any breach of these restrictions. Contractor shall pay the district liquidated damages of \$1,000 for each contact with a citizen or end user that violates this restriction.

**Term of Contract – Effective Date/Initial Contract Period:** The effective date of this contract is the first day of the Maximum Contract Period as specified on the final statement of award. The initial term of this agreement is One (1) year, from the effective date. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the final statement of award.

**Term of Contract – Option to Renew:** (a) At the end of the initial term, and at the end of each renewal term, this contract shall automatically renew for a period of One (1) year, unless contractor receives notice that the district elects not to renew



the contract at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of renewal. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the final statement of award. (b) Contractor acknowledges that, unless excused by Section 11-57-320, if the contractor is on the then-current Iran Divestment Act List as of the date of any contract renewal, the renewal will be void ab initio.

**Term of Contract – Termination by Contractor:** Contractor may terminate this contract at the end of the initial term, or any renewal term, by providing the Procurement Officer notice of its election to terminate under this clause at least 90 days prior to the expiration of the then current term.

**Termination for Convenience:** (1) Termination. The Procurement Officer may terminate this contract in whole or in part, for the convenience of the District. The Procurement Officer shall give written notice of the termination to the contractor specifying the part of the contract terminated and when termination becomes effective. (2) Contractor's Obligations. The contractor shall incur no further obligations in connection with the terminated work and on the date set in the notice of termination the contractor will stop work to the extent specified. The contractor shall also terminate outstanding orders and subcontracts as they relate to the terminated work. The contractor shall settle the liabilities and claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts and orders connected with the terminated work. The Procurement Officer may direct the contractor to assign the contractor's right, title, and interest under terminated orders or subcontracts to the District. The contractor must still complete the work not terminated by the notice of termination and may incur obligations as are necessary to do so. (3) Right to Supplies. The Procurement Officer may require the contractor to transfer title and deliver to the District in the manner and to the extent directed by the Procurement Officer: (a) any completed supplies; and (b) such partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, plans, drawings, information, and contract rights (hereinafter called "manufacturing material") as the contractor has specifically produced or specially acquired for the performance of the terminated part of this contract. The contractor shall, upon direction of the Procurement Officer, protect and preserve property in the possession of the contractor in which the District has an interest. If the Procurement Officer does not exercise this right, the contractor shall use best efforts to sell such supplies and manufacturing materials in accordance with the standards of Uniform Commercial Code Section 2-706. Utilization of this Section in no way implies that the District has breached the contract by exercise of the Termination for Convenience Clause. (4) Compensation. (a) The contractor shall submit a termination claim specifying the amounts due because of the termination for convenience together with cost or pricing data required by Section 11-35-1830 bearing on such claim. If the contractor fails to file a termination claim within one year from the effective date of termination, the Procurement Officer may pay the contractor, if at all, an amount set in accordance with Subparagraph (c) of this Paragraph. (b) The Procurement Officer and the contractor may agree to a settlement and that the settlement does not exceed the total contract price plus settlement costs reduced by payments previously made by the District, the proceeds of any sales of supplies and manufacturing materials under Paragraph (3) of this clause, and the contract price of the work not terminated; (c) Absent complete agreement under Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, the Procurement Officer shall pay the contractor the following amounts, provided payments agreed to under Subparagraph (b) shall not duplicate payments under this Subparagraph: (i) contract prices for supplies or services accepted under the contract; (ii) costs reasonably incurred in performing the terminated portion of the work less amounts paid or to be paid for accepted supplies or services; (iii) reasonable costs of settling and paying claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts or orders pursuant to Paragraph (2) of this clause. These costs must not include costs paid in accordance with Subparagraph (c)(ii) of this paragraph; (iv) any other reasonable costs that have resulted from the termination. The total sum to be paid the contractor under this Subparagraph shall not exceed the total contract price plus the reasonable settlement costs of the contractor reduced by the amount of payments otherwise made, the proceeds of any sales of supplies and manufacturing materials under Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, and the contract price of work not terminated. (d) Contractor must demonstrate any costs claimed, agreed to, or established under Subparagraphs (b) and (c) of this Paragraph using its standard record keeping system, provided such system is consistent with any applicable Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. (5) Contractor's failure to include an appropriate termination for convenience clause in any subcontract shall not (i) affect the District's right to require the termination of a subcontract, or (ii) increase the obligation of the District beyond what it would have been if the subcontract had contained an appropriate clause.

## IX. ATTACHMENTS TO SOLICITATION

### OFFEROR'S CHECKLIST AVOID COMMON BID/PROPOSAL MISTAKES

Review this checklist prior to submitting your bid/proposal.

If you fail to follow this checklist, you risk having your bid/proposal rejected.

- Do not include any of your standard contract forms!
- Unless expressly required, do not include any additional boilerplate contract clauses.
- Reread your entire bid/proposal to make sure your bid/proposal does not take exception to any of the district's mandatory requirements.
- Make sure you have properly marked all protected, confidential, or trade secret information in accordance with the instructions entitled: “**Submitting Confidential Information**”. Do not mark your entire bid/proposal as confidential, trade secret, or protected! Do not include a legend on the cover stating that your entire response is not to be released!
- Make sure you have properly acknowledged all amendments. Instructions regarding how to acknowledge amendments are outlined in section entitled: “**Instructions to Offerors – A. General Instructions (Amendments to Solicitation)**”.
- Make sure your bid/proposal is signed by a person that is authorized to contractually bind your business.
- Make sure your bid/proposal includes the number of copies requested.
- Make sure you properly mark the outside of your envelope with the bid number, due date, and time.
- Check to ensure your bid/proposal includes everything requested!
  - ❑ Cover Page – completed and signed
  - ❑ Page Two - completed
  - ❑ Bid/Proposal Schedule – completed (to include name of company in space provided)
  - ❑ Company Profile and Reference Form (if required)
  - ❑ Evidence of Liability Insurance
  - ❑ Bid Bond, Certified Check or Cashier's Check (if required)
  - ❑ Appropriate Number of Copies Requested
- If you have concerns about this solicitation, do not raise those concerns in your response! **After opening, it is too late! If this solicitation includes a prebid/proposal conference or a question & answer period, raise your questions as a part of that process!** Please see instructions under the heading “**Instructions to Offerors – A. General Instructions - Questions from Offerors**” and any provisions regarding prebid/proposal conferences.

This checklist is included only as a reminder to help offerors avoid common mistakes. Responsiveness will be evaluated against the solicitation, *not* against this checklist. You do not need to return this checklist with your response.

**X. MINORITY AND WOMAN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE POLICY AND REQUIREMENTS:**

a) Statement of Policy:

It is a practice of the Lancaster County School District that discrimination against businesses on the basis of race, color, national origin, and gender is prohibited. No person shall be denied the benefit of, or otherwise discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, national origin or gender in connection with the award and/or performance of any contract or modification of a contract between a vendor or contractor and the District which contract is paid or is to be paid for, in whole or part, with monetary appropriations of the District. Further, it is the practice of the District to encourage and promote, on an inclusionary basis, contracting opportunities for all business, without regard to race, color, national origin or gender. It is expected that all firms seeking to do business with the Lancaster County School District will comply with this policy.

b) Subcontractor Participation:

The Lancaster County School District, through its contract documents, encourages contractors to utilize minority subcontractors on their projects.

A prime contractor must identify M/WBE utilization expenditures to certified M/WBE subcontractors that perform a commercially useful function in the work of the contract. An M/WBE subcontractor is considered to perform a commercially useful function when it is responsible for the execution of a distinct element of the work of a contract for which the MBE or WBE has the skill and expertise and carries out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing and supervising the work involved.

c) Business Utilization Report:

In order to facilitate an effective monitoring system, each contractor, bidder or offeror must submit a completed and signed Utilization Report with the bid submission which lists the names, addresses and contact persons of the M/WBE and majority owned businesses, if any, to be used in the contract, the type of work each business will perform, the dollar value of the work and the scope of work. The Utilization Report submitted by the contractor shall be submitted as a part of the contract with the Lancaster County School District. If the information contained in the Contractor's Utilization Report changes by the time the contract is executed, the Contractor shall amend the Utilization Report and such amended Utilization Report shall be incorporated into the contract.

**Business Enterprise Utilization Report**

List all vendors/subcontractors to be used on this project. All MBE's or WBE's proposed for utilization on this project must be certified by the Small and Minority Business Assistance Office through the State of South Carolina according to the criteria of the Lancaster County School District's Minority Business Enterprise Plan.

In column 6 below, please specify ethnic/racial/gender group as follows:

- AABE – African-American Business Enterprise
- HBE – Hispanic Business Enterprise
- ABE – Asian-American Business Enterprise
- FBE – Female Business Enterprise
- MAJ – Majority Business Enterprise

Project Title	W/M Business Enterprise Name	Address	Contact Person(s)	Telephone #	Designation Code

**Statement of Intent**

We, the undersigned have prepared and submitted all the documents required for this project. We have prepared these documents with a full understanding of the Lancaster County School District's goal to ensure equal opportunities in the proposed work to be undertaken in performance of this project. Specifically the District seeks to encourage and promote on an inclusionary basis contracting opportunities without regard to the race, gender, national origin or ethnicity of the ownership or management of any business and that it is an equal opportunity employer and contracting entity. We certify that the representations contained in the Minority/Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Utilization Report, which we have submitted with this solicitation, are true and correct as of this date. We commit to undertake this contract with the Minority/Women Business utilization Report we have submitted, and to comply with all non-discrimination provisions of the Minority/Women Business Enterprise Program in the performance of this contract.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_