



**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**OFFICE OF STATE PROCUREMENT**  
1509 West 7th Street, Room 300  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-4222

**INVITATION FOR BID**  
**BID SOLICITATION DOCUMENT**

SOLICITATION INFORMATION			
Bid Number:	SP-18-0123	Solicitation Issued:	6/5/2018
Description:	School Buses		
Agency:	Statewide Government Entities		

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE			
Bid Opening Date:	6/19/2018	Bid Opening Time:	2:00 p.m., Central Time
<p>Deliver bid submissions for this Invitation for Bid to the Office of State Procurement on or before the designated bid opening date and time. In accordance with Arkansas Procurement Law and Rules, it is the responsibility of Prospective Contractors to submit bids at the designated location on or before the bid opening date and time. Bids received after the designated bid opening date and time may be considered late and may be returned to the Prospective Contractor without further review. It is not necessary to return "no bids" to OSP.</p>			

DELIVERY OF RESPONSE DOCUMENTS	
Delivery Address:	<p>Office of State Procurement 1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 300 Little Rock, AR 72201-4222</p> <p>Delivery providers, USPS, UPS, and FedEx deliver mail to OSP's street address on a schedule determined by each individual provider. These providers will deliver to OSP based solely on the street address. <b>Prospective Contractors assume all risk for timely, properly submitted deliveries.</b></p>
Bid's Outer Packaging:	<p>Seal outer packaging and properly mark with the following information. If outer packaging of bid submission is not properly marked, the package may be opened for bid identification purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bid number</li><li>• Date and time of bid opening</li><li>• Prospective Contractor's name and return address</li></ul>

OFFICE OF STATE PROCUREMENT CONTACT INFORMATION			
OSP Buyer:	John Leverett	Buyer's Direct Phone Number:	501-683-2222
Email Address:	<a href="mailto:john.leverett@dfa.arkansas.gov">john.leverett@dfa.arkansas.gov</a>	OSP's Main Number:	501-324-9316
OSP Website:	<a href="http://www.dfa.arkansas.gov/offices/procurement/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.dfa.arkansas.gov/offices/procurement/Pages/default.aspx</a>		

## **SECTION 1 - GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION**

- **Do not provide responses to items in this section unless specifically and expressly required.**

### **1.1 PURPOSE**

This Invitation for Bid (IFB) is issued by the Office of State Procurement (OSP) for the State of Arkansas to obtain pricing and to create term contracts with multiple Contractors for school buses. State Agencies and Cooperative Purchasing Program Participants will be allowed to purchase new school buses off the resulting contract.

### **1.2 TYPE OF CONTRACT**

- A. As a result of this IFB, OSP intends to award a **TERM** contract to **MULTIPLE** Contractors.
- B. The anticipated starting date for any resulting contract is 7/1/2018, except that the actual contract start date may be adjusted forward unilaterally by the State for up to three calendar months. By submitting a signed bid in response to the IFB, the Prospective Contractor represents and warrants that it will honor its bid as being held open as irrevocable for this period.
- C. The initial term of a resulting contract will be for one (1) year. Upon mutual-agreement by the Contractor and agency, the contract may be renewed by OSP for up to six (6) additional one-year terms or portions thereof, not to exceed a total aggregate contract term of seven (7) consecutive years.

### **1.3 ISSUING AGENCY**

OSP, as the issuing office, is the sole point of contact throughout this solicitation.

### **1.4 BID OPENING LOCATION**

Bids will be opened at the following location:

Office of State Procurement  
1509 West Seventh Street, Room 300  
Little Rock, AR 72201-4222

### **1.5 ACCEPTANCE OF REQUIREMENTS**

- A. A Prospective Contractor **must** unconditionally accept all Requirements in the Requirements Section(s) of this IFB to be considered a responsive Prospective Contractor.
- B. A Prospective Contractor's bid will be disqualified if a Prospective Contractor takes exceptions to any Requirements in the Requirements Section(s) of this IFB.

### **1.6 DEFINITION OF TERMS**

- A. The State Procurement Official has made every effort to use industry-accepted terminology in this *Bid Solicitation* and will attempt to further clarify any point of an item in question as indicated in *Clarification of Bid Solicitation*.
- B. Unless otherwise defined herein, all terms defined in Arkansas Procurement Law and used herein have the same definitions herein as specified therein.
- C. "Prospective Contractor" means a person who submits a bid in response to this solicitation.
- D. "Contractor" means a person who sells or contracts to sell commodities and/or services.
- E. The terms "Invitation for Bid", "IFB," "Bid Solicitation," and "Solicitation" are used synonymously in this document.
- F. "Responsive bid" means a bid submitted in response to this solicitation that conforms in all material respects to this IFB.

- G. "Bid Submission Requirement" means a task a Prospective Contractor completes when submitting a bid response. These requirements will be distinguished by using the term "**shall**" or "**must**" in the requirement.
- H. "Requirement" means a specification that a Contractor's product and/or service **must** perform during the term of the contract. These specifications will be distinguished by using the term "shall" or "must" in the requirement.
- I. "State" means the State of Arkansas. When the term "State" is used herein to reference any obligation of the State under a contract that results from this solicitation, that obligation is limited to the State agency using such a contract.

## 1.7 **RESPONSE DOCUMENTS**

### A. *Bid Response Packet*

1. The following are Bid Submission Requirements and **must** be submitted in the original Bid Response *Packet*.
  - a. Original signed *Bid Signature Page*. (See *Bid Response Packet*.)
    - i. An official authorized to bind the Prospective Contractor(s) to a resultant contract **must** sign the Bid Signature Page included in the *Bid Response Packet*.
    - ii. Prospective Contractor's signature signifies agreement to and compliance with all Requirements in this IFB, and that any exception that conflicts with a Requirement or Bid Submission Requirement of this *Bid Solicitation* will cause the Prospective Contractor's bid to be disqualified.
    - iii. Bid response **must** be in the English language.
  - b. One (1) original hard copy of the *Official Bid Price Sheet*. Pricing **must** be proposed in U.S. dollars and cents.
2. The following items should be submitted in the original Bid *Response Packet*.
  - a. One (1) electronic copy of the *Official Bid Price Sheet*, in Excel format, preferably on a flash drive. A CD will also be acceptable.

The contractor is responsible for ensuring that the electronic copy is identical to the original hard copy. In the event of pricing discrepancies or a CD-ROM/USB flash drive malfunction, the hard copy pricing will govern. All pricing must be submitted on the Official Bid Price Sheet.
  - b. EO 98-04 Disclosure Form. (See *Standard Terms and Conditions*, #27. *Disclosure*.)
  - c. Copy of Prospective Contractor's *Equal Opportunity Policy*. (See *Equal Opportunity Policy*.)
  - d. Proposed Subcontractors Form. (See Subcontractors.)
3. **DO NOT** include any other documents or ancillary information, such as a cover letter or promotional/marketing information.

## 1.8 **CLARIFICATION OF BID SOLICITATION**

- A. The Prospective Contractor should notify the OSP buyer of any term, condition, etc., that precludes the Prospective Contractor from submitting a compliant, responsive proposal. Prospective Contractors should note that it is the responsibility of the Prospective Contractor to seek resolution of all such issues, including those relating to the terms and conditions of the contract, prior to the submission of a bid.
- B. Prospective Contractors may contact the OSP buyer with non-substantive questions at any time prior to the bid opening.

- C. An oral statement by OSP will not be part of any contract resulting from this solicitation and may not reasonably be relied on by any Prospective Contractor as an aid to interpretation unless it is reduced to writing and expressly adopted by OSP.
- D. Prospective Contractors entering into a contract with the State **shall** comply with all the terms and conditions contained herein.

#### 1.9 **SUBCONTRACTORS**

- A. Prospective Contractor should complete, sign and submit the *Proposed Subcontractors Form* included in the *Bid Response Packet*.
- B. **Do not** attach any additional information to the *Proposed Subcontractors Form*.
- C. The utilization of any proposed subcontractor is subject to approval by the State agency.

#### 1.10 **PRICING**

- A. Prospective Contractor(s) **shall** include all charges on Attachment-A, SP-18-0123 Official School Bus Specifications & Pricing spreadsheets (also known as Official Bid Price Sheet) and must include all associated costs for the goods being bid. If any cost is not identified by the successful Contractor but is subsequently incurred in-order-to achieve successful operation, the Contractor **shall** bear this additional cost. The *Official Bid Price Sheet* document is provided as a separate electronic file posted with this *Bid Solicitation*.

**NOTE:** The State will not be obligated to pay any costs not identified on the Official Bid Price Sheet. Any cost not identified by the prospective contractor, but subsequently incurred in order to achieve contract completion, **shall** be borne by the contractor.

- B. To allow time to review bids, prices **must** be valid for 90 days following the bid opening.
- C. **DO NOT** submit any ancillary information not related to actual pricing on or with the Official Bid Price Sheet.

#### 1.11 **PRIME CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY**

- A. A single Prospective Contractor **must** be identified as the prime Contractor.
- B. The prime Contractor **shall** be responsible for the contract and jointly and severally liable with any of its subcontractors, affiliates, or agents to the State for the performance thereof.
- C. The prime Contractor shall not assign the contract in whole or in part or any payment arising there from without the prior written consent of the State Procurement Official. The prime Contractor shall not delegate any duties under this contract to a subcontractor unless the State Procurement Official has given written consent to the delegation.

#### 1.12 **INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION**

- A. By submission of this bid, the Prospective Contractor certifies, and in the case of a joint response, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, that in connection with this bid:
  - The prices in the bid have been arrived at independently, without collusion.
  - No prior information concerning these prices has been received from, or given to, a competitive company.
- B. Evidence of collusion warrants consideration of this bid by the Office of the Attorney General. All Prospective Contractors **shall** understand that this paragraph may be used as a basis for litigation.

#### 1.13 **PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**

- A. Submission documents pertaining to this *Bid Solicitation* become the property of the State and are subject to the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).
- B. In accordance with FOIA and to promote maximum competition in the State competitive bidding process, the State may maintain the confidentiality of certain types of information described in FOIA. Such information may

include trade secrets defined by FOIA and other information exempted from the Public Records Act pursuant to FOIA.

- C. Prospective Contractor may designate appropriate portions of its response as confidential, consistent with and to the extent permitted under the Statutes and Rules set forth above, by submitting a redacted copy of the response.
- D. By so redacting any information contained in the response, the Prospective Contractor warrants that it has formed a good faith opinion having received such necessary or proper review by counsel and other knowledgeable advisors that the portions redacted meet the requirements of the Rules and Statutes set forth above.
- E. Under no circumstances will pricing information be designated as confidential.
- F. One (1) complete copy of the submission documents from which any proprietary information has been redacted should be submitted on a flash drive in the *Bid Response Packet*. A CD is also acceptable. Do not submit documents via email or fax.
- G. Except for the redacted information, the redacted copy **must** be identical to the original hard copy, reflecting the same pagination as the original and showing the space from which information was redacted.
- H. The Prospective Contractor is responsible for identifying all proprietary information and for ensuring the electronic copy is protected against restoration of redacted data.
- I. The redacted copy will be open to public inspection under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) without further notice to the Prospective Contractor.
- J. If a redacted copy of the submission documents is not provided with Prospective Contractor's *Bid Response Packet*, a copy of the non-redacted documents, with the exception of financial data (other than pricing), will be released in response to any request made under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).
- K. If the State deems redacted information to be subject to FOIA, the Prospective Contractor will be contacted prior to release of the documents.
- L. The State has no liability to a Prospective Contractor with respect to the disclosure of Prospective Contractor's confidential information ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to FOIA or other applicable law.

#### **1.14 CAUTION TO PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTORS**

- A. Prior to any contract award, address all communication concerning this *Bid Solicitation* through the OSP buyer.
- B. Do not alter any language in any solicitation document provided by the State.
- C. Do not alter the Official Bid Price Sheet.
- D. All official documents and correspondence related to this solicitation become part of the resultant contract.
- E. The State has the right to award or not award a contract, if it is in the best interest of the State to do so.
- F. As requested, provide clarification regarding Prospective Contractor's bid response to OSP.
- G. Qualifications and proposed services **must** meet or exceed the required specifications as set forth in this *Bid Solicitation*.
- H. Prospective Contractors may submit multiple bids.
- I. **All bidders must be licensed by the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission.**

**Bidders should have on file with the Office of State Procurement a current copy of their license issued by the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission.**

**1.15 REQUIREMENT OF ADDENDUM**

- A. Only an addendum written and authorized by OSP will modify this *Bid Solicitation*.
- B. An addendum posted within three (3) calendar days prior to the bid opening may extend the bid opening and may or may not include changes to the Bid Solicitation.
- C. The Prospective Contractor is expected to check the OSP website, <http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/procurement/bids/index.php>, for any and all addenda up to bid opening.

**1.16 AWARD PROCESS**

- A. Successful Contractor Selection
  1. Award will be made to responsible, responsive Prospective Contractors on a Multiple Contractor basis.
  2. All line items bid will be awarded to Contractors who:
    - meet minimum bid specifications/requirements
    - are currently licensed by the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission
    - bid buses that are in compliance with Arkansas Public Schools Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules for the Specifications Governing School Bus Design
  3. State agencies, school districts and local public procurement units will be allowed to purchase from any of the awarded Contractors during the term of the contract.
  4. The decision, of which Contractor to purchase from, shall be made solely at the discretion of the agency, school district or local public procurement unit. Bidders must be able to deliver to all qualified public procurement units within the State.
  5. The Office of State Procurement reserves the right to award a contract to one or more bidders offering comparable prices and selection of products.
  6. Bids must meet or exceed all defined specifications. Bids must meet all terms and conditions of this Invitation for Bid and the laws of the State of Arkansas.
- B. Negotiations
  1. If the State so chooses, negotiations may be conducted with any of the Prospective Contractors. Negotiations are conducted at the sole discretion of the State.
- C. Anticipation to Award
  1. Once the anticipated successful Contractor has been determined, the anticipated award will be posted on the OSP website at [http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/procurement/pro\\_intent.php](http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/procurement/pro_intent.php).
  2. The anticipated award will be posted for a period of fourteen (14) days prior to the issuance of a contract. Prospective Contractors and agencies are cautioned that these are preliminary results only, and a contract will not be issued prior to the end of the fourteen day posting period.
  3. OSP may waive the policy of Anticipation to Award when it is in the best interest of the State.
  4. It is the Prospective Contractor's responsibility to check the OSP website for the posting of an anticipated award.
- D. Issuance of Contract
  1. Any resultant contract of this *Bid Solicitation* is subject to State approval processes which may include Legislative review.
  2. A State Procurement Official will be responsible for the solicitation and award of any resulting contract.

**1.17 MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS POLICY**

- A. A minority-owned business is defined by Arkansas Code Annotated § 15-4-303 as a business owned by a lawful permanent resident of this State who is:
- African American
  - American Indian
  - Asian American
  - Hispanic American
  - Pacific Islander American
  - A Service Disabled Veteran as designated by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs
- B. A women-owned business is defined by Act 1080 of the 91<sup>st</sup> General Assembly Regular Session 2017 as a business that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by one (1) or more women who are lawful permanent residents of this State.
- C. The Arkansas Economic Development Commission conducts a certification process for minority-owned and women-owned businesses. If certified, the Prospective Contractor's Certification Number should be included on the *Bid Signature Page*.

**1.18 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY**

- A. In compliance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 19-11-104, OSP is required to have a copy of the anticipated Contractor's *Equal Opportunity (EO) Policy* prior to issuing a contract award.
- B. *EO Policies* may be submitted in electronic format to the following email address: [eeopolicy.osp@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:eeopolicy.osp@dfa.arkansas.gov), but should also be included as a hardcopy accompanying the solicitation response.
- C. The submission of an *EO Policy* to OSP is a one-time Requirement. Contractors are responsible for providing updates or changes to their respective policies, and for supplying *EO Policies* upon request to other State agencies that must also comply with this statute.
- D. Prospective Contractors who are not required by law by to have an *EO Policy* **must** submit a written statement to that effect.

**1.19 PROHIBITION OF EMPLOYMENT OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS**

- A. Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 19-11-105, Contractor(s) providing services shall certify with OSP that they do not employ or contract with illegal immigrants.
- B. By signing and submitting a response to this *Bid Solicitation*, a Prospective Contractor agrees and certifies that they do not employ or contract with illegal immigrants. If selected, the Prospective Contractor certifies that they will not employ or contract with illegal immigrants during the aggregate term of a contract.

**1.20 RESTRICTION OF BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL**

- A. Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-1-503, a public entity **shall not** enter into a contract with a company unless the contract includes a written certification that the person or company is not currently engaged in, and agrees for the duration of the contract not to engage in, a boycott of Israel.
- B. This prohibition does not apply to a company which offers to provide the goods or services for at least twenty percent (20%) less than the lowest certifying business.
- C. By checking the designated box on the Bid Signature Page of the response packet, a Prospective Contractor agrees and certifies that they do not, and will not for the duration of the contract, boycott Israel.

**1.21 PAST PERFORMANCE**

In accordance with provisions of State Procurement Law, specifically OSP Rule R5:19-11-230(b)(1), a Prospective Contractor's past performance with the State may be used to determine if the Prospective Contractor is "responsible". Bids submitted by Prospective Contractors determined to be non-responsible will be disqualified.

**1.22 VISA ACCEPTANCE**

- A. Awarded Contractor should have the capability of accepting the State's authorized VISA Procurement Card (p-card) as a method of payment.

- B. Price changes or additional fee(s) **must not** be levied against the State when accepting the p-card as a form of payment.
- C. VISA is not the exclusive method of payment.

**1.23 PUBLICITY**

- A. Do not discuss the solicitation nor your bid response, nor issue statements or comments, nor provide interviews to any public media during the solicitation and award process.
- B. Failure to comply with this Requirement may be cause for a Prospective Contractor's bid to be disqualified.

**1.24 RESERVATION**

The State will not pay costs incurred in the preparation of a bid.

**REMAINING PORTION OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

## **SECTION 2 – REQUIREMENTS**

- **Do not provide responses to items in this section unless specifically and expressly required.**

### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

This Invitation for Bid (IFB) is issued by the Office of State Procurement (OSP) for the State of Arkansas to obtain pricing and to create term contracts with multiple contractors for school buses. State Agencies and Cooperative Purchasing Program Participants will be allowed to purchase new school buses off the resulting contract.

### **2.2 DELIVERY: FOB DESTINATION**

BID PRICE **MUST** INCLUDE ALL SHIPPING AND HANDLING COSTS.

**Deliver to:**

As specified on purchase order.

- A. **The agency requests delivery within 180 calendar days after receipt of the order.** If this delivery date cannot be met, the Prospective Contractor **must** state the alternate number of days required to place the commodity in the ordering agency's designated location. (See Bid Response Packet.) Failure to state the alternate delivery time obligates the Contractor to complete delivery by the agency's requested date. Extended delivery dates may be considered when in the best interest of the State.
- B. **Fill in delivery days on the Bid Response Packet, page 4.**
- C. All deliveries **must** be made during normal state work hours and within the agreed upon number of days unless otherwise arranged and coordinated with the agency. The Contractor **shall** give the agency immediate notice of any anticipated delays or plant shutdowns that will affect the delivery requirement.
- D. Loss or damage that occurs during shipping, prior to the order being received by the agency, is the Contractor's responsibility. All orders should be properly packaged to prevent damage during shipping.

### **2.3 SPECIFICATIONS**

All buses **shall** be new, and the latest model of proven performance and in standard production by manufacturer at time of delivery. Bidder's offering **must** conform to the State of Arkansas specifications referenced herein. Specifications for these buses are a minimum and bidders may bid more than one (1) model for each vehicle type, but they **must** meet or exceed the minimum specifications.

### **2.4 ACCEPTANCE STANDARDS**

Inspection and acceptance/rejection of product(s) will be made within thirty (30) days of receipt. The State has the option to return any product(s) within the thirty (30) day timeframe for any reason. Bid **must** include a "total satisfaction" return policy for all products and **must not** impose any liability on the State for such returns.

### **2.5 QUANTITIES**

Actual quantities of buses that will be ordered are not known at this time.

### **2.6 WARRANTY**

The body **must** have a five (5) year (from date unit is put into service) 100,000 miles warranty. The limited warranty **must** include the main body structural components, rust perforation of interior and exterior sheet metal paint adhesion, and passenger/driver seat frames.

The remaining items manufactured by the final stage manufacturer **must** have a two (2) year (from date bus is put into service) unlimited miles warranty.

All items supplied by an outside Contractor **must** be warranted by the final stage manufacturer for one (1) year (from date bus is put into service) unlimited miles.

### **2.7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND PAYMENTS**

Awarded contractors **must** send, to the ordering entity, an order acknowledgement within ten (10) days after receipt of order. Upon delivery of the vehicle, the contractor is required to provide original invoice, odometer statement,

certificate of origin and any other documentation required to license and pay sales tax on vehicle. To ensure prompt payment, contractor **must** provide a copy of the invoice and the signature of agency representative on a copy of the purchase order or any other receiving document and date received to the "bill to address".

## **2.8 DELIVERY TO ARKANSAS STATE AGENCIES F.O.B. DESTINATION**

Bid prices **must** include delivery of all vehicles to the ordering agency regardless of location within the State of Arkansas. Bidder **must** state approximate delivery days for each vehicle in the space provided. If delivery time stated for a particular vehicle is considered excessive by the Office of State Procurement, bid for that vehicle may be rejected. Failure to deliver the vehicle within the stated time may result in cancellation of the order of vehicle(s). If cancellation occurs, the Office of State Procurement may purchase the vehicle(s) from another source and charge the difference (if any) to the defaulting contractor.

## **2.9 OPTIONS/ADDITIONAL OPTIONS**

State agencies, school districts and local public procurement units may add any options referenced in the Official Bid Price Sheet of this IFB for the specified vehicle.

Additional options, not found in the Official Bid Price Sheet, **must** be approved by the proper authorities and be submitted on a separate purchase order.

## **2.10 DEALERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

Bidders **must** hold a valid license issued by the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission as allowed by Arkansas Code §23-112-301 and §23-112-312 and should submit a copy of their Arkansas Dealers License with their bid submittal.

## **2.11 CONTRACT USAGE REPORT**

Awarded contractor(s) **must** provide to the Office of State Procurement an electronic detailed quarterly report on all sales made against this agreement within the State of Arkansas to the State's primary contact listed below. The report file format **shall** be Microsoft Excel compatible format. This report **must** reflect the total sales of each vehicle ordered against the contract. The report **must** include the item number, quantities sold, manufacturer, and model of vehicle, name of state agency or cooperative purchasing agency.

**Primary Contact:** John Leverett  
Phone: 501-683-2222 Fax: 501-324-9311  
E-mail: [john.leverett@dfa.arkansas.gov](mailto:john.leverett@dfa.arkansas.gov)

**Participating Entity:** Arkansas Office of State Procurement  
1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 300  
Little Rock, AR 72201-4222

### **Contract Quarterly Reporting Schedule Requirements:**

Due April 30: (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter) January 1 through March 31

Due July 30: (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter) April 1 through June 30

Due October 30: (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter) July 1 through September 30

Due January 30: (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter) October 1 through December 31

## **2.12 BID PRICING AND DELIVERY SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

See Bid Pricing Instructions and number of delivery days statement in the Bid Pricing and Delivery section of Bid Response Packet.

## **2.13 INSPECTION AND TEST PROCEDURES**

Responsibility for Inspection - Unless otherwise specified, the awarded contractor will be responsible for performing all inspections required herein. The Office of State Procurement reserves the right to make any inspections on selected vehicles deemed necessary, for evaluation purposes, to insure compliance with this specification.

**2.14 PRE-DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS**

All vehicles furnished to the State of Arkansas **must be new** and delivered as specified by the Invitation for Bid (IFB). Vehicles **must** be furnished with all interior, exterior trim and appointments listed by the manufacturer in printed specifications and literature as standard equipment. Vehicles **must** also be equipped with any-and-all safety equipment required by the State of Arkansas and/or applicable Federal Regulations. Any upgrades and/or additional equipment necessitated by selection of any listed option by the ordering entity **must** be included in the prices bid, and no additional charge **shall** be made by the contractor.

Each vehicle **must** be completely serviced, cleaned, and thoroughly inspected by the awarded contractor prior to delivery to the purchasing entity. **No dealer advertisement shall** be on any vehicle purchased by the State of Arkansas. The following **must** be accomplished by the contractor prior to delivery:

- a. Complete lubrication.
- b. Fill crankcase with oil.
- c. Adjustment of engine to proper operating conditions.
- d. Inflate tires to proper pressure.
- e. Careful check to assure perfect operation of all mechanical features.
- f. Front end alignment and wheels balanced.
- g. Cleaning of vehicle, if necessary, and removal of all unnecessary tags, stickers, papers, etc.  
**Window price sticker shall not be removed.**
- h. No dealer's insignia shall be affixed to vehicle.
- i. A minimum five gallons of fuel in each vehicle.
- j. Delivery **shall** be during normal working hours, 8 A.M. to 4 P.M., Monday through Friday.
- k. License plate holders installed, front and rear.

**2.15 REGISTRATION FEES**

In accordance with Act 484 of 2009 and Act 351 of 2011, all Arkansas motor vehicle dealers are required to print and place Temporary Buyer's Tags on all unregistered vehicles at the time of sale. Temporary Tag Fees will be ascertained and added to the Vehicle Registration Certificate Form. Contractors may not charge fees higher than the established amounts. Fees may be increased only as rate changes are imposed by the Arkansas Legislature.

**REMAINING PORTION OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

## **SECTION 3 – GENERAL CONTRACTUAL ITEMS**

- **Do not provide responses to items in this section.**

### **3.1 PAYMENT AND INVOICE PROVISIONS**

A. Forward invoices to:

As specified on purchase order.

- B. Payment will be made in accordance with applicable State of Arkansas accounting procedures upon acceptance of goods and services by the agency.
- C. Do not invoice the State in advance of delivery and acceptance of any goods or services.
- D. Payment will be made only after the Contractor has successfully satisfied the agency as to the reliability and effectiveness of the goods or services purchased as a whole.
- E. The Contractor should invoice the agency by an itemized list of charges. The agency's Purchase Order Number and/or the Contract Number should be referenced on each invoice.
- F. Other sections of this *Bid Solicitation* may contain additional Requirements for invoicing.
- G. Selected Contractor **must** be registered to receive payment and future *Bid Solicitation* notifications. Contractors may register on-line at <https://www.ark.org/contractor/index.html>.

### **3.2 GENERAL INFORMATION**

A. The State will not:

1. Lease any equipment or software for a period of time which continues past the end of a fiscal year unless the contract allows for cancellation by the State Procurement Official upon a 30 day written notice to the Contractor/lessor in the event funds are not appropriated.
  2. Contract with another party to indemnify and defend that party for any liability and damages.
  3. Pay damages, legal expenses or other costs and expenses of any other party.
  4. Continue a contract once any equipment has been repossessed.
  5. Agree to any provision of a contract which violates the laws or constitution of the State of Arkansas.
  6. Enter a contract which grants to another party any remedies other than the following:
    - a. The right to possession.
    - b. The right to accrued payments.
    - c. The right to expenses of de-installation.
    - d. The right to expenses of repair to return the equipment to normal working order, normal wear and tear excluded.
    - e. The right to recover only amounts due at the time of repossession and any unamortized nonrecurring cost as allowed by Arkansas Law.
- B. Any litigation involving the State **must** take place in Pulaski County, Arkansas.
- C. The laws of the State of Arkansas govern this contract.
- D. A contract is not effective prior to award being made by a State Procurement Official.

- E. In a contract with another party, the State will accept the risk of loss of the equipment or software and pay for any destruction, loss, or damage of the equipment or software while the State has such risk, when:
  - The extent of liability for such risk is based upon the purchase price of the equipment or software at the time of any loss, and
  - The contract has required the State to carry insurance for such risk.

### 3.3 **CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT**

- A. Observe and comply with federal and State of Arkansas laws, local laws, ordinances, orders, and regulations existing at the time of, or enacted subsequent to the execution of a resulting contract which in any manner affect the completion of the work.
- B. Indemnify and save harmless the agency and all its officers, representatives, agents, and employees against any claim or liability arising from or based upon the violation of any such law, ordinance, regulation, order or decree by an employee, representative, or subcontractor of the Contractor.

### 3.4 **STATEMENT OF LIABILITY**

- A. The State will demonstrate reasonable care but will not be liable in the event of loss, destruction or theft of Contractor-owned equipment or software and technical and business or operations literature to be delivered or to be used in the installation of deliverables and services. The Contractor will retain total liability for equipment, software and technical and business or operations literature. The State will not at any time be responsible for or accept liability for any Contractor-owned items.
- B. The Contractor's liability for damages to the State will be limited to the value of the Contract or \$5,000,000, whichever is higher. The foregoing limitation of liability will not apply to claims for infringement of United States patent, copyright, trademarks or trade secrets; to claims for personal injury or damage to property caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Contractor; to claims covered by other specific provisions of the Contract calling for damages; or to court costs or attorney's fees awarded by a court in addition to damages after litigation based on the Contract. The Contractor and the State will not be liable to each other, regardless of the form of action, for consequential, incidental, indirect, or special damages. This limitation of liability will not apply to claims for infringement of United States patent, copyright, trademark or trade secrets; to claims for personal injury or damage to property caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Contractor; to claims covered by other specific provisions of the Contract calling for damages; or to court costs or attorney's fees awarded by a court in addition to damages after litigation based on the Contract.
- C. Language in these terms and conditions **must not** be construed or deemed as the State's waiver of its right of sovereign immunity. The Contractor agrees that any claims against the State, whether sounding in tort or in contract, will be brought before the Arkansas Claims Commission as provided by Arkansas law and governed accordingly.

### 3.5 **RECORD RETENTION**

- A. Maintain all pertinent financial and accounting records and evidence pertaining to the contract in accordance with generally accepted principles of accounting and as specified by the State of Arkansas Law. Upon request, grant access to State or Federal Government entities or any of their duly authorized representatives.
- B. Make financial and accounting records available, upon request, to the State of Arkansas's designee(s) at any time during the contract period and any extension thereof, and for five (5) years from expiration date and final payment on the contract or extension thereof.
- C. Other sections of this *Bid Solicitation* may contain additional Requirements regarding record retention.

### 3.6 **PRICE ESCALATION**

- A. Bid price must stay firm for the first year of the contract period. Upon contract renewal, to apply for a price increase, the Contractor must provide OSP a written request. The request will only be considered if the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) has a general price increase on any model on the contract. However, the price increase must be documented by a letter from the OEM and only that amount will be allowed. Additional price

increases will be considered, under the same terms, every six (6) months. OSP has the right to require additional information pertaining to any requested increase.

- B. No price increases will be allowed on purchase orders issued by a state agency or cooperative purchaser after the purchase order has been acknowledged by the bus dealer. Dealers must send, to the ordering entity, an order acknowledgement within ten (10) days after receipt of order. (See 2.7 "Acknowledgements and Payments").
- C. The successful Contractor(s) must guarantee that the ordering agency will receive the full general price decrease or rebate amount the manufacturer offers on any bus within this contract. Any rebate or other incentive must be divulged to OSP as soon as known.
- D. Increases will not be considered to increase profit or margins.
- E. OSP has the right to approve or deny the request.

### 3.7 **CONFIDENTIALITY**

- A. The Contractor, Contractor's subsidiaries, and Contractor's employees will be bound to all laws and to all Requirements set forth in this *Bid Solicitation* concerning the confidentiality and secure handling of information of which they may become aware of during the course of providing services under a resulting contract.
- B. Consistent and/or uncorrected breaches of confidentiality may constitute grounds for cancellation of a resulting contract, and the State has the right to cancel the contract on these grounds.
- C. Previous sections of this *Bid Solicitation* may contain additional confidentiality Requirements.

### 3.8 **CONTRACT INTERPRETATION**

Should the State and Contractor interpret specifications differently, either party may request clarification. However, if an agreement cannot be reached, the determination of the State is final and controlling.

### 3.9 **CANCELLATION**

- A. For Cause. The State may cancel any contract resulting from this solicitation for cause when the Contractor fails to perform its obligations under it by giving the Contractor written notice of such cancellation at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of proposed cancellation. In any written notice of cancellation for cause, the State will advise the Contractor in writing of the reasons why the State is considering cancelling the contract and provide the Contractor with an opportunity to avoid cancellation for cause by curing any deficiencies identified in the notice of cancellation for cause prior to the date of proposed cancellation. To the extent permitted by law and at the discretion of the parties, the parties may agree to minor amendments to the contract and avoid the cancellation for cause upon mutual agreement.
- B. For Convenience. The State may cancel any contract resulting from the solicitation by giving the Contractor written notice of such cancellation sixty (60) days prior to the date of cancellation.
- C. If upon cancellation the Contractor has provided commodities or services which the State of Arkansas has accepted, and there are no funds legally available to pay for the commodities or services, the Contractor may file a claim with the Arkansas Claims Commission under the laws and regulations governing the filing of such claims.

### 3.10 **SEVERABILITY**

If any provision of the contract, including items incorporated by reference, is declared or found to be illegal, unenforceable, or void, then both the agency and the Contractor will be relieved of all obligations arising under such provision. If the remainder of the contract is capable of performance, it will not be affected by such declaration or finding and **must** be fully performed.

## **SECTION 4 – COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**

### **4.1 SELLING TO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL/COOPERATIVE USE OF COMPETITIVELY BID PROPOSALS AND CONTRACTS:** In accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 19-11-249, any State public procurement unit may participate in any contract resulting from this solicitation with a participating addendum signed by the contractor and approved by the chief procurement officer of the procurement agency issuing this solicitation.

### **4.2 COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS NOTE**

In order to provide the discounted prices offered in this procurement package to both the State and the cooperative purchasing program participants, the vehicle bidders must receive timely payment, payment for partial shipment on multiple vehicle orders, and have all required approvals obtained prior to order placement. (All these conditions are being met by state agencies that are required to have sufficient funds and approvals before orders are placed and to make prompt payment for vehicles as received.) It is incumbent upon cooperative purchasing participants to have all approvals obtained and funds available to complete the purchasing transaction in a prompt manner. Most of the dealers have fifteen (15) days from the time a vehicle leaves the factory to pay the manufacturers. In order to continue to receive the fleet pricing, you must ensure prompt payment for each vehicle as it is received.

**REMAINING PORTION OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

## **SECTION 5 – STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- *Do not provide responses to items in this section.*
- 1. **GENERAL:** Any special terms and conditions included in this solicitation **shall** override these Standard Terms and Conditions. The Standard Terms and Conditions and any special terms and conditions **shall** become part of any contract entered into if any or all parts of the bid are accepted by the State of Arkansas.
- 2. **ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION:** The State **shall** have the right to accept or reject all or any part of a bid or any and all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to award the bid to best serve the interest of the State.
- 3. **BID SUBMISSION:** Original Bid Packets **must** be submitted to the Office of State Procurement on or before the date and time specified for bid opening. The Bid Packet **must** contain all documents, information, and attachments as specifically and expressly required in the *Bid Solicitation*. The bid **must** be typed or printed in ink. The signature **must** be in ink. Unsigned bids **shall** be disqualified. The person signing the bid should show title or authority to bind his firm in a contract. Multiple bids **must** be placed in separate packages and should be completely and properly identified. Late bids **shall not** be considered under any circumstances.
- 4. **PRICES:** Bid unit price F.O.B. destination. In case of errors in extension, unit prices **shall** govern. Prices **shall** be firm and **shall not** be subject to escalation unless otherwise specified in the *Bid Solicitation*. Unless otherwise specified, the bid **must** be firm for acceptance for thirty days from the bid opening date. "Discount from list" bids are not acceptable unless requested in the *Bid Solicitation*.
- 5. **QUANTITIES:** Quantities stated in a *Bid Solicitation* for term contracts are estimates only, and are not guaranteed. Contractor **must** bid unit price on the estimated quantity and unit of measure specified. The State may order more or less than the estimated quantity on term contracts. Quantities stated on firm contracts are actual Requirements of the ordering agency.
- 6. **BRAND NAME REFERENCES:** Unless otherwise specified in the *Bid Solicitation*, any catalog brand name or manufacturer reference used in the *Bid Solicitation* is descriptive only, not restrictive, and used to indicate the type and quality desired. Bids on brands of like nature and quality will be considered. If bidding on other than referenced specifications, the bid **must** show the manufacturer, brand or trade name, and other descriptions, and should include the manufacturer's illustrations and complete descriptions of the product offered. The State **shall** have the right to determine whether a substitute offered is equivalent to and meets the standards of the item specified, and the State may require the Contractor to supply additional descriptive material. The Contractor **shall** guarantee that the product offered will meet or exceed specifications identified in this *Bid Solicitation*. Contractors not bidding an alternate to the referenced brand name or manufacturer **shall** be required to furnish the product according to brand names, numbers, etc., as specified in the solicitation.
- 7. **GUARANTY:** All items bid **shall** be newly manufactured, in first-class condition, latest model and design, including, where applicable, containers suitable for shipment and storage, unless otherwise indicated in the *Bid Solicitation*. The Contractor hereby guarantees that everything furnished hereunder **shall** be free from defects in design, workmanship and material, that if sold by drawing, sample or specification, it **shall** conform thereto and **shall** serve the function for which it was furnished. The Contractor **shall** further guarantee that if the items furnished hereunder are to be installed by the Contractor, such items **shall** function properly when installed. The Contractor **shall** guarantee that all applicable laws have been complied with relating to construction, packaging, labeling and registration. The Contractor's obligations under this paragraph **shall** survive for a period of one year from the date of delivery, unless otherwise specified herein.
- 8. **SAMPLES:** Samples or demonstrators, when requested, **must** be furnished free of expense to the State. Each sample should be marked with the Contractor's name and address, bid or contract number and item number. If requested, samples that are not destroyed during reasonable examination will be returned at Contractor's expense. After reasonable examination, all demonstrators will be returned at Contractor's expense.
- 9. **TESTING PROCEDURES FOR SPECIFICATIONS COMPLIANCE:** Tests may be performed on samples or demonstrators submitted with the bid or on samples taken from the regular shipment. In the event products tested fail to meet or exceed all conditions and Requirements of the specifications, the cost of the sample used and the reasonable cost of the testing **shall** be borne by the Contractor.
- 10. **AMENDMENTS:** Contractor's bids cannot be altered or amended after the bid opening except as permitted by regulation.
- 11. **TAXES AND TRADE DISCOUNTS:** Do not include State or local sales taxes in the bid price. Trade discounts should be deducted from the unit price and the net price should be shown in the bid.
- 12. **AWARD:** Term Contract: A contract award will be issued to the successful Contractor. It results in a binding obligation without further action by either party. This award does not authorize shipment. Shipment is authorized by the receipt of a purchase order from the ordering agency. Firm Contract: A written State purchase order authorizing shipment will be furnished to the successful Contractor.
- 13. **DELIVERY ON FIRM CONTRACTS:** This solicitation shows the number of days to place a commodity in the ordering agency's designated location under normal conditions. If the Contractor cannot meet the stated delivery, alternate delivery schedules may become a factor in an award. The Office of State Procurement **shall** have the right to extend delivery if reasons appear valid. If the date is not acceptable, the agency may buy elsewhere and any additional cost **shall** be borne by the Contractor.

14. **DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS:** No substitutions or cancellations are permitted without written approval of the Office of State Procurement. Delivery **shall** be made during agency work hours only 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time, unless prior approval for other delivery has been obtained from the agency. Packing memoranda **shall** be enclosed with each shipment.
15. **STORAGE:** The ordering agency is responsible for storage if the Contractor delivers within the time required and the agency cannot accept delivery.
16. **DEFAULT:** All commodities furnished **shall** be subject to inspection and acceptance of the ordering agency after delivery. Back orders, default in promised delivery, or failure to meet specifications **shall** authorize the Office of State Procurement to cancel this contract or any portion of it and reasonably purchase commodities elsewhere and charge full increase, if any, in cost and handling to the defaulting Contractor. The Contractor **must** give written notice to the Office of State Procurement and ordering agency of the reason and the expected delivery date. Consistent failure to meet delivery without a valid reason may cause removal from the Contractors list or suspension of eligibility for award.
17. **VARIATION IN QUANTITY:** The State assumes no liability for commodities produced, processed or shipped in excess of the amount specified on the agency's purchase order.
18. **INVOICING:** The Contractor **shall** be paid upon the completion of all of the following: (1) submission of an original and the specified number of copies of a properly itemized invoice showing the bid and purchase order numbers, where itemized in the *Bid Solicitation*, (2) delivery and acceptance of the commodities and (3) proper and legal processing of the invoice by all necessary State agencies. Invoices **must** be sent to the "Invoice To" point shown on the purchase order.
19. **STATE PROPERTY:** Any specifications, drawings, technical information, dies, cuts, negatives, positives, data or any other commodity furnished to the Contractor hereunder or in contemplation hereof or developed by the Contractor for use hereunder **shall** remain property of the State, **shall** be kept confidential, **shall** be used only as expressly authorized, and **shall** be returned at the Contractor's expense to the F.O.B. point provided by the agency or by OSP. Contractor **shall** properly identify items being returned.
20. **PATENTS OR COPYRIGHTS:** The Contractor **must** agree to indemnify and hold the State harmless from all claims, damages and costs including attorneys' fees, arising from infringement of patents or copyrights.
21. **ASSIGNMENT:** Any contract entered into pursuant to this solicitation **shall not** be assignable nor the duties thereunder delegable by either party without the written consent of the other party of the contract.
22. **CLAIMS:** Any claims the Contractor may assert under this Agreement **shall** be brought before the Arkansas State Claims Commission ("Commission"), which **shall** have exclusive jurisdiction over any and all claims that the Contractor may have arising from or in connection with this Agreement. Unless the Contractor's obligations to perform are terminated by the State, the Contractor **shall** continue to provide the Services under this Agreement even in the event that the Contractor has a claim pending before the Commission.
23. **CANCELLATION:** In the event, the State no longer needs the commodities or services specified for any reason, (e.g., program changes; changes in laws, rules or regulations; relocation of offices; lack of appropriated funding, etc.), the State **shall** have the right to cancel the contract or purchase order by giving the Contractor written notice of such cancellation thirty (30) days prior to the date of cancellation.

Any delivered but unpaid for goods will be returned in normal condition to the Contractor by the State. If the State is unable to return the commodities in normal condition and there are no funds legally available to pay for the goods, the Contractor may file a claim with the Arkansas Claims Commission under the laws and regulations governing the filing of such claims. If upon cancellation the Contractor has provided services which the State has accepted, the Contractor may file a claim. **NOTHING IN THIS CONTRACT SHALL BE DEEMED A WAIVER OF THE STATE'S RIGHT TO SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.**
24. **DISCRIMINATION:** In order to comply with the provision of Act 954 of 1977, relating to unfair employment practices, the Contractor agrees that: (a) the Contractor **shall not** discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, sex, color, age, religion, handicap, or national origin; (b) in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, the Contractor **shall** state that all qualified applicants **shall** receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, handicap, or national origin; (c) the Contractor will furnish such relevant information and reports as requested by the Human Resources Commission for the purpose of determining compliance with the statute; (d) failure of the Contractor to comply with the statute, the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder and this nondiscrimination clause **shall** be deemed a breach of contract and it may be cancelled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part; (e) the Contractor **shall** include the provisions of above items (a) through (d) in every subcontract so that such provisions **shall** be binding upon such subcontractor or Contractor.
25. **CONTINGENT FEE:** The Contractor guarantees that he has not retained a person to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business.
26. **ANTITRUST ASSIGNMENT:** As part of the consideration for entering into any contract pursuant to this solicitation, the Contractor named on the *Bid Signature Page* for this solicitation, acting herein by the authorized individual or its duly authorized agent, hereby assigns, sells and transfers to the State of Arkansas all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may have under the antitrust laws of the United States or this State for price fixing, which causes of action have accrued prior to the date of this

assignment and which relate solely to the particular goods or services purchased or produced by this State pursuant to this contract.

- 27. DISCLOSURE:** Failure to make any disclosure required by Governor's Executive Order 98-04, or any violation of any rule, regulation, or policy adopted pursuant to that order, **shall** be a material breach of the terms of this contract. Any Contractor, whether an individual or entity, who fails to make the required disclosure or who violates any rule, regulation, or policy **shall** be subject to all legal remedies available to the agency.