

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP # 23-002

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Web-based Library Data Collection and Dissemination Products and Services for New York State

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) New York State Library is seeking a vendor to provide web-based data collection applications used to compile statistical data required for mandated Federal and State reporting purposes, as well as other data collection purposes, and a web-based application for library data dissemination.

Subcontracting will be limited to thirty percent (30%) of the total contract budget. Subcontracting is defined as non-employee direct personal services and related incidental expenses, including travel.

NYSED will award one contract pursuant to this RFP. The contract resulting from this RFP will be for a term anticipated to begin September 1, 2023, and to end August 31, 2028. A transition period of six months will be added to the beginning of the term (to start March 1, 2023) if a new vendor is selected.

Bidders are required to comply with NYSED's Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) participation goals for this RFP through one of three methods. Compliance methods are discussed in detail in the Minority/Women-Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Participation Goals section below.

Service Area: Statewide

Mandatory Requirements: See Mandatory Requirements section of the RFP.

Components contained in RFP 23-002 are as follows:

- 1.) Description of Services to Be Performed
- 2.) Submission
- 3.) Evaluation Criteria and Method of Award
- 4.) Assurances
- 5.) Submission Documents (separate document)

Questions regarding the request must be submitted by email to NYSLRFP@nysed.gov no later than the close of business **September 29, 2022**. Questions regarding this request should be identified as Program, Fiscal or M/WBE. A Questions and Answers Summary will be posted to the [State Library's RFP webpage](#) no later than October 6, 2022. The following are the designated contacts for this procurement:

Program Matters

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The following documents must be submitted in separately sealed envelopes, as detailed in the Submission section of the RFP, and be received at NYSED no later than **October 27, 2022, by 3:00 PM Eastern Time**:

1. Submission Documents labeled **Submission Documents – RFP #23-002 Do Not Open**
2. Technical Proposal labeled **Technical Proposal – RFP #23-002 Do Not Open**
3. Cost Proposal labeled **Cost Proposal – RFP #23-002 Do Not Open**
4. M/WBE Documents labeled **M/WBE Documents – RFP #23-002 Do Not Open**
5. USB flash drive or CD containing the Technical and Cost proposals, M/WBE documents and Submission Documents labeled **Electronic Proposal – RFP #23–002 Do Not Open**.

The mailing address for all the above documentation is:

NYS Education Department
Bureau of Fiscal Management
Attn: Thomas McBride, RFP #23-002
Contract Administration Unit
89 Washington Avenue, Room 501W EB
Albany, NY 12234

Bids received after 3:00 pm Eastern Time on October 27, 2022, will be disqualified.

1.) **Description of Services to be Performed**

Work Statement and Specifications

This section of the bid package details the services and products to be acquired. Please note that the contract process also includes general New York State administrative terms and conditions, as well as terms and conditions required by New York State law. These terms and conditions address issues related to both the submission of bids and any subsequent contract; they are included separately in this bid package for your information. Please review all terms and conditions.

Mandatory Requirements

The eligible bidder must agree to the Mandatory Requirement found below and must submit the Mandatory Requirements Certification Form, located in **5.) Submission Documents**. This required form must be signed by an authorized person. **Bids that do not comply with the Mandatory Requirement and include the Mandatory Requirements Certification form will be disqualified.**

- Applicants must have web application(s) which are pre-programmed, configurable and commercially available (i.e., currently in production, not in Beta or Test phase).

Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Participation Goals Pursuant to Article 15-A of the New York State Executive Law

For purposes of this procurement, NYS Education Department hereby establishes an overall goal of 30% of the total contract amount for M/WBE participation, 17% for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (“MBE”) participation and 13% for Women-Owned Business Enterprises (“WBE”) participation based on the current availability of qualified MBEs and WBEs. All bidders must document good faith efforts to provide meaningful participation by MWBEs as subcontractors or suppliers in the performance of this Contract. Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) participation includes any and all services, materials or supplies purchased from New York State certified minority and women-owned firms. Utilization of certified Minority and Women-Owned firms will be applied toward the goals. Bidders can achieve compliance with NYSED’s Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise goals as described below.

ACHIEVE FULL COMPLIANCE WITH PARTICIPATION GOALS (PREFERRED)

Bidders should submit subcontracting/supplier forms that meet or exceed NYSED’s participation goals for this procurement. All subcontracting/supplier forms must be submitted with the bid proposal. In addition, bidders must complete and submit M/WBE 100: Utilization Plan, M/WBE 102: Notice of Intent to Participate and EEO 100: Staffing Plan. Instructions and copies of these forms are located in the Submission Documents. All firms utilized must be certified with the NYS Division of Minority and Women Business Development before beginning any work on this contract. For additional information and a listing of currently certified M/WBEs, see the [NYS Directory of Certified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises](#).

The contact person on M/WBE matters is available throughout the application and procurement process to assist bidders in meeting the M/WBE goals. NYSED reserves the right to approve the addition or deletion of subcontractors or suppliers to enable bidders to comply with the M/WBE

goals, provided such addition or deletion does not impact the technical proposal and/or increase the total cost of the bid proposal.

DOCUMENTATION OF GOOD FAITH EFFORTS

Bidders must undertake a good faith effort to solicit NYS Certified M/WBE firms as subcontractors and/or suppliers in fulfillment of this procurement. Means of solicitation may include but are not limited to: advertisements in minority centered publications; solicitation of vendors found in the [NYS Directory of Certified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises](#); and the solicitation of minority and women-oriented trade and labor organizations. Bidders will be required to certify and attest to their good faith efforts by completing NYSED's Certification of Good Faith Efforts (Form M/WBE 105). See the M/WBE Submission Documents for detailed examples of and required forms to document good faith efforts.

NYSED reserves the right to reject any bid for failure to document "good faith efforts" to comply with the stated M/WBE goals.

IN THE EVENT BIDDERS CANNOT COMPLY WITH NYSED DESIGNATED PARTICIPATION GOALS, SAID BIDDERS MUST DOCUMENT THEIR "GOOD FAITH EFFORTS" TO COMPLY AND SUBMIT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS:

REQUEST A PARTIAL WAIVER OF PARTICIPATION GOALS

In order to request a partial waiver of the participation goals for this procurement, Bidders must provide documentation of their good faith efforts to obtain the use of certified M/WBE enterprises along with their bid proposal forms. The subcontracting forms must include the participation percentage(s) for which they seek approval. Bidders will be required to certify and attest to their good faith efforts. Bidders should submit a request for a partial waiver (Form M/WBE 101) and document their Good Faith Efforts (Form M/WBE 105) at the same time as the bid is submitted. Bidders must also complete and submit M/WBE 100: Utilization Plan, M/WBE 102: Notice of Intent to Participate and EEO 100: Staffing Plan. The M/WBE Coordinator is available throughout the procurement process to assist in all areas of M/WBE compliance.

REQUEST A COMPLETE WAIVER OF PARTICIPATION GOALS

In order to request a complete waiver of the participation goals for this procurement, Bidders must provide documentation of their Good Faith Efforts to obtain the use of certified M/WBE enterprises along with their bid proposal forms. Bidders will be required to certify and attest to their good faith efforts. Bidders should submit a request for a complete waiver on Form M/WBE 101 and document their Good Faith Efforts (Form M/WBE 105) at the same time as they submit their bid. The M/WBE Coordinator is available throughout the procurement process to assist in all areas of M/WBE compliance.

All payments to Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise subcontractor(s) must be reported to NYSED M/WBE Program Unit using M/WBE 103 Quarterly M/WBE Compliance Report. This report must be submitted on a quarterly basis and can be found at NYSED's [M/WBE Forms and Compliance Forms webpage](#).

Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDVOB) Participation Goals Pursuant to Article 17-B of New York State Executive Law

Article 17-B of Executive Law was enacted to ensure that certified SDVOBs are provided opportunities for meaningful participation in the performance of state contracts. To this end, NYSED strongly

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encourages bidders to make maximum possible use of SDVOBs as subcontractors and/or suppliers under this contract, consistent with the requirements of State Finance Law and State procurement guidelines, as well as NYSED policies and procedures. Bidders should consider fulfilling the requirements of this contract through the participation of SDVOBs at a rate of 6%. For additional information about this program, including a list of SDVOBs, please visit the [Office of General Services, Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development website](#).

Background

This section of the RFP includes a brief introduction to libraries and library systems in New York State, and background information about the intended acquisitions and/or services for which the requirements herein are written. The contents of this section are intended for informational purposes and do not require a response.

New York State's Library Infrastructure

New York State is home to a multilayered infrastructure of some 7,000 libraries and library systems serving 20 million New Yorkers statewide. The New York State Library works in conjunction with public library systems; school library systems; reference and research library resources councils; and public, school, academic and special libraries in facilitating the overall mission of the New York State Education Department to raise the knowledge, skill, and opportunity of all the people in New York.

There are 23 Public Library Systems in New York State comprising some 757 public and association libraries with more than 1,000 outlets. The 40 School Library Systems serve 4,061 school library media centers. New York State's nine Reference and Research Library Resources Councils serve over 1,000 academic, business, hospital, law, and other special libraries. They also serve the state's public and school library systems.

Overview of Library Surveys

The New York State Library uses a number of surveys to collect and disseminate various library data for the New York State library community and policy makers. Survey reports are also used to facilitate the process of making State Aid payments to New York State libraries and library systems. Surveys are filled out annually by the three types of library systems, by public and association libraries, academic libraries, and Indian libraries. Data elements reported are grouped into categories which include collection holdings, programs and services, library transactions, staff and trustee information, outlet information, and financials. Additionally, all 72 library systems in New York State complete and submit a survey every five years to the State Library detailing their "plan of service" for the next five-year period. Specific survey reports are described in more detail in the "Surveys" section below.

Overview of National Public Library Survey (PLS)

As an integral part of the public and association library data collected annually for State reporting purposes, the State Library collects statistical and financial data required for a national data collection initiative managed by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Called the "Public Library Survey (PLS)", this data is collected by IMLS from all fifty state library agencies and the territories. The PLS includes 108 IMLS-required data elements, incorporated into 16 or so category sections. These data elements include service measures such as reference transactions, public service hours, circulation, library visits, size of collections, staffing, operating revenue and expenditures, electronic services and information and number and type of public library service outlets. These PLS

data elements are seamlessly integrated into the New York State public and association library annual report survey (described in the “Surveys” section below) along with those data elements that are specific to the New York State data collection. There are also several specific calculated elements that are required for the national data collection. The PLS national data is used for planning, research, evaluation, and policymaking decisions by federal, state, and local officials, professional associations, researchers, educators, local practitioners and other interested users.

The New York State Library’s State Data Coordinator oversees data collection from New York’s 757 public and association libraries using vendor-supplied software, and also manages the submission of the PLS data to IMLS. IMLS provides each state with password-protected access to a Web-based PLS software application (referred to as “PLS Web Portal”) that is used to transmit the data to IMLS. Each state submits collected data for the annual PLS through the PLS Web Portal software application by either keying the data outlet by outlet, or by importing formatted files containing the state’s administrative entity and outlet records and annotations. The collection method is at the discretion of the state, but the rules and method for importing the data to the PLS Web Portal are very specific.

For data validation, the PLS Web Portal software uses edit checks to verify that current year data is within preset ranges, as well as compares each library’s data to the information provided the previous year. There are easily over 500 edit checks on the approximately 108 data elements and identifiers required by IMLS.

The survey reports currently in use are described in detail in the next section.

Surveys:

The current survey reports are listed and described below.

- *The Annual Report for Public and Association Libraries* encompasses approximately 720 data elements for approximately 757 New York State public and association libraries. This annual survey includes elements from the federal PLS managed by IMLS, elements specific to New York State data collection, as well as calculated elements. Library data in electronic format for this survey goes back to 2001. The instructions and blank surveys for the past two years are available on the [State Library’s annual report webpage](#). The timeframe for these reports is an early January release to the field and a due date of March 1.
- *The Annual Reports for Public Library Systems (PLS), Reference and Research Library Resources Systems (3Rs), and School Library Systems (SLS)* encompass state data collection elements and calculated elements for these three system types in New York State. The PLS report currently contains approximately 472 questions, the 3Rs report 338, and the SLS report 257. (Some of these questions contain multiple dropdown choices, sub-questions, and/or repeating groups for additional data entry). Library data in electronic format for these three system reports goes back to 2005. The reports are currently completed annually by 23 PLS, 9 3Rs, and 40 SLS. The timeframe for the *Annual Report for Public Library Systems* generally coincides with that of the *Annual Report for Public and Association Libraries*, whereas the target release date for the latter two reports is in May or early June, with due dates of September 1 for the 3Rs reports and November 1 for the SLS reports.
- *The Five-Year Plan of Service (POS)* for Public Library Systems (PLS), Reference and Research Library Resources Systems (3Rs), and School Library Systems (SLS) is a planning document which demonstrates how library systems anticipate fulfilling the major roles expected of them. The PLS POS currently contains approximately 61 questions, the 3Rs POS 57, and the SLS POS 51. Systems prepare a new POS every five years by providing data encompassed in both short and long answer form. Library data in electronic format for this survey goes back to 2005.

The timeframes for the current Plans of Service are as follows: PLS: January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2026; 3Rs and SLS: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2026. The new POS product for all three library system types will be available by April 1, 2025.

- *The Coordinated Collection Development Aid Applications (CCDA)* include data collection elements required in order to administer state aid to academic libraries in New York State. Currently there are 195 applicants for the program. The application contains approximately 58 questions. Library data in electronic format for this survey goes back to 2005. The CCDA timeframe is an early September release date with an end of October due date.
- *The State Aid Application for Indian Libraries* includes data collection elements required in order to administer state aid to two Indian Libraries in New York State. The application contains approximately 25 questions. Library data in electronic format for this survey goes back to 2009. The Indian Library state aid applications are released in late summer and completed in the fall.

Potential new survey reports are listed and described below.

- *Maintenance of Effort (MOE)* calculations are performed annually to ensure compliance with State law requiring public library systems and central libraries to maintain “local effort.” Selected data elements from three years of the Annual Report for Public and Association Libraries and the Annual Report for Public Library Systems are calculated to ensure compliance. Systems and central libraries must demonstrate each year that the amount of local public income, less capital expenditures, does not fall below 95% of the average of the prior two years. Set-up for this survey may begin as early as Year 1, with updates and maintenance continuing in the subsequent years.
- *Online Directory of Libraries and Library Systems:* Directory would include mailing address, phone number, e-mail address, director information, and other library location information (library system, school district, county, etc.). Set-up for this survey may begin as early as Year 3, with updates and maintenance continuing in the subsequent years.
- *Addition of Charter and Registration Information for each Public and Association Library:* Currently the charter and registration information for the public and association libraries are in two separate Access databases. These databases could be reformatted and added to an online system, with the ability to attach scanned files, such as charter documents. Set-up for this survey may begin as early as Year 2, with updates and maintenance continuing in the subsequent years.
- *Comparisons for Public and Association Libraries:* For an individual public or association library, this report would compare certain public and association library data elements (approximately 60 data elements) and related calculations, as specified by the State Library, over a period determined by the State Library (most often requested is five years, but the option to choose the number of years would be very helpful). Set-up for this survey may begin as early as Year 1, with updates and maintenance continuing in the subsequent years.

Deliverables and/or Project Description

The vendor must provide web application(s) which are pre-programmed, configurable and commercially available (i.e. currently in production, not in Beta or Test phase). The applications must be able to support all intended users in a stable, responsive fashion for data collection and dissemination purposes.

The summaries set forth below are detailed requirements of the data collection applications, and/or services required to be performed in support of the applications by the contractor:

- i. **Data Collection Survey Reports** – Vendor will be required to design and build into the application fully functioning versions of the reports described above, as per requested specifications, as well as any future survey reports requested, in a reasonable production time period.
- ii. **Data Collection Survey Features – design and functionality**
 - **Text input** – The application must allow for straightforward operation by both novice and skilled computer users. The application will allow users to enter data using various methods of input, including text boxes, text input fields (for longer responses), radio selection boxes, combo boxes and drop-down selections. The application will also contain conditional survey responses that skip to a specific next question based on response criteria, and expandable sections that help to limit online form length. Such sections will permit the entry of additional information as necessary. Where appropriate, users will also be able to import data for particular sections of the report (such as for outlet information or council member information, where data fields are repeated).
 - **Edit Checks** – In selected survey reports, vendor will include interactive state and/or federal edit checks at the user level. When triggered, the edit checks will prompt the user to either change the entry or provide an annotation to satisfy the question before being able to lock and submit the report. (Once submitted, the data will be locked to the user unless subsequently unlocked again by the Survey Administrator). The application will automatically flag edit checks and corresponding responses to facilitate user and survey administrator review.
 - **Status Review** – The application will display all unanswered questions, all questions flagged by user, and all questions not passing an edit check to facilitate user and administrator review.
 - **Data Output and File Generation (Users and Administrator)** – All files will fit user specifications, including printing a blank survey or displaying prior year data next to current year data if required. For all surveys the application will display and output (electronically or via printing) both current and previous years' data from the entire survey or only a specific section at any time as requested. It will also allow for printing edit checks and annotations from the entire survey or a single section. The application will generate files in multiple formats such as PDF, HTML and/or Excel. Vendor will also either generate or support batch generation and batch downloading of filled documents for archival purposes. Files for print file generation may vary year-to-year as data elements are added or abandoned, and the application should support association of annual data to the appropriate associated form. Print files generated before data is locked should be watermarked with "DRAFT."
 - **Data Output and File Generation (Administrator Only)** - Application should allow Survey Administrator to upload files for immediate use for print file generation. Trend reports should be available (i.e. reports on selected data elements for one library over a designated period of time). Application will generate a Microsoft Excel file of all the submitted data to date (State Library Staff only), suitable for spreadsheet or database application.
 - **Federal Submission** – The application will create PLS Web Portal import files (administrative entity, outlet and annotations) for use by the State Data Coordinator in the yearly Federal Data Submission process used by IMLS in calculating official statistics reported publicly each year. Following certification of "official data" each year by IMLS, application will generate a data file representing data from all public library/library system end users. Alternatively, this data file will be sent by vendor to the State Data Coordinator upon request.

- **Survey Help** – Application will include state definitions in online help attached to the corresponding question, and a means to print those definitions. The application will also include e-mail addresses for the survey administrator for survey questions, the vendor for technical issues and the State Data Coordinator.

iii. Other reports – data dissemination

- In addition to the requirements for the survey reports described above, vendor will provide an application that includes data dissemination capability. Data must be freely accessible to the public. This application will include interactive report generation functionality, allowing individual respondents to run comparisons of their library to other libraries or to prior year results, as well as automatic generation of charts and tables. Users should have the ability to download reports they generate. New York State currently has online data going back to 1991. Available data should include demographic/socioeconomic data, data from other states and US Census data which can be used in conjunction with the library data.

iv. Technical Specifications (all reports)

- **Data entry/display** – The application should be programmed for specified data entry formats depending on the question type. For example, questions asking for a calendar date will allow for only formatted calendar date input; questions asking for dollar amounts will allow user entry of numerical data to be limited to specified numbers of decimal places.
- Application will display both current and past years' data side by side within reports.
- Application will automatically calculate totals where required (not allowing respondent to enter totals). Edit checks should be able to compare based on calculations derived from current-year entries and/or prior year data, in order to replicate federal edit checks.
- **Password Protection** – The application will provide password-protected access for users of surveys, including end users and administrators. Each library/library system receives one account for data entry.
- **Data storage** - Vendor will provide secure storage space with offsite backup for all data collected through use of the application. Current and previous years' collected data will be available for reference and comparison through the application interface at any time. Storage of data must conform to the [New York State Office of Information and Technology Services Information Security Policy](#).
- **Cloud based services requirements** - If cloud-based services are a component of the solution or services to be provided by vendor, vendor must comply with the standards set forth by Cloud Security Alliance and/or [FedRAMP](#) for cloud services, and other applicable federal and/or New York State laws, regulations and requirements.
- Application will be accessible 24 hours a day and work with recent versions of all major browsers, including Firefox, Safari, Chrome and Edge, without custom plug-ins.

v. User Capabilities – All Users

- **Text Entry and Saving** - Users must be able to enter and save data, tab from field to field within a section, and enter the application at a later time (if necessary) for completion prior to submission.

vi. Administrative User Capabilities

- **Editing Capabilities** - The State Data Coordinator and other designated Survey Administrators will have the ability to view and/or edit any survey report using a single account (login/password).

- Population of Data - The application must allow the State Data Coordinator or other designated Survey Administrators to pre-populate selected data fields using file upload both before and during the data collection period. Alternatively, upon receipt of files from the State Data Coordinator, the vendor will prepopulate selected data fields.
- Application will allow the State Data Coordinator and other designated Survey Administrators to view the list of start and submit dates for those completing the survey. Application will also allow the State Data Coordinator to flag surveys (with a date stamp) after they have been reviewed and approved.
- Survey question changes – Survey Administrator or State Data Coordinator will have the ability to make minor changes (e.g., text change to a question, definition or instructions) when needed.

vii. Regional Library System User Capabilities

- Review and submission of reports – Regional Library Systems will have the ability to complete and submit their own system reports to the State Library and download their own data. Public library systems will have the ability to review, edit and approve their member library survey reports. They will also be able to download their own data, as well as that of their individual member libraries.

viii. Individual Library Capabilities

- Submission and export of reports – Member libraries will be able to complete and submit their reports to their Regional Library System for review, as well as download and print their own data.

ix. Application Testing and Approval (data collection)

- The contractor's data collection web application must provide the State Library with a customizable interface that meets both State Library and IMLS specifications. The contractor shall test the interface to ensure that all questions, auto totals, and edit checks appear and function properly, prior to making it accessible to the State Library for review/testing and final approval of the product.

x. Maintenance

- The contractor shall operate and maintain the servers in good working order with access restricted to qualified employees of the contractor. Security for the system will include firewall protection, maintenance of independent archival and backup copies of the system and all State Library content, and virus protection on separate servers. Contractor must provide annual and periodic updates based on technology developments.
- The State Library understands that from time to time the website services may be inaccessible or inoperable for various reasons, including (a) equipment malfunctions; (b) periodic maintenance procedures or repairs, which the contractor may undertake from time to time; (c) causes beyond the control of the contractor or which are not reasonably foreseeable by the contractor. The contractor shall provide seven (7) days advance notice to the State Library in the event of any scheduled downtime when such scheduled downtime is known in advance (such as for scheduled routine maintenance of the website, etc.). The contractor shall use its best efforts to minimize any other disruptions and strive to correct such disruptions within a reasonable time frame.

xi. Technical Support

- Vendor must provide technical support during testing and throughout the data collection period to application users and must provide technical support to the State Data Coordinator through the preparation, submission and acceptance of the data on the PLS Web Portal system. Technical assistance must be available through a toll-free number and must be available Monday through Friday during regular business hours (8am-6pm preferred). In addition, technical assistance must be available after-hours via e-mail with next-day response.
- Once deployed to respondents, vendor will execute minor changes needed to survey (e.g., text change to a question, definition or instructions; change in format for the response) within 48 hours (weekdays) and vendor will execute major changes (e.g., insertion of new question; substantial re-ordering of questions) within five (5) work days.

xii. Training

- Vendor will provide at least two separate 2-hour training sessions annually for both the data collection and data dissemination products to the survey respondents of the Annual Report for Public and Association Libraries via a mutually agreed-upon Webinar system (Survey Administrator will participate to address questions regarding element definitions). Training will also be available for other products on an as-needed basis, not to exceed two (2) training sessions per product per year. All webinars will subsequently be archived and made available for asynchronous viewing.

xiii. Usage Statistics

- Vendor will provide annual usage statistics to the State Data Coordinator and designated Survey Administrator for the following: data collection software, data dissemination software, and help desk interaction. These statistics shall provide a record of login details for collection and dissemination software, including login identifying information, time(s) of logins, and total number of logins for a specified time period(s). Help desk usage data will include detailed information on number of support requests received, user details, and topics addressed in these requests. Common questions will be flagged so that appropriate corrections (if applicable) can be discussed with the State Library.

xiv. Costs and Other

- Pricing must include all costs for development, testing, training, and supporting the data collection surveys and data dissemination products outlined above. Pricing must also include the cost for transferring current data from one online system to another (if applicable). Vendor should provide the cost for each data collection survey separately and also provide continuation costs for subsequent year surveys for five years. Vendor should also provide the cost for each dissemination product separately.

Products needed by project year:

Note that although different products are needed each year at specific times, all products must be available for viewing at all times, except during required maintenance.

Year Zero (Transition Period, March 1, 2023-August 31, 2023):

- If a new vendor is selected, transfer current and historical data to new system.

Year One (September 2023-August 2024):

- Provide software for collecting data for the 757 Public Libraries in New York State.
- Provide software for collecting data for the 72 library systems in NYS and collecting and disseminating state aid application data for the 204 academic libraries and two Indian libraries.
- Provide software for public library data dissemination in NYS (1991-present). This software will allow users to access and manipulate library-specific databases without needing proficiency in spreadsheets or databases. The software will allow for simple, yet powerful, statistical analysis of the data and be ready to use via the web.

Year Two (September 2024-August 2025):

- Provide software for collecting data for the 757 Public Libraries in New York State.
- Provide software for collecting data for the 72 library systems in NYS and collecting state aid application data for the 204 academic libraries and two Indian libraries.
- Provide software for public library data dissemination in NYS (1991-present). This software will allow users to access and manipulate library-specific databases without needing proficiency in spreadsheets or databases. The software will allow for simple, yet powerful, statistical analysis of the data and be ready to use via the web.
- Provide software to collect library data for the *Five-Year Plan of Service (POS)* for Public Library Systems (PLS), Reference and Research Library Resources Systems (3R's), and School Library Systems (SLS). (Note: This survey is used only once every five years).

Year Three (September 2025-August 2026):

- Provide software for collecting data for the 757 Public Libraries in New York State.
- Provide software for collecting data for the 72 library systems in NYS and collecting state aid application data for the 204 academic libraries and two Indian libraries.
- Provide software for public data dissemination in NYS. This software will allow users to access and manipulate library-specific databases without needing proficiency in spreadsheets or databases. The software will allow for simple, yet powerful, statistical analysis of the data and be ready to use via the web.

Year Four (September 2026-August 2027):

- Provide software for collecting data for the 757 Public Libraries in New York State.
- Provide software for collecting data for the 72 library systems in NYS and collecting state aid application data for the 204 academic libraries and two Indian libraries.
- Provide software for public data dissemination in NYS. This software will allow users to access and manipulate library-specific databases without needing proficiency in spreadsheets or databases. The software will allow for simple, yet powerful, statistical analysis of the data and be ready to use via the web.

Year Five (September 2027-August 2028):

- Provide software for collecting data for the 757 Public Libraries in New York State.
- Provide software for collecting data for the 72 library systems in NYS and collecting state aid application data for the 204 academic libraries and two Indian libraries.
- Provide software for public library data dissemination in NYS (1991-present). This software will allow users to access and manipulate library-specific databases without needing proficiency in spreadsheets or databases. The software will allow for simple, yet powerful, statistical analysis of the data and be ready to use via the web.

Payments and Reports

For each year of the 5-year contract, payments will be as follows:

September: Data Dissemination Product(s)

January: Public and Association Library Survey and Library Systems Survey (for all three types of systems)

April: Five-Year Plan of Service Survey (Year 2 only)

July: State Aid Surveys (CCDA and Indian Libraries)

Upon delivery: Potential new survey reports (Maintenance of Effort, Online Directory of Libraries and Library Systems, Addition of Charter and Registration Information for each Public and Association Library, Comparisons for Public and Association Libraries)

For Year 0, bidders have the option to invoice for transition work separately.

Data Privacy Appendix

The New York State Education Department's Data Privacy Appendix (Appendix R) is annexed to this RFP, the terms of which are incorporated herein by reference, and shall also be part of the Contract.

Accessibility of Web-Based Information and Applications

Any documents, web-based information and applications development, or programming delivered pursuant to the contract or procurement, will comply with New York State Education Department IT Policy NYSED-WEBACC-001, Web Accessibility Policy as such policy may be amended, modified or superseded, which requires that state agency web-based information, including documents, and applications are accessible to persons with disabilities. Documents, web-based information and applications must conform to NYSED-WEBACC-001 as determined by quality assurance testing. Such quality assurance testing will be conducted by NYSED employee or contractor and the results of such testing must be satisfactory to NYSED before web-based information and applications will be considered a qualified deliverable under the contract or procurement.

Right to Inspect

The State has the right to review Contractor's procedures, practices and controls related to the security of State data and information assets. Upon request, Contractor will make available for review policies, procedures, practices and documentation related to the protection of State data and information assets, including but not limited to information security governance, network security, risk and compliance management policies and procedures, personnel security background screening/checks and vetting procedures, secure systems/software development protocols, change/release management, testing, quality assurance, vulnerability management, secure disposal/sanitization and documentation. Contractor may be asked to provide a recent independent audit report on security controls prior to formal awarding of any contract resulting from this RFP or at any time during the Contract term. The State shall have the right to send its officers and employees to inspect Contractor's facilities and operations used to provide Contract services. On the basis of such inspection, the State may require Contractor to implement corrective measures where the Contractor is found to be noncompliant with Contract provisions.

Legal Requests and Release of State Data to Third Parties Prohibited

Except as otherwise required by law, Contractor shall not disclose State data to a third party. Except where expressly prohibited by law, Contractor shall promptly notify the State of any subpoena, warrant, judicial, administrative or arbitral order of an executive or administrative agency or other governmental authority of competent jurisdiction (a "Demand") that it receives and which relates to or requires production of the information or data Contractor is processing or storing on State's behalf. If Contractor is required to produce information or data in response to a Demand, Contractor will provide the State with the information or data in its possession that it plans to produce in response to the Demand prior to production of such information or data. Except as otherwise required by law, Contractor shall provide the State reasonable time to assert its rights with respect to the withholding of such information or Data from production. If the State is required to produce information or data in response to a Demand, Contractor will, at the State's request and unless expressly prohibited by law, produce to the State any information or data in its possession that may be responsive to the Demand and shall provide assistance as is reasonably required for the State to respond to the Demand in a timely manner. The State acknowledges that Contractor has no responsibility to interact directly with the entity making the Demand. The parties agree that the State's execution of this agreement, does not constitute consent to the release or production of State data or information

Nondisclosure and Confidentiality

Except as may be required by applicable law or a court of competent jurisdiction, the Contractor, its officers, agents, employees, and Subcontractors, if any, must maintain strict confidence with respect to any Confidential Information to which the Contractor, its officers, agents, employees, and Subcontractors, if any, have access. This requirement must survive termination of the Contract. For purposes of the Contract, all State information of which Contractor, its officers, agents, employees, and Subcontractors, if any becomes aware during the course of performing services for the State must be deemed to be Confidential Information (oral, visual or written). Notwithstanding the foregoing, information that falls into any of the following categories must not be considered Confidential Information:

1. information that is previously rightfully known to the receiving party without restriction on disclosure;
2. information that becomes, from no act or failure to act on the part of the receiving party, generally known in the relevant industry or is in the public domain; and
3. information that is independently developed by Contractor without use of Confidential Information of the State.

Contractor must indemnify and hold the State harmless from any loss or damage to the State resulting from the disclosure by the Contractor, its officers, agents, employees, and Subcontractors of such Confidential Information.

Contractor employees and Subcontractors must be required to sign Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Agreements either before or upon arrival at the work site or prior to providing services under the Contract.

Contractor agrees that data obtained from NYSED and local reporting agencies is the property of NYSED, and its confidentiality is protected under state law, including but not limited to General Business Law Section 889-aa; State Technology Law Section 208, and federal law.

Subcontracting Limit

Subcontracting will be limited to 30% of the total contract budget. Subcontracting is defined as non-employee direct personal services and related incidental expenses, including travel.

For vendors using subcontractors, a Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire and a NYSED vendor responsibility review are required for a subcontractor when:

- the subcontractor is known at the time of the contract award;
- the subcontractor is not an entity that is exempt from reporting by OSC; and
- the subcontract will equal or exceed \$100,000 over the life of the contract.

For additional information about Vendor Responsibility, see the **Vendor Responsibility** section contained in **3.) Evaluation Criteria and Method of Award** of this RFP.

If the vendor proposes to change subcontractors during the contract period, NYSED must be notified prior to the change. NYSED reserves the right to reject any replacement subcontractors proposed by the vendor and reserves the right to approve all changes in subcontractors. The Subcontracting Form located in the Submission Documents must be updated annually and submitted to NYSED. Using this form, the vendor must also report to NYSED, on an annual basis, actual expenditures incurred for all subcontractors and indicate which subcontracting costs are associated with M/WBE.

Staff Changes

The contractor will maintain continuity of staff throughout the course of the contract. All changes in staff will be subject to NYSED approval. The replacement staff with comparable skills will be provided at the same or lower hourly rate.

Contract Period

NYSED will award one (1) contract pursuant to this RFP. The contract resulting from this RFP will be for a term anticipated to begin September 1, 2023, and to end August 31, 2028. A transition period of six months will be added to the beginning of the term (to start March 1, 2023) if a new vendor is selected

Electronic Processing of Payments

In accordance with a directive dated January 22, 2010, by the Director of State Operations - Office of Taxpayer Accountability, all state agency contracts, grants, and purchase orders executed after February 28, 2010, shall contain a provision requiring that contractors and grantees accept electronic payments.

M/WBE and Equal Employment Opportunities Requirements:

Contractor Requirements and Obligations under New York State Executive Law, Article 15-A (Participation by Minority Group Members and Women with Respect to State Contracts)

In an effort to eradicate barriers that have historically impeded access by minority group members and women in State contracting activities, Article 15-A, of the New York State Executive Law §310-318, (Participation By Minority Group Members and Women With Respect To State Contracts) was enacted to promote equality of economic opportunities for minority group members and women.

The New York State Education Department ("NYSED") has enacted its policies Equal Opportunity, Non-Discrimination and Affirmative Action and on Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurements consistent with the requirements as set forth under the provisions of Article 15-A (the "Article") incorporated by reference, requiring Contracting Agencies to implement procedures to ensure that the "Contractor" (as defined under Article 15-A, §310.3 shall mean an individual, a business enterprise, including a sole proprietorship, a partnership, a corporation, a not-for-profit corporation, or any other party to a state contract, or a bidder in conjunction with the award of a state contract or a proposed party to a state contract, complies with requirements to ensure Equal Employment Opportunities for Minority Group Members and Women, in addition to providing Opportunities for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises on all covered state contracts.

In keeping with the intent of the Law, it is the expectation of the Commissioner and the responsibility of all contractors participating in and/or selected for procurement opportunities with NYSED, to fulfill their obligations to comply with the requirements of the Article and its implementing regulations.

In accordance with these requirements, the contractor hereby agrees to make every good faith effort to promote and assist the participation of certified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("M/WBE") as subcontractors and suppliers on this project for the provision of services and materials in an amount at least equal to the M/WBE goal (Included in the procurement document) as a percentage of the total dollar value of this project. In addition, the contractor shall ensure the following:

1. All state contracts and all documents soliciting bids or proposals for state contracts contain or make reference to the following provisions:

a. The contractor will not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, gender, religion, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic disposition or carrier status and will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination.

For purposes of the Article, affirmative action shall mean recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff or termination and rate of pay or other forms of compensation.

b. The contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, gender, religion, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic disposition or carrier status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the contractor's obligation herein.

c. The contractor shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, gender, religion, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic disposition or carrier status.

2. The contractor will include the provisions of subdivision one of this section in every subcontract as defined under §310.14, except as provided under §312.6 of the Article, in such a manner that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the State contract.

3. Contractors or subcontractors shall comply with the requirements of any federal law concerning equal employment opportunity, which effectuates the purpose of this section.
4. Contractors and subcontractors shall undertake programs of affirmative action and equal employment opportunity as required by this section¹. In accordance with the provision of the Article, the bidder will submit, with their proposal, Staffing Plan (EEO 100).
5. Certified businesses (as defined under Article 15-A, §310.1 means a business verified as a minority or women-owned business enterprise pursuant to §314 of the Article) shall be given the opportunity for meaningful participation in the performance of this contract, to actively and affirmatively promote and assist their participation in the performance of this contract, so as to facilitate the award of a fair share of this contract to such businesses.
6. Contractor shall make a good faith effort to solicit active participation by enterprises identified in the [Empire State Development \("ESD"\) directory of certified businesses](#). The contractor must document its good faith efforts as set forth in 5 NYCRR 142.8. This document, Contractors Good Faith Efforts, can be found in the M/WBE Submission Documents.
7. Contractor shall agree, as a condition of entering into said contract, to be bound by the provisions of Article 15-A, §316.
8. Contractor shall include the provisions set forth in paragraphs (6) and (7) above in every subcontract in a manner that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with this contract.
9. Contractor shall comply with the requirements of any federal law concerning opportunities for M/WBEs that effectuates the purpose of this section.
10. Contractor shall submit all necessary M/WBE documents and/or forms as described above as part of their proposal in response to NYSED procurement.
11. The percentage goals established for this RFP are based on the overall availability of M/WBEs certified in the particular areas of expertise identified under this RFP. These goals should not be construed as rigid and inflexible quotas that must be met, but as targets reasonably attainable by means of applying every good faith effort to make all aspects of the entire Minority and Women-Owned Business Program work.
12. Contractor shall ensure that enterprises have been identified (M/WBE 102) within the Utilization Plan, and the contractor shall attempt, in good faith, to utilize such enterprise(s) at least to the extent indicated in the plan, as to what measures and procedures contractor intends to take to comply with the provisions of the Article.
13. Upon written notification from NYSED M/WBE Program Unit as to any deficiencies and required remedies thereof, the contractor shall, within the period of time specified, submit compliance reports documenting remedial actions taken and other information relating to the operation and implementation of the Utilization Plan.

¹ Notice – Contractors are provided with notice herein, NYSED may require a contractor to submit proof of an equal opportunity program after the proposal opening and prior to the award of any contract. In accordance with regulations set forth under Article 15-A §312.5, contractors and/or subcontractors will be required to submit compliance reports relating to the contractor's and/or subcontractor's program in effect as of the date the contract is executed.

14. Where it appears that a contractor cannot, after a good faith effort, comply with the M/WBE participation requirements, contractor may file a written application with NYSED M/WBE Program Unit requesting a partial or total waiver (M/WBE 101) of such requirements setting forth the reasons for such contractor's inability to meet any or all of the participation requirements, together with an explanation of the efforts undertaken by the contractor to obtain the required M/WBE participation.

For purposes of determining a contractor's good faith efforts to comply with the requirements of this section or be entitled to a waiver, NYSED shall consider at the least the following:

I. Whether the contractor has advertised in general circulation media, trade association publications and minority-focused and women-focused media and, in such event;

a. Whether or not the certified M/WBEs which have been solicited by the contractor exhibited interest in submitting proposals for a particular project by attending a pre-bid conference; and

b. Whether certified businesses solicited by the contractor responded in a timely fashion to the contractor's solicitations for timely competitive bid quotations prior to the contracting agency's deadline for submission of proposals.

II. Whether there has been written notification to appropriate certified M/WBEs that appear in the [Empire State Development website](#).

All required Affirmative Action, EEO, and M/WBE forms to be submitted along with bids and/or proposals for NYSED procurements are attached hereto. Bidders must submit subcontracting forms that:

1) fully comply with the participation goals specified in the RFP; OR

2) partially comply with the participation goals specified in the RFP, and include a request for partial waiver, and document their good faith efforts to fully comply with the percentage goals specified in the RFP; OR

3) do not include certified M/WBE subcontractors or suppliers, and include a request for a complete waiver, and document their good faith efforts to fully comply with the participation goals specified in the RFP.

All M/WBE firms are required to be certified by Empire State Development (ESD). Online Certification can be found at the [New York State Contract System website](#).

Failure to comply with the requirements of Article 15-A as set forth under this procurement and in conjunction with the corresponding contract, will result in the withholding of associated funds and other enforcement proceedings set forth under Article 15-A.

2.) **Submission**

Documents to be submitted with this proposal

This section details the submission document or documents that are expected to be transmitted by the respondent to the State Education Department in response to this RFP. New York State Education Department shall own all materials, processes, and products (software, code, documentation and other written materials) developed under this contract. Materials prepared under this contract shall be in a form that will be ready for copyright in the name of the New York State Education Department. Any subcontractor is also bound by these terms. The submission will become the basis on which NYSED will judge the respondent's ability to perform the required services as laid out in the RFP.

Project Submission

The proposal submitted in response to this RFP must include the following documents:

1. Submission Documents – One copy bearing original signatures
2. Technical Proposal – Three copies (one bearing an original signature, if applicable)
3. Cost Proposal – One copy bearing an original signature
4. M/WBE Documents – One copy
5. USB flash drive or CD – One electronic version containing the Technical and Cost proposals, Submission Documents and M/WBE documents.

The proposal must be received by **October 27, 2022, by 3:00 PM Eastern Time** at NYSED in Albany, New York.

Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, avoiding the use of elaborate promotional materials beyond those sufficient to provide complete presentation. If supplemental materials are a necessary part of the proposal, the bidder should reference these materials in the technical proposal, identifying the document(s) and citing the appropriate section and page(s) to be reviewed.

The proposal must communicate an understanding of the deliverables of the RFP, describe how the tasks are to be performed and identify potential problems in the conduct of the deliverables and methods to identify and solve such problems.

Bidders should specify all details and dates required to evaluate the technical proposal and should limit aspects of the project plan that are to be determined only after the award of a contract. No optional deliverables to be provided only at an additional cost should be included and will not be considered in the evaluation of the technical proposal. Contractual terms, conditions and assumptions are inappropriate for inclusion in the proposal.

Any proprietary material considered confidential by the bidder will specifically be so identified, and the basis for such confidentiality will be specifically set forth in the proposal by submitting the form "Request for Exemption from Disclosure Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Law," located in 5) Submission Documents.

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Technical Proposal

(70 points)

Three copies of the completed Technical Proposal should be mailed in a separate envelope labeled **Technical Proposal – RFP #23-002 Do Not Open** and include the following:

- List of related work and three references for public library statistical data collection and dissemination.
- Project Description as outlined below:
 1. Describe design and functionality of survey web application (including but not limited to customizability, survey features, file generation in multiple formats, and online survey help). **(11 Points)**
 2. Describe how the web application meets requirements for all user capabilities (administrative, regional library system and individual library) and meets accessibility requirements. **(6 Points)**
 3. Describe how the web application meets technical specifications including password protection, ability to use product in recent versions of all major browsers, availability of edit checks, ability to display prior year's data in current year surveys and ability to calculate totals where required. **(6 Points)**
 4. Indicate how testing of new and revised surveys will be available to the State Library before surveys are released. **(3 Points)**
 5. Describe how the web application includes data dissemination capability (including generation of reports, tables and charts) using current and prior NYS library data, demographic/socioeconomic data, data from other states and US Census data. **(11 Points)**
 6. Describe your capability to produce required local, regional, state and national data reports. **(6 Points)**
 7. Describe your capability to generate and transmit data and reports for the New York State Library's federal data submission to the IMLS portal and provide technical support during the data submission process. **(6 Points)**
 8. Describe your level of technical support (when available, by what method, response time). **(6 Points)**
 9. Describe your training plan (type/number of sessions). **(5 Points)**
 10. Describe your availability of usage statistics related to the use of the collection and dissemination software and use of the help desk (type of statistics, frequency, availability of custom reports). **(4 Points)**
 11. Vendor conforms to New York State Office of Information Technology Services Information Security Policy and data is housed on vendor's secure server. Describe the type of server used (on-site, off-site, cloud-based), including backup servers, and describe how NYSED's

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Privacy Office and State Library will be notified of any breach that occurs on the contractor's servers. **(3 Points)**

12. Describe annual and periodic maintenance based on technology developments. (3 Points)

Cost Proposal (30 points)

The completed Cost Proposal should be mailed in a separate envelope labeled **Budget Form - Cost Proposal – RFP #23-002 Do Not Open** and include the following:

- 1.) Budget Form - Cost Proposal: Annual Schedule of Deliverables
- 2.) 5 Year Budget Summary, **Signature Required**
- 3.) Subcontracting Form
- 4.) M/WBE Purchases Form

Budgets must be submitted using whole dollar numbers.

Bidders must provide a cost proposal reflecting the cost of transferring current and historic data (if applicable), all current surveys, data dissemination projects, and training, as well as the identified potential new survey reports. Bidders must bid on ALL deliverables described in this RFP.

The Financial Criteria portion of the RFP will be scored based on the total cost for all deliverables for all five years. For cost scoring purposes, the cost of transferring current and historic data (if applicable), all current surveys, data dissemination projects, and training will be worth 25 points. The cost of the potential new survey reports will be worth 5 points.

M/WBE Documents

The original completed M/WBE Documents should be mailed in a separate envelope labeled **M/WBE Documents – RFP #23-002 Do Not Open**. Please return the documents listed for the compliance method bidder has achieved:

Full Participation-No Request for Waiver

1. M/WBE Cover Letter, **Signatures Required**
2. **M/WBE 100** Utilization Plan
3. **M/WBE 102** Notice of Intent to Participate
4. **EEO 100** Staffing Plan

Partial Participation-Request for Partial Waiver

1. M/WBE Cover Letter, **Signatures Required**
2. **M/WBE 100** Utilization Plan
3. **M/WBE 102** Notice of Intent to Participate
4. **EEO 100** Staffing Plan
5. **M/WBE 101** Request for Waiver
6. **M/WBE 105** Contractor's Good Faith Efforts

No Participation-Request for Complete Waiver

1. M/WBE Cover Letter, **Signatures Required**
2. **EEO 100** Staffing Plan

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3. **M/WBE 101** Request for Waiver

4. **M/WBE 105** Contractor's Good Faith Efforts

3.) Evaluation Criteria and Method of Award

This section begins with the criteria the agency will use to evaluate bids and closes with the “method of award,” or how the contractor will be selected. This will be followed by various terms and conditions that reflect the specific needs of this project as well as New York State contract guidelines and requirements.

Criteria for Evaluating Bids

All eligible proposals received by the deadline will be reviewed using the following criteria and ratings. Applicants must ensure that all components of this application request have been addressed, the required number of copies has been provided, all forms and assurances have been completed, and the original signatures are included as required.

An evaluation committee will complete a review of all proposals submitted. The committee will review each proposal based upon the submitted proposal and the requirements of the RFP only. Bidders should not assume that committee review members will be familiar with the current program or have any previous experience with the bidder. Appropriate description should be included to inform review committee members about the bidder’s qualifications and capacity to perform all required deliverables.

The committee will review each proposal to determine compliance with the requirements described in the RFP. NYSED retains the right to determine whether any deviation from the requirements of this RFP is substantial in nature and may reject in whole or in part any and all proposals, waive minor irregularities and conduct discussions with all responsible bidders.

Technical Criteria (70 Points)

1. Design and functionality of survey web application (including but not limited to customizability, survey features, file generation in multiple formats, and online survey help)
11 Points
2. Web application meets requirements for all user capabilities (administrative, regional library system and individual library) and meets accessibility requirements
6 Points
3. Web application meets technical specifications including password protection, ability to use product in recent versions of all major browsers, availability of edit checks, ability to display prior year’s data in current year surveys and ability to calculate totals where required
6 Points
4. Testing of new and revised surveys is available to the State Library before surveys are released
3 Points
5. Web application includes data dissemination capability (including generation of reports, tables and charts) using current and prior NYS library data, demographic/socioeconomic data, data from other states and US Census data

11 Points

6. Capability to produce required local, regional, state and national data reports
6 Points

7. Capability to generate and transmit data and reports for the New York State Library's federal data submission to the IMLS portal and provide technical support during the data submission process
6 Points

8. Availability of technical support
6 Points

9. Availability of training
5 Points

10. Availability of usage statistics related to the use of the collection and dissemination software and use of the help desk
4 Points

11. Vendor conforms to New York State Office of Information Technology Services Information Security Policy and data is housed on vendor's secure server
3 Points

12. Annual and periodic maintenance based on technology developments
3 Points

Financial Criteria (30 Points)

The Financial Criteria portion of the RFP will be scored based upon the total cost for all deliverables for all five years.

Cost of transferring current and historic data (if applicable), all current surveys, data dissemination projects, and training
25 Points

Cost of the potential new survey reports
5 Points

- The **financial portion** of the proposal represents 30 points of the overall score and will be awarded up to 30 points pursuant to a formula. This calculation will be computed by the Contract Administration Unit upon completion of the technical scoring by the technical review panel.
- The submitted budget will be awarded points pursuant to a formula which awards the highest score of 30 points to the budget that reflects the lowest overall cost. The remaining budgets will be awarded points based on a calculation that computes the relative difference of each

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proposal against the lowest budget submitted. The resulting percentage is then applied to the maximum point value of 30 points.

NYSED reserves the right to request best and final offers. In the event NYSED exercises this right, all responsive bidders will be asked to provide a best and final offer. The Contract Administration Unit will recalculate the financial score.

Method of Award

The aggregate score of all the criteria listed will be calculated for each proposal received.

The contract issued pursuant to this proposal will be awarded to the vendor whose aggregate technical and cost score is the highest among all the proposals rated. **If NYSED exercises the right to request best and final offers, the contract must be issued to the vendor with the highest aggregate technical and financial score that results from the best and final offer.**

In the event that more than one proposal obtains the highest aggregate score, the contract will be awarded to the vendor in that group of highest aggregate scores whose budget component reflects the lowest overall cost.

NYSED's Reservation of Rights

NYSED reserves the right to: (1) reject any or all proposals received in response to the RFP; (2) withdraw the RFP at any time, at the agency's sole discretion; (3) make an award under the RFP in whole or in part; (4) disqualify any bidder whose conduct and/or proposal fails to conform to the requirements of the RFP; (5) seek clarifications of proposals; (6) use proposal information obtained through site visits, management interviews and the state's investigation of a bidder's qualifications, experience, ability or financial standing, and any material or information submitted by the bidder in response to the agency's request for clarifying information in the course of evaluation and/or selection under the RFP; (7) prior to the bid opening, amend the RFP specifications to correct errors or oversights, or to supply additional information, as it becomes available; (8) prior to the bid opening, direct bidders to submit proposal modifications addressing subsequent RFP amendments; (9) change any of the scheduled dates; (10) waive any requirements that are not material; (11) negotiate with the successful bidder within the scope of the RFP in the best interests of the state; (12) conduct contract negotiations with the next responsible bidder, should the agency be unsuccessful in negotiating with the selected bidder; (13) utilize any and all ideas submitted in the proposals received; (14) unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, every offer is firm and not revocable for a period of 90 days from the bid opening; (15) require clarification at any time during the procurement process and/or require correction of arithmetic or other apparent errors for the purpose of assuring a full and complete understanding of an offerer's proposal and/or to determine an offerer's compliance with the requirements of the solicitation; (16) request best and final offers.

Post Selection Procedures

Upon selection, the successful bidder will receive a proposed contract from NYSED. The selected bidder may be given an opportunity to reduce its cost proposal in accordance with the agency's right to negotiate a final best price. The contents of this RFP, any subsequent correspondence during the proposal evaluation period, and such other stipulations as agreed upon may be made a part of the final

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contract prepared by NYSED. Successful bidders may be subject to audit and should ensure that adequate controls are in place to document the allowable activities and expenditure of State funds.

Debriefing Procedures

In accordance with section 163 of the NY State Finance Law, NYSED, upon request, must provide a debriefing to any unsuccessful bidder regarding the reasons their proposal was not selected for an award.

1. All unsuccessful bidders may request a debriefing within fifteen (15) calendar days of receiving notice from NYSED of non-award. Bidders may request a debriefing by submitting a request to the Fiscal Contact person at NYSLRFP@nysed.gov.
2. Upon receipt of a timely written request from the unsuccessful bidder, NYSED will schedule the debriefing to occur within a reasonable time following receipt of the request. Debriefings will be conducted in person, unless NYSED and the bidder mutually agree to utilize other means, including but not limited to telephone, video-conferencing or other types of electronic communication.
3. The debriefing will include: a) the reasons that the proposal submitted by the unsuccessful bidder was not selected for an award; b) the qualitative and quantitative analysis employed by NYSED in assessing the relative merits of the proposals; c) the application of the selection criteria to the unsuccessful bidder's proposal; and d) when the debriefing is held after the final award, the reasons for the selection of the winning proposal. The debriefing will also provide, to the greatest extent practicable, general advice and guidance to the unsuccessful bidder concerning potential ways that their future proposals could be more responsive.

Contract Award Protest Procedures

Bidders who receive a notice of non-award or disqualification may protest the NYSED award decision subject to the following:

1. The protest must be in writing and must contain specific factual and/or legal allegations setting forth the basis on which the protesting party challenges the contract award by NYSED.
2. The protest must be filed within ten (10) business days of receipt of a debriefing or disqualification letter. The protest letter must be filed with the Contract Administration Unit by emailing NYSLRFP@nysed.gov attention Thomas McBride.
3. The NYSED Contract Administration Unit (CAU) will convene a review team that will include at least one staff member from each of NYSED's Office of Counsel, CAU, and the Program Office. The review team will review and consider the merits of the protest and will decide whether the protest is approved or denied. Counsel's Office will provide the bidder with written notification of the review team's decision within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the protest. The original protest and decision will be filed with OSC when the contract procurement record is submitted for approval and CAU will advise OSC that a protest was filed.
4. The NYSED Contract Administration Unit (CAU) may summarily deny a protest that fails to contain specific factual or legal allegations, or where the protest only raises issues of law that have already been decided by the courts.

Vendor Responsibility

State law requires that the award of state contracts be made to responsible vendors. Before an award is made to a not-for-profit entity, a for-profit entity, a private college or university or a public entity not exempted by the Office of the State Comptroller, NYSED must make an affirmative responsibility determination. The factors to be considered include legal authority to do business in New York State; integrity; capacity – both organizational and financial; and previous performance. Before an award of \$100,000 or greater can be made to a covered entity, the entity will be required to complete and submit a [Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire](#). School districts, Charter Schools, BOCES, public colleges and universities, public libraries, and the Research Foundation for SUNY and CUNY are some of the exempt entities. A [complete list of exempt entities](#) can be viewed at the Office of the State Comptroller's website.

NYSED recommends that vendors file the required Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire online via the New York State VendRep System. To enroll in and use the New York State VendRep System, see the [VendRep System Instructions](#) or go directly to the [VendRep System on the Office of the State Comptroller's website](#).

Vendors must provide their New York State Vendor Identification Number when enrolling. To request assignment of a Vendor ID or for VendRep System assistance, contact the [Office of the State Comptroller's Help Desk](#) at 866-370-4672 or 518-408-4672 or by email at ITServiceDesk@osc.ny.gov.

Vendors opting to complete and submit a paper questionnaire can obtain the appropriate questionnaire from the [VendRep website](#) or may contact NYSED or the Office of the State Comptroller's Help Desk for a copy of the paper form.

Subcontractors:

For vendors using subcontractors, a Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire and a NYSED vendor responsibility review are required for a subcontractor where:

- the subcontractor is known at the time of the contract award;
- the subcontractor is not an entity that is exempt from reporting by OSC; and
- the subcontract will equal or exceed \$100,000 over the life of the contract.

Note: Bidders must acknowledge their method of filing their questionnaire by checking the appropriate box on the Response Sheet for Bids (5. Submission Documents).

Procurement Lobbying Law

Pursuant to State Finance Law §§139-j and 139-k, this solicitation includes and imposes certain restrictions on communications between the New York State Education Department ("NYSED") and an Offerer/bidder during the procurement process. An Offerer/bidder is restricted from making contacts from the earliest notice of the solicitation through final award and approval of the Procurement Contract by NYSED and, if applicable, Office of the State Comptroller ("restricted period") to other than designated staff unless it is a contact that is included among certain statutory exceptions set forth in State Finance Law §139-j(3)(a). Designated staff, as of the date hereof, is identified below. NYSED employees are also required to obtain certain information when contacted during the restricted period and make a determination of the responsibility of the Offerer/bidder pursuant to these two statutes.

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Certain findings of non-responsibility can result in rejection for contract award and in the event of two findings within a four-year period, the Offerer/bidder is debarred from obtaining governmental Procurement Contracts. Further information about these requirements can be found at [NYSED's Procurement Lobbying Law Policy Guidelines webpage](#).

Designated Contacts for NYSED

Program Office – **Jane Minotti**

Contract Administration Unit – **Thomas McBride**

M/WBE – **Brian Hackett**

Consultant Disclosure Legislation

Effective June 19, 2006, new reporting requirements became effective for State contractors, as the result of an amendment to State Finance Law §§ 8 and 163. As a result of these changes in law, State contractors will be required to disclose, by employment category, the number of persons employed to provide services under a contract for consulting services, the number of hours worked and the amount paid to the contractor by the State as compensation for work performed by these employees. This will include information on any persons working under any subcontracts with the State contractor.

Chapter 10 of the Laws of 2006 expands the definition of contracts for consulting services to include any contract entered into by a State agency for analysis, evaluation, research, training, data processing, computer programming, engineering, environmental, health, and mental health services, accounting, auditing, paralegal, legal, or similar services.

To enable compliance with the law, State agencies must include in the Procurement Record submitted to OSC for new consultant contracts, the State Consultant Services Contractor's Planned Employment from Contract Start Date Through the End of the Contract Term (Form A). The completed form must include information for all employees providing service under the contract whether employed by the contractor or a subcontractor. Please note that the form captures the necessary planned employment information ***prospectively from the start date of the contract through the end of the contract term***.

[Form A](#) is available on OSC's website.

Please note that although this form is not required as part of the bid submission, NYSED encourages bidders to include it in their bid submission to expedite contract execution if the bidder is awarded the contract. Note also that only the form listed above is acceptable.

Chapter 10 of the Laws of 2006 mandates that State agencies must now require State contractors to **report annually** on the employment information described above, including work performed by subcontractors. The legislation mandates that the annual employment reports are to be submitted by the contractor to the contracting agency, to OSC and to the Department of Civil Service. State Consultant Services Contractor's Annual Employment Report (Form B) is to be used to report the information for all procurement contracts above \$15,000. Please note that, in contrast to the information to be included on Form A, which is a one-time report of planned employment data for the entire term of a consulting contract on a projected basis, ***Form B will be submitted each year the contract is in effect and will capture historical information, detailing actual employment data for the most recently concluded State fiscal year (April 1 – March 31).***

[Form B](#) is available on OSC's website.

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For more information, please visit [OSC Guide to Financial Operations](#).

Public Officer's Law Section 73

All bidders must comply with Public Officer's Law Section 73 (4)(a), as follows:

4. (a) No statewide elected official, state officer or employee, member of the legislature, legislative employee or political party chairman or firm or association of which such person is a member, or corporation, ten per centum or more of the stock of which is owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such person, shall (i) sell any goods or services having a value in excess of twenty-five dollars to any state agency, or (ii) contract for or provide such goods or services with or to any private entity where the power to contract, appoint or retain on behalf of such private entity is exercised, directly or indirectly, by a state agency or officer thereof, unless such goods or services are provided pursuant to an award or contract let after public notice and competitive bidding. This paragraph shall not apply to the publication of resolutions, advertisements or other legal propositions or notices in newspapers designated pursuant to law for such purpose and for which the rates are fixed pursuant to law.

(i) The term "state officer or employee" shall mean:

(i) heads of state departments and their deputies and assistants other than members of the board of regents of the university of the state of New York who receive no compensation or are compensated on a per diem basis;

(ii) officers and employees of statewide elected officials;

(iii) officers and employees of state departments, boards, bureaus, divisions, commissions, councils or other state agencies other than officers of such boards, commissions or councils who receive no compensation or are compensated on a per diem basis; and

(iv) members or directors of public authorities, other than multistate authorities, public benefit corporations and commissions at least one of whose members is appointed by the governor, who receive compensation other than on a per diem basis, and employees of such authorities, corporations and commissions.

Review [Public Officer's Law Section 73](#).

NYSED Substitute Form W-9

Any payee/vendor/organization receiving Federal and/or State payments from NYSED must complete the NYSED Substitute Form W-9 if they are not yet registered in the Statewide Financial System centralized vendor file.

The NYS Education Department (NYSED) is using the NYSED Substitute Form W-9 to obtain certification of a vendor's Tax Identification Number in order to facilitate a vendor's registration with the SFS centralized vendor file and to ensure accuracy of information contained therein. We ask for the information on the NYSED Substitute Form W-9 to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States.

Workers' Compensation Coverage and Debarment

New York State Workers' Compensation Law (WCL) has specific coverage requirements for businesses contracting with New York State and additional requirements which provide for the debarment of vendors that violate certain sections of WCL. The WCL requires, and has required since introduction of the law in 1922, the heads of all municipal and State entities to ensure that businesses

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have appropriate workers' compensation and disability benefits insurance coverage *prior* to issuing any permits or licenses, or *prior* to entering into contracts.

Workers' compensation requirements are covered by WCL Section 57, while disability benefits are covered by WCL Section 220(8). The Workers' Compensation Benefits clause in Appendix A – STANDARD CLAUSES FOR NEW YORK STATE CONTRACTS states that in accordance with Section 142 of the State Finance Law, a contract shall be void and of no force and effect unless the contractor provides and maintains coverage during the life of the contract for the benefit of such employees as are required to be covered by the provisions of the WCL.

Under provisions of the 2007 Workers' Compensation Reform Legislation (WCL Section 141-b), any person, or entity substantially owned by that person: subject to a final assessment of civil fines or penalties, subject to a stop-work order, or convicted of a misdemeanor for violation of Workers' Compensation laws Section 52 or 131, is barred from bidding on, or being awarded, any public work contract or subcontract with the State, any municipal corporation or public body for one year for each violation. The ban is five years for each felony conviction.

PROOF OF COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

The Workers' Compensation Board has developed several forms to assist State contracting entities in ensuring that businesses have the appropriate workers' compensation and disability insurance coverage as required by Sections 57 and 220(8) of the WCL.

Please note – an ACORD form is not acceptable proof of New York State workers' compensation or disability benefits insurance coverage.

Proof of Workers' Compensation Coverage

To comply with coverage provisions of the WCL, the Workers' Compensation Board requires that a business seeking to enter into a State contract submit appropriate proof of coverage to the State contracting entity issuing the contract. For each new contract or contract renewal, the contracting entity must obtain ONE of the following forms from the contractor and submit to OSC to prove the contractor has appropriate workers' compensation insurance coverage:

- **Form C-105.2** – Certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance issued by private insurance carriers, or **Form U-26.3** issued by the State Insurance Fund; or
- **Form SI-12**– Certificate of Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance; or **Form GSI-105.2** Certificate of Participation in Workers' Compensation Group Self-Insurance; or
- **CE-200**– Certificate of Attestation of Exemption from NYS Workers' Compensation and/or Disability Benefits Coverage.

Proof of Disability Benefits Coverage

To comply with coverage provisions of the WCL regarding disability benefits, the Workers' Compensation Board requires that a business seeking to enter into a State contract must submit appropriate proof of coverage to the State contracting entity issuing the contract. For each new contract or contract renewal, the contracting entity must obtain ONE of the following forms from the contractor and submit to OSC to prove the contractor has appropriate disability benefits insurance coverage:

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- **Form DB-120.1** - Certificate of Disability Benefits Insurance; or
- **Form DB-155**- Certificate of Disability Benefits Self-Insurance; or
- **CE-200**– Certificate of Attestation of Exemption from New York State Workers' Compensation and/or Disability Benefits Coverage.

For additional information regarding workers' compensation and disability benefits requirements, please refer to the [New York State Workers' Compensation Board website](#). Alternatively, questions relating to either workers' compensation or disability benefits coverage should be directed to the NYS Workers' Compensation Board, Bureau of Compliance at (518) 486-6307.

Please note that although these forms are not required as part of the bid submissions, NYSED encourages bidders to include them in their bid submission to expedite contract execution if the bidder is awarded the contract. Note also that only the forms listed above are acceptable.

Sales and Compensating Use Tax Certification (Tax Law, § 5-a)

Tax Law § 5-a requires contractors awarded State contracts for commodities or services valued at more than \$100,000 over the full term of the contract to certify to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance ("DTF") that they are registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes, if they made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State of tangible personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000, measured over a specific period of time. The registration requirement applies if the contractor made a cumulative total of more than \$300,000 in sales during the four completed sales tax quarters which immediately precede the sales tax quarter in which the certification is made. Sales tax quarters are June – August, September – November, December – February, and March – May. In addition, contractors must certify to DTF that each affiliate and subcontractor of such contractor exceeding such sales threshold during a specified period is registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes. Contractors must also certify to the procuring State entity that they filed the certification with the DTF and that it is correct and complete.

The selected bidder must file a properly completed Form ST-220-CA (with NYSED as the Contracting Agency) and Form ST-220-TD (with the DTF). These requirements must be met before a contract may take effect. Further information can be found at the [New York State Department of Taxation and Finance's website](#). Forms are available through these links:

- [ST-220 CA](#)
- [ST-220 TD](#)

Please note that although these forms are not required as part of the bid submissions, NYSED encourages bidders to include them with their bid submissions to expedite contract execution if the bidder is awarded the contract.

4.) Assurances

The State of New York Agreement, Appendix A (Standard Clauses for all New York State Contracts), Appendix A-1 (Agency-Specific Clauses), and Appendix R (Data Security and Privacy Plan Provisions) **WILL BE INCLUDED** in the contract that results from this RFP. Vendors who are unable to complete or abide by these assurances should not respond to this request.

The documents listed below are included in **5.) Submission Documents**, which must be signed by the Chief Administrative Officer. Please review the terms and conditions. Certain documents will become part of the resulting contract that will be executed between the successful bidder and the NYS Education Department.

1. Non-Collusion Certification
2. MacBride Certification
3. Certification-Omnibus Procurement Act of 1992
4. Certification Regarding Lobbying; Debarment and Suspension; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements
5. Offerer Disclosure of Prior Non-Responsibility Determinations
6. NYSED Substitute Form W-9 (If bidder is not yet registered in the SFS centralized vendor file.)
7. Iran Divestment Act Certification
8. Sexual Harassment Policy Certification
9. Certification Under Executive Order No. 16

M/WBE Documents – **(the forms below are included in 5.) Submission Documents)**

Please return the documents listed for the compliance method bidder has achieved:

Full Participation-No Request for Waiver

1. M/WBE Cover Letter
2. **M/WBE 100** Utilization Plan
3. **M/WBE 102** Notice of Intent to Participate
4. **EEO 100** Staffing Plan

Partial Participation-Request for Partial Waiver

1. M/WBE Cover Letter
2. **M/WBE 100** Utilization Plan
3. **M/WBE 102** Notice of Intent to Participate
4. **EEO 100** Staffing Plan
5. **M/WBE 101** Request for Waiver
6. **M/WBE 105** Contractor's Good Faith Efforts

No Participation-Request for Complete Waiver

1. M/WBE Cover Letter
2. **EEO 100** Staffing Plan
3. **M/WBE 101** Request for Waiver
4. **M/WBE 105** Contractor's Good Faith Efforts

STATE OF NEW YORK AGREEMENT

This AGREEMENT is hereby made by and between the People of the State of New York, acting through Dr. Betty A. Rosa, Commissioner of Education of the State of New York, party of the first part, hereinafter referred to as the (STATE) and the public or private agency (CONTRACTOR) identified on the face page hereof.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the STATE has the authority to regulate and provide funding for the establishment and operation of program services and desires to contract with skilled parties possessing the necessary resources to provide such services; and

WHEREAS, the CONTRACTOR is ready, willing and able to provide such program services and possesses or can make available all necessary qualified personnel, licenses, facilities and expertise to perform or have performed the services required pursuant to the terms of this AGREEMENT;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises, responsibilities and covenants herein, the STATE and the CONTRACTOR agree as follows:

I. Conditions of Agreement

A. This AGREEMENT may consist of successive periods (PERIOD), as specified within the AGREEMENT or within a subsequent Modification Agreement(s) (Appendix X). Each additional or superseding PERIOD shall be on the forms specified by the particular State agency and shall be incorporated into this AGREEMENT.

B. Funding for the first PERIOD shall not exceed the funding amount specified on the face page hereof. Funding for each subsequent PERIOD, if any, shall not exceed the amount specified in the appropriate appendix for that PERIOD.

C. This AGREEMENT incorporates the face pages attached and all of the marked appendices identified on the face page hereof.

D. For each succeeding PERIOD of this AGREEMENT, the parties shall prepare new appendices, to the extent that any require modification, and a Modification Agreement (The attached Appendix X is the blank form to be used). Any terms of this AGREEMENT not modified shall remain in effect for each PERIOD of the AGREEMENT.

To modify the AGREEMENT within an existing PERIOD, the parties shall revise or complete the appropriate appendix form(s). Any change in the amount of consideration to be paid, or change in the term, is subject to the approval of the Office of the State Comptroller. Any other modifications shall be processed in accordance with agency guidelines as stated in Appendix A1.

E. The CONTRACTOR shall perform all services to the satisfaction of the STATE. The CONTRACTOR shall provide services and meet the program objectives summarized in the Program Workplan (Appendix D) in accordance with: provisions of the AGREEMENT; relevant laws, rules and regulations, administrative and fiscal guidelines; and where applicable, operating certificates for facilities or licenses for an activity or program.

F. If the CONTRACTOR enters into subcontracts for the performance of work pursuant to this AGREEMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall take full responsibility for the acts and omissions of its subcontractors. Nothing in the subcontract shall impair the rights of the STATE under this AGREEMENT. No contractual relationship shall be deemed to exist between the subcontractor and the STATE.

G. Appendix A (Standard Clauses as required by the Attorney General for all State contracts) takes precedence over all other parts of the AGREEMENT.

II. Payment and Reporting

A. The CONTRACTOR, to be eligible for payment, shall submit to the STATE's designated payment office (identified in Appendix C) any appropriate documentation as required by the Payment and Reporting Schedule (Appendix C) and by agency fiscal guidelines, in a manner acceptable to the STATE.

B. The STATE shall make payments and any reconciliations in accordance with the Payment and Reporting Schedule (Appendix C). The STATE shall pay the CONTRACTOR, in consideration of contract services for a given PERIOD, a sum not to

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exceed the amount noted on the face page hereof or in the respective Appendix designating the payment amount for that given PERIOD. This sum shall not duplicate reimbursement from other sources for CONTRACTOR costs and services provided pursuant to this AGREEMENT.

C. The CONTRACTOR shall meet the audit requirements specified by the STATE.

III. Terminations

A. This AGREEMENT may be terminated at any time upon mutual written consent of the STATE and the CONTRACTOR.

B. The STATE may terminate the AGREEMENT immediately, upon written notice of termination to the CONTRACTOR, if the CONTRACTOR fails to comply with the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT and/or with any laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures affecting this AGREEMENT.

C. The STATE may also terminate this AGREEMENT for any reason in accordance with provisions set forth in Appendix A1.

D. Written notice of termination, where required, shall be sent by personal messenger service or by certified mail, return receipt requested. The termination shall be effective in accordance with the terms of the notice.

E. Upon receipt of notice of termination, the CONTRACTOR agrees to cancel, prior to the effective date of any prospective termination, as many outstanding obligations as possible, and agrees not to incur any new obligations after receipt of the notice without approval by the STATE.

F. The STATE shall be responsible for payment on claims pursuant to services provided and costs incurred pursuant to terms of the AGREEMENT. In no event shall the STATE be liable for expenses and obligations arising from the program(s) in this AGREEMENT after the termination date.

IV. Indemnification

A. The CONTRACTOR shall be solely responsible and answerable in damages for any and all accidents and/or injuries to persons (including death) or property arising out of or related to the services to be rendered by the CONTRACTOR or its subcontractors pursuant to this AGREEMENT. The CONTRACTOR shall indemnify and hold harmless the STATE and its officers and employees from claims, suits, actions, damages and costs of every nature arising out of the provision of services pursuant to this AGREEMENT.

B. The CONTRACTOR is an independent contractor and may neither hold itself out nor claim to be an officer, employee or subdivision of the STATE nor make any claim, demand or application to or for any right based upon any different status.

V. Property

Any equipment, furniture, supplies or other property purchased pursuant to this AGREEMENT is deemed to be the property of the STATE except as may otherwise be governed by Federal or State laws, rules or regulations, or as stated in Appendix A1.

VI. Safeguards for Services and Confidentiality

A. Services performed pursuant to this AGREEMENT are secular in nature and shall be performed in a manner that does not discriminate on the basis of religious belief or promote or discourage adherence to religion in general or particular religious beliefs.

B. Funds provided pursuant to this AGREEMENT shall not be used for any partisan political activity, or for activities that may influence legislation or the election or defeat of any candidate for public office.

C. Information relating to individuals who may receive services pursuant to this AGREEMENT shall be maintained and used only for the purposes intended under the contract and in conformity with applicable provisions of laws and regulations, or specified in Appendix A1.

Appendix A
STANDARD CLAUSES FOR NYS CONTRACTS

The parties to the attached contract, license, lease, amendment or other agreement of any kind (hereinafter, "the contract" or "this contract") agree to be bound by the following clauses which are hereby made a part of the contract (the word "Contractor" herein refers to any party other than the State, whether a contractor, licensor, licensee, lessor, lessee or any other party):

1. EXECUTORY CLAUSE. In accordance with Section 41 of the State Finance Law, the State shall have no liability under this contract to the Contractor or to anyone else beyond funds appropriated and available for this contract.

2. NON-ASSIGNMENT CLAUSE. In accordance with Section 138 of the State Finance Law, this contract may not be assigned by the Contractor or its right, title or interest therein assigned, transferred, conveyed, sublet or otherwise disposed of without the State's previous written consent, and attempts to do so are null and void. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such prior written consent of an assignment of a contract let pursuant to Article XI of the State Finance Law may be waived at the discretion of the contracting agency and with the concurrence of the State Comptroller where the original contract was subject to the State Comptroller's approval, where the assignment is due to a reorganization, merger or consolidation of the Contractor's business entity or enterprise. The State retains its right to approve an assignment and to require that any Contractor demonstrate its responsibility to do business with the State. The Contractor may, however, assign its right to receive payments without the State's prior written consent unless this contract concerns Certificates of Participation pursuant to Article 5-A of the State Finance Law.

3. COMPTROLLER'S APPROVAL. In accordance with Section 112 of the State Finance Law (or, if this contract is with the State University or City University of New York, Section 355 or Section 6218 of the Education Law), if this contract exceeds \$50,000 (or the minimum thresholds agreed to by the Office of the State Comptroller for certain S.U.N.Y. and C.U.N.Y. contracts), or if this is an amendment for any amount to a contract which, as so amended, exceeds said statutory amount, or if, by this contract, the State agrees to give something other than money when the value or reasonably estimated value of such consideration exceeds \$25,000, it shall not be valid, effective or binding upon the State until it has been approved by the State Comptroller and filed in his office. Comptroller's approval of contracts let by the Office of General Services is required when such contracts exceed \$85,000 (State Finance Law § 163.6-a). However, such pre-approval shall not be required for any contract established as a centralized contract through the Office of General Services or for a purchase order or other transaction issued under such centralized contract.

4. WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS. In accordance with Section 142 of the State Finance Law, this contract shall be void and of no force and effect unless the Contractor shall provide and maintain coverage during the life of this contract for the benefit of such employees as are required to be covered by the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Law.

5. NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS. To the extent required by Article 15 of the Executive Law (also known as

the Human Rights Law) and all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment, nor subject any individual to harassment, because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status, or domestic violence victim status or because the individual has opposed any practices forbidden under the Human Rights Law or has filed a complaint, testified, or assisted in any proceeding under the Human Rights Law. Furthermore, in accordance with Section 220-e of the Labor Law, if this is a contract for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work or for the manufacture, sale or distribution of materials, equipment or supplies, and to the extent that this contract shall be performed within the State of New York, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall, by reason of race, creed, color, disability, sex, or national origin: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract. If this is a building service contract as defined in Section 230 of the Labor Law, then, in accordance with Section 239 thereof, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or disability: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract. Contractor is subject to fines of \$50.00 per person per day for any violation of Section 220-e or Section 239 as well as possible termination of this contract and forfeiture of all moneys due hereunder for a second or subsequent violation.

6. WAGE AND HOURS PROVISIONS. If this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law or a building service contract covered by Article 9 thereof, neither Contractor's employees nor the employees of its subcontractors may be required or permitted to work more than the number of hours or days stated in said statutes, except as otherwise provided in the Labor Law and as set forth in prevailing wage and supplement schedules issued by the State Labor Department. Furthermore, Contractor and its subcontractors must pay at least the prevailing wage rate and pay or provide the prevailing supplements, including the premium rates for overtime pay, as determined by the State Labor Department in accordance with the Labor Law. Additionally, effective April 28, 2008, if this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law, the Contractor understands and agrees that the filing of payrolls in a manner consistent with Subdivision 3-a of Section 220 of the Labor Law shall be a condition precedent to payment by the State of any State approved sums due and owing for work done upon the project.

7. NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATION. In accordance with Section 139-d of the State Finance Law, if this contract was awarded based upon the submission of bids, Contractor affirms, under penalty of perjury, that its bid was arrived at independently and without collusion aimed at restricting competition. Contractor further affirms that, at the time Contractor submitted its bid, an authorized and responsible person executed and delivered to the State a non-collusive bidding certification on Contractor's behalf.

8. INTERNATIONAL BOYCOTT PROHIBITION. In accordance with Section 220-f of the Labor Law and Section 139-h of the State Finance Law, if this contract exceeds \$5,000, the Contractor agrees, as a material condition of the contract, that neither the Contractor nor any substantially owned or affiliated person, firm, partnership or corporation has participated, is participating, or shall participate in an international boycott in violation of the federal Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 USC App. Sections 2401 et seq.) or regulations thereunder. If such Contractor, or any of the aforesaid affiliates of Contractor, is convicted or is otherwise found to have violated said laws or regulations upon the final determination of the United States Commerce Department or any other appropriate agency of the United States subsequent to the contract's execution, such contract, amendment or modification thereto shall be rendered forfeit and void. The Contractor shall so notify the State Comptroller within five (5) business days of such conviction, determination or disposition of appeal (2 NYCRR § 105.4).

9. SET-OFF RIGHTS. The State shall have all of its common law, equitable and statutory rights of set-off. These rights shall include, but not be limited to, the State's option to withhold for the purposes of set-off any moneys due to the Contractor under this contract up to any amounts due and owing to the State with regard to this contract, any other contract with any State department or agency, including any contract for a term commencing prior to the term of this contract, plus any amounts due and owing to the State for any other reason including, without limitation, tax delinquencies, fee delinquencies or monetary penalties relative thereto. The State shall exercise its set-off rights in accordance with normal State practices including, in cases of set-off pursuant to an audit, the finalization of such audit by the State agency, its representatives, or the State Comptroller.

10. RECORDS. The Contractor shall establish and maintain complete and accurate books, records, documents, accounts and other evidence directly pertinent to performance under this contract (hereinafter, collectively, the "Records"). The Records must be kept for the balance of the calendar year in which they were made and for six (6) additional years thereafter. The State Comptroller, the Attorney General and any other person or entity authorized to conduct an examination, as well as the agency or agencies involved in this contract, shall have access to the Records during normal business hours at an office of the Contractor within the State of New York or, if no such office is available, at a mutually agreeable and reasonable venue within the State, for the term specified above for the purposes of inspection, auditing and copying. The State shall take reasonable steps to protect from public disclosure any of the Records which are exempt from disclosure under Section 87 of the Public Officers Law (the "Statute") provided that: (i) the Contractor shall timely inform an appropriate State official, in writing, that said records should not be disclosed; and (ii) said records shall be sufficiently identified; and (iii) designation of said records as exempt under the Statute is reasonable. Nothing contained herein shall diminish, or in any way adversely affect, the State's right to discovery in any pending or future litigation.

11. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND PRIVACY NOTIFICATION. (a) Identification Number(s). Every invoice or New York State Claim for Payment submitted to a New York State agency by a payee, for payment for the sale of goods or

services or for transactions (e.g., leases, easements, licenses, etc.) related to real or personal property must include the payee's identification number. The number is any or all of the following: (i) the payee's Federal employer identification number, (ii) the payee's Federal social security number, and/or (iii) the payee's Vendor Identification Number assigned by the Statewide Financial System. Failure to include such number or numbers may delay payment. Where the payee does not have such number or numbers, the payee, on its invoice or Claim for Payment, must give the reason or reasons why the payee does not have such number or numbers.

(b) Privacy Notification. (1) The authority to request the above personal information from a seller of goods or services or a lessor of real or personal property, and the authority to maintain such information, is found in Section 5 of the State Tax Law. Disclosure of this information by the seller or lessor to the State is mandatory. The principal purpose for which the information is collected is to enable the State to identify individuals, businesses and others who have been delinquent in filing tax returns or may have understated their tax liabilities and to generally identify persons affected by the taxes administered by the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance. The information will be used for tax administration purposes and for any other purpose authorized by law. (2) The personal information is requested by the purchasing unit of the agency contracting to purchase the goods or services or lease the real or personal property covered by this contract or lease. The information is maintained in the Statewide Financial System by the Vendor Management Unit within the Bureau of State Expenditures, Office of the State Comptroller, 110 State Street, Albany, New York 12236.

12. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN. In accordance with Section 312 of the Executive Law and 5 NYCRR Part 143, if this contract is: (i) a written agreement or purchase order instrument, providing for a total expenditure in excess of \$25,000.00, whereby a contracting agency is committed to expend or does expend funds in return for labor, services, supplies, equipment, materials or any combination of the foregoing, to be performed for, or rendered or furnished to the contracting agency; or (ii) a written agreement in excess of \$100,000.00 whereby a contracting agency is committed to expend or does expend funds for the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or renovation of real property and improvements thereon; or (iii) a written agreement in excess of \$100,000.00 whereby the owner of a State assisted housing project is committed to expend or does expend funds for the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or renovation of real property and improvements thereon for such project, then the following shall apply and by signing this agreement the Contractor certifies and affirms that it is Contractor's equal employment opportunity policy that:

(a) The Contractor will not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on State contracts and will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination. Affirmative action shall mean recruitment,

employment, job assignment, promotion, upgradings, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation;

(b) at the request of the contracting agency, the Contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the Contractor's obligations herein; and

(c) the Contractor shall state, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.

Contractor will include the provisions of "a," "b," and "c" above, in every subcontract over \$25,000.00 for the construction, demolition, replacement, major repair, renovation, planning or design of real property and improvements thereon (the "Work") except where the Work is for the beneficial use of the Contractor. Section 312 does not apply to: (i) work, goods or services unrelated to this contract; or (ii) employment outside New York State. The State shall consider compliance by a contractor or subcontractor with the requirements of any federal law concerning equal employment opportunity which effectuates the purpose of this clause. The contracting agency shall determine whether the imposition of the requirements of the provisions hereof duplicate or conflict with any such federal law and if such duplication or conflict exists, the contracting agency shall waive the applicability of Section 312 to the extent of such duplication or conflict. Contractor will comply with all duly promulgated and lawful rules and regulations of the Department of Economic Development's Division of Minority and Women's Business Development pertaining hereto.

13. CONFLICTING TERMS. In the event of a conflict between the terms of the contract (including any and all attachments thereto and amendments thereof) and the terms of this Appendix A, the terms of this Appendix A shall control.

14. GOVERNING LAW. This contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York except where the Federal supremacy clause requires otherwise.

15. LATE PAYMENT. Timeliness of payment and any interest to be paid to Contractor for late payment shall be governed by Article 11-A of the State Finance Law to the extent required by law.

16. NO ARBITRATION. Disputes involving this contract, including the breach or alleged breach thereof, may not be submitted to binding arbitration (except where statutorily authorized), but must, instead, be heard in a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of New York.

17. SERVICE OF PROCESS. In addition to the methods of service allowed by the State Civil Practice Law & Rules

("CPLR"), Contractor hereby consents to service of process upon it by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. Service hereunder shall be complete upon Contractor's actual receipt of process or upon the State's receipt of the return thereof by the United States Postal Service as refused or undeliverable. Contractor must promptly notify the State, in writing, of each and every change of address to which service of process can be made. Service by the State to the last known address shall be sufficient. Contractor will have thirty (30) calendar days after service hereunder is complete in which to respond.

18. PROHIBITION ON PURCHASE OF TROPICAL HARDWOODS. The Contractor certifies and warrants that all wood products to be used under this contract award will be in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and provisions of Section 165 of the State Finance Law, (Use of Tropical Hardwoods) which prohibits purchase and use of tropical hardwoods, unless specifically exempted, by the State or any governmental agency or political subdivision or public benefit corporation. Qualification for an exemption under this law will be the responsibility of the contractor to establish to meet with the approval of the State.

In addition, when any portion of this contract involving the use of woods, whether supply or installation, is to be performed by any subcontractor, the prime Contractor will indicate and certify in the submitted bid proposal that the subcontractor has been informed and is in compliance with specifications and provisions regarding use of tropical hardwoods as detailed in § 165 State Finance Law. Any such use must meet with the approval of the State; otherwise, the bid may not be considered responsive. Under bidder certifications, proof of qualification for exemption will be the responsibility of the Contractor to meet with the approval of the State.

19. MACBRIDE FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRINCIPLES. In accordance with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles (Chapter 807 of the Laws of 1992), the Contractor hereby stipulates that the Contractor either (a) has no business operations in Northern Ireland, or (b) shall take lawful steps in good faith to conduct any business operations in Northern Ireland in accordance with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles (as described in Section 165 of the New York State Finance Law), and shall permit independent monitoring of compliance with such principles.

20. OMNIBUS PROCUREMENT ACT OF 1992. It is the policy of New York State to maximize opportunities for the participation of New York State business enterprises, including minority- and women-owned business enterprises as bidders, subcontractors and suppliers on its procurement contracts.

Information on the availability of New York State subcontractors and suppliers is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development
Division for Small Business
Albany, New York 12245
Telephone: 518-292-5100
Fax: 518-292-5884
email: opa@esd.ny.gov

A directory of certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development
Division of Minority and Women's Business Development
633 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017
212-803-2414
email: mwbecertification@esd.ny.gov
[NYS M/WBE Directory](#)

The Omnibus Procurement Act of 1992 (Chapter 844 of the Laws of 1992, codified in State Finance Law § 139-i and Public Authorities Law § 2879(3)(n)-(p)) requires that by signing this bid proposal or contract, as applicable, Contractors certify that whenever the total bid amount is greater than \$1 million:

(a) The Contractor has made reasonable efforts to encourage the participation of New York State Business Enterprises as suppliers and subcontractors, including certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises, on this project, and has retained the documentation of these efforts to be provided upon request to the State;

(b) The Contractor has complied with the Federal Equal Opportunity Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-261), as amended;

(c) The Contractor agrees to make reasonable efforts to provide notification to New York State residents of employment opportunities on this project through listing any such positions with the Job Service Division of the New York State Department of Labor, or providing such notification in such manner as is consistent with existing collective bargaining contracts or agreements. The Contractor agrees to document these efforts and to provide said documentation to the State upon request; and

(d) The Contractor acknowledges notice that the State may seek to obtain offset credits from foreign countries as a result of this contract and agrees to cooperate with the State in these efforts.

21. RECIPROCITY AND SANCTIONS PROVISIONS.

Bidders are hereby notified that if their principal place of business is located in a country, nation, province, state or political subdivision that penalizes New York State vendors, and if the goods or services they offer will be substantially produced or performed outside New York State, the Omnibus Procurement Act 1994 and 2000 amendments (Chapter 684 and Chapter 383, respectively, codified in State Finance Law § 165(6) and Public Authorities Law § 2879(5))) require that they be denied contracts which they would otherwise obtain. NOTE: As of October 2019, the list of discriminatory jurisdictions subject to this provision includes the states of South Carolina, Alaska, West Virginia, Wyoming, Louisiana and Hawaii.

22. COMPLIANCE WITH BREACH NOTIFICATION AND DATA SECURITY LAWS.

Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the New York State Information Security Breach and Notification Act (General Business Law § 899-aa and State Technology Law § 208) and commencing March 21, 2020 shall also comply with General Business Law § 899-bb.

23. COMPLIANCE WITH CONSULTANT DISCLOSURE

LAW. If this is a contract for consulting services, defined for purposes of this requirement to include analysis, evaluation, research, training, data processing, computer programming, engineering, environmental, health, and mental health services, accounting, auditing, paralegal, legal or similar services, then, in accordance with Section 163 (4)(g) of the State Finance Law (as amended by Chapter 10 of the Laws of 2006), the Contractor shall timely, accurately and properly comply with the requirement to submit an annual employment report for the contract to the agency that awarded the contract, the Department of Civil Service and the State Comptroller.

24. PROCUREMENT LOBBYING. To the extent this agreement is a "procurement contract" as defined by State Finance Law §§ 139-j and 139-k, by signing this agreement the contractor certifies and affirms that all disclosures made in accordance with State Finance Law §§ 139-j and 139-k are complete, true and accurate. In the event such certification is found to be intentionally false or intentionally incomplete, the State may terminate the agreement by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

25. CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION TO COLLECT SALES AND COMPENSATING USE TAX BY CERTAIN STATE CONTRACTORS, AFFILIATES AND SUBCONTRACTORS.

To the extent this agreement is a contract as defined by Tax Law § 5-a, if the contractor fails to make the certification required by Tax Law § 5-a or if during the term of the contract, the Department of Taxation and Finance or the covered agency, as defined by Tax Law § 5-a, discovers that the certification, made under penalty of perjury, is false, then such failure to file or false certification shall be a material breach of this contract and this contract may be terminated, by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement, if the covered agency determines that such action is in the best interest of the State.

26. IRAN DIVESTMENT ACT. By entering into this Agreement, Contractor certifies in accordance with State Finance Law § 165-a that it is not on the "Entities Determined to be Non-Responsive Bidders/Offerers pursuant to the New York State Iran Divestment Act of 2012" ("[Prohibited Entities List](#)").

Contractor further certifies that it will not utilize on this Contract any subcontractor that is identified on the Prohibited Entities List. Contractor agrees that should it seek to renew or extend this Contract, it must provide the same certification at the time the Contract is renewed or extended. Contractor also agrees that any proposed Assignee of this Contract will be required to certify that it is not on the Prohibited Entities List before the contract assignment will be approved by the State.

During the term of the Contract, should the state agency receive information that a person (as defined in State Finance Law § 165-a) is in violation of the above-referenced certifications, the state agency will review such information and offer the person an opportunity to respond. If the person fails to demonstrate that it has ceased its engagement in the investment activity which is in violation of the Act within 90 days after the determination of such violation, then the state agency shall take such action as may be appropriate and provided for by law, rule, or contract, including,

but not limited to, imposing sanctions, seeking compliance, recovering damages, or declaring the Contractor in default.

The state agency reserves the right to reject any bid, request for assignment, renewal or extension for an entity that appears on the Prohibited Entities List prior to the award, assignment, renewal or extension of a contract, and to pursue a responsibility review with respect to any entity that is awarded a contract and appears on the Prohibited Entities list after contract award.

27. ADMISSIBILITY OF REPRODUCTION OF CONTRACT. Notwithstanding the best evidence rule or any other legal principle or rule of evidence to the contrary, the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that it waives any and all objections to the admissibility into evidence at any court proceeding or to the use at any examination before trial of an electronic reproduction of this contract, in the form approved by the State Comptroller, if such approval was required, regardless of whether the original of said contract is in existence.

(October 2019)

APPENDIX A-1
AGENCY-SPECIFIC CLAUSES

Payment and Reporting

- A. In the event that Contractor shall receive, from any source whatsoever, sums the payment of which is in consideration for the same costs and services provided to the State, the monetary obligation of the State hereunder shall be reduced by an equivalent amount provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall require such reimbursement where additional similar services are provided and no duplicative payments are received.
- B. For each individual for whom costs are claimed under this agreement, the contractor warrants that the individual has been classified as an employee or as an independent contractor in accordance with 2 NYCRR 315 and all applicable laws including, but not limited to, the Internal Revenue Code, the New York Retirement and Social Security Law, the New York Education Law, the New York Labor Law, and the New York Tax Law. Furthermore, the contractor warrants that all project funds allocated to the proposed budget for Employee Benefits, represent costs for employees of the contractor only and that such funds will not be expended on any individual classified as an independent contractor.

Terminations

- A. The State may terminate this Agreement without cause by thirty (30) days prior written notice. In the event of such termination, the parties will adjust the accounts due and the Contractor will undertake no additional expenditures not already required. Upon any such termination, the parties shall endeavor in an orderly manner to wind down activities hereunder.
- B. SED reserves the right to terminate this Agreement in the event it is found that the certification by the Contractor in accordance with New York State Finance Law §139-k was intentionally false or intentionally incomplete. Upon such finding, SED may exercise its termination right by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the written notification terms of this Agreement.

Responsibility Provisions

- A. General Responsibility Language
The Contractor shall at all times during the Contract term remain responsible. The Contractor agrees, if requested by the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee, to present evidence of its continuing legal authority to do business in New York State, integrity, experience, ability, prior performance, and organizational and financial capacity.
- B. Suspension of Work (for Non-Responsibility)
The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee, in his or her sole discretion, reserves the right to suspend any or all activities under this Contract, at any time, when he or she discovers information that calls into question the responsibility of the Contractor. In the event of such suspension, the Contractor will be given written notice outlining the particulars of such suspension. Upon issuance of such notice, the Contractor must comply with the terms of the suspension order. Contract activity may resume at such time as the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee issues a written notice authorizing a resumption of performance under the Contract.
- C. Termination (for Non-Responsibility)
Upon written notice to the Contractor, and a reasonable opportunity to be heard with appropriate SED officials or staff, the Contract may be terminated by the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee at the Contractor's expense where the Contractor is determined by the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee to be non-responsible. In such event, the Commissioner or his or her designee may complete the contractual requirements in any manner he or she may deem advisable and pursue available legal or equitable remedies for breach.

Property

- A. The Contractor shall maintain a complete inventory of all realty, equipment and other non-expendable assets including, but not limited to, books, paintings, artifacts, rare coins, antiques and other collectible items purchased, improved or developed under this agreement.

Inventories for non-expendable assets must be submitted with the final expenditure report. In addition to or as part of whatever rights the State may have with respect to the inspection of the Contractor, the State shall have the right to inspect the inventory without notice to the Contractor.

The Contractor shall not at any time sell, trade, convey or otherwise dispose of any non-expendable assets having a market value in excess of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) at the time of the desired disposition without the express permission of the State. The Contractor may seek permission in writing by certified mail to the State.

The Contractor shall not at any time use or allow to be used any non-expendable assets in a manner inconsistent with the purposes of this agreement.

- B. If the Contractor wishes to continue to use any of the non-expendable assets purchased with the funds available under this agreement upon the termination of this agreement, it shall request permission from the State in writing for such continued use within twenty-five (25) days of the termination of this agreement. The Contractor's request shall itemize the non-expendable assets for which continued use is sought. The State may accept, reject or accept in part such request. If the request for continued use is allowed to any degree, it shall be conditioned upon the fact that said equipment shall continue to be used in accordance with the purposes of this agreement.

If after the State grants permission to the Contractor for "continued use" as set forth above the non-expendable assets are not used in accordance with the purposes of this agreement, the State in its discretion may elect to take title to such assets and may assert its right to possession upon thirty (30) days prior written notice by certified mail to the Contractor. The State upon obtaining such non-expendable assets may arrange for their further use in the public interest as it in its discretion may decide.

- C. Upon termination of this agreement, the State in its discretion may elect to take title and may assert its right to possession of any non-expendable assets upon thirty (30) days prior written notice by certified mail to the Contractor. The State's option to elect to take title shall be triggered by the termination of this agreement or by the State's rejection of continued use of non-expendable assets by the Contractor as set forth herein. The State upon obtaining such non-expendable assets may arrange for their further use in the public interest as it in its discretion may decide.
- D. The terms and conditions set forth herein regarding non-expendable assets shall survive the expiration or termination, for whatever reason, of this agreement.

Safeguards for Services and Confidentiality

- A. Any copyrightable work produced pursuant to said agreement shall be the sole and exclusive property of the New York State Education Department. The material prepared under the terms of this agreement by the Contractor shall be prepared by the Contractor in a form so that it will be ready for copyright in the name of the New York State Education Department. Should the Contractor use the services of consultants or other organizations or individuals who are not regular employees of the Contractor, the Contractor and such organization or individual shall, prior to the performance of any work pursuant to this agreement, enter into a written agreement, duly executed, which shall set forth the services to be provided by such organization or individual and the consideration therefor. Such agreement shall provide that any copyrightable work produced pursuant to said agreement shall be the sole and exclusive property of the New York State Education Department and that such work shall be prepared in a form ready for copyright by the New York State Education Department. A copy of such agreement shall be provided to the State.
- B. Required Web Accessibility of Delivered Documents and Applications. If applicable, all documentation, applications development, or programming delivered pursuant to the contract or procurement, will comply with New York State Education Department IT Policy NYSED-WEBACC-001, Web Accessibility Policy, which requires that documents, web-based information and applications are accessible to persons with disabilities. All delivered documentation and applications must conform to NYSED-WEBACC-001 as determined by quality assurance testing. Such quality assurance testing will be conducted by NYSED employee or contractor and the results of such testing must be satisfactory to NYSED before documents and applications will be considered a qualified deliverable under the contract or procurement.
- C. All reports of research, studies, publications, workshops, announcements, and other activities funded as a result of this proposal will acknowledge the support provided by the State of New York.

- D. This agreement cannot be modified, amended, or otherwise changed except by a writing signed by all parties to this contract.
- E. No failure to assert any rights or remedies available to the State under this agreement shall be considered a waiver of such right or remedy or any other right or remedy unless such waiver is contained in a writing signed by the party alleged to have waived its right or remedy.
- F. Expenses for travel, lodging, and subsistence shall be reimbursed at the per diem rate in effect at the time for New York State Management/Confidential employees.
- G. No fees shall be charged by the Contractor for training provided under this agreement.
- H. Partisan Political Activity and Lobbying. Funds provided pursuant to this Agreement shall not be used for any partisan political activity or for activities that may influence legislation or the election or defeat of any candidate for public office.
- I. Nothing herein shall require the State to adopt the curriculum developed pursuant to this agreement.
- J. This agreement, including all appendices, is, upon signature of the parties and the approval of the Attorney General and the State Comptroller, a legally enforceable contract. Therefore, a signature on behalf of the Contractor will bind the Contractor to all the terms and conditions stated therein.

The parties to this agreement intend the foregoing writing to be the final, complete, and exclusive expression of all the terms of their agreement.

Certifications

- A. Contractor certifies that it has met the disclosure requirements of State Finance Law §139-k and that all information provided to the State Education Department with respect to State Finance Law §139-k is complete, true and accurate.
- B. Contractor certifies that it has not knowingly and willfully violated the prohibitions against impermissible contacts found in State Finance Law §139-j.
- C. Contractor certifies that no governmental entity has made a finding of non-responsibility regarding the Contractor in the previous four years.
- D. Contractor certifies that no governmental entity or other governmental agency has terminated or withheld a procurement contract with the Contractor due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information.
- E. Contractor affirms that it understands and agrees to comply with the procedures of the STATE relative to permissible contacts as required by State Finance Law §139-j (3) and §139-j (6)(b).
- F. Contractor certifies that it is in compliance with NYS Public Officers Law, including but not limited to, §73(4)(a).

Notices

Any written notice or delivery under any provision of this AGREEMENT shall be deemed to have been properly made if sent by certified mail, return receipt requested to the address(es) set forth in this Agreement, except as such address(es) may be changed by notice in writing. Notice shall be considered to have been provided as of the date of receipt of the notice by the receiving party.

Miscellaneous

- A. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the New York State Information Security Breach and Notification Act (General Business Law Section 899-aa; State Technology Law Section 208). Contractor shall be liable for the costs associated with such breach if caused by Contractor's negligent or willful acts or omissions, or the negligent or willful

acts or omissions of Contractor's agents, officers, employees or subcontractors.

- B. If required by the Office of State Comptroller ("OSC") Bulletin G-226 and State Finance Law §§ 8 and 163, Contractor agrees to submit an initial planned employment data report on Form A and an annual employment report on Form B. State will furnish Form A and Form B to Contractor if required.

- C. The initial planned employment report must be submitted at the time of approval of this Agreement. The annual employment report on Form B is due by May 15th of each year and covers actual employment data performed during the prior period of April 1st to March 31st. Copies of the report will be submitted to the NYS Education Department, OSC and the NYS Department of Civil Service at the addresses below.

By mail: NYS Office of the State Comptroller
Bureau of Contracts
110 State Street, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12236
Attn: Consultant Reporting
By fax: (518) 474-8030 or (518) 473-8808

Reports to DCS are to be transmitted as follows:

By mail: NYS Department of Civil Service
Office of Counsel
Alfred E. Smith Office Building
Albany, NY 12239

Reports to NYSED are to be transmitted as follows:

By mail: NYS Education Department
Contract Administration Unit
Room 505 W EB
Albany, NY 12234
By fax: (518) 408-1716

- C. Consultant Staff Changes. If this is a contract for consulting services, Contractor will maintain continuity of the consultant team staff throughout the course of the contract. All changes in staff will be subject to STATE approval. The replacement consultant(s) with comparable skills will be provided at the same or lower hourly rate.
- D. Order of Precedence. In the event of any discrepancy, disagreement, conflict or ambiguity between the various documents, attachments and appendices comprising this contract, they shall be given preference in the following order to resolve any such discrepancy, disagreement, conflict or ambiguity:
1. Appendix A - Standard Clauses for all State Contracts
 2. State of New York Agreement
 3. Appendix Q – Amendments and Additions to the State of New York Agreement and Appendix A-1 for this Contract and Additional Contractual Provisions
 4. Appendix A-1 - Agency Specific Clauses
 5. Appendix X - Sample Modification Agreement Form (where applicable)
 6. Appendix A-3 - Minority/Women-owned Business Enterprise Requirements (where applicable)
 7. Appendix B - Budget
 8. Appendix C - Payment and Reporting Schedule
 9. Appendix R – Security and Privacy Mandates (where applicable)
 10. Appendix D - Program Work Plan

Revised 5/23/22

**Appendix Q - Amendments and Additions to
the State of New York Agreement and Appendix A-1 for this Contract
and Additional Contractual Provisions**

1. The State of New York Agreement is hereby modified and amended by amending Section V (“Property”) to add the following language:

“Notwithstanding the above, to the extent that CONTRACTOR is providing and STATE is procuring a license to use a commercially available product, the parties agree that such pre-existing commercially available product shall remain the property of the CONTRACTOR.”

2. Appendix A-1 is hereby modified and amended by adding to Paragraph A of the section entitled “Safeguards for Services and Confidentiality” the following additional language:

“Except as otherwise set forth in this section, Contractor or its licensors’ are and shall remain the sole and exclusive and sole owner of all software, programs, and documentation, licensed to State under this Agreement (“Licensed Products”). Any and all code or data that is developed during the term of this Agreement (“State IP”) shall be deemed to be a "work made for hire" and made in the course of the services rendered hereunder. To the extent that title to any State IP may not, by operation of law, vest in the State, or State IP may not be considered works made for hire, all rights, title and interest in the State IP are hereby irrevocably assigned to the State. All State IP shall belong exclusively to the State, with the State having the right to obtain and to hold in its own name copyrights, registrations or such other protection as may be appropriate to the subject matter, and any extensions and renewals thereof. Contractor may not license, sell or redistribute any portion of the State IP without State’s prior written permission. The Contractor agrees to give the State, and any person designated by the State, reasonable assistance, at the State's expense, required to perfect the rights defined in this Paragraph.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Contractor or third parties shall retain all right, title and interest in the Licensed Products and shall grant to State a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the Licensed Products for the term of this agreement. The State acknowledges that the Contractor or its licensors shall retain all ownership and intellectual property rights to the Licensed Products, including the proprietary code offered to the State under any applicable licensing agreement. Any property or material furnished or provided by the State to the Contractor hereunder is and will remain the property of the State.”

3. Appendix A-1 is hereby modified and amended by adding a sub-paragraph K to the section entitled “Safeguards for Services and Confidentiality” to read as follows:

“K. All documentation and reports produced by Contractor under this Agreement, including but not limited to, all survey reports, spreadsheets, web portal import files for federal submission, and data collection reports produced, shall be considered “work made for hire” and shall be the property of the State.”

4. The following additional Contractual Provisions shall be applicable:

Warranties. Where Contractor generally offers additional or more advantageous warranties than set forth below, Contractor shall offer or pass through any such warranties to the State.

- b. **Representations and Warranties.** The Contractor warrants that the Services rendered by the Contractor shall be performed in accordance with all the terms and conditions, covenants, statements, and representations contained in the Contract, including all appendices. The Contractor shall promptly

provide all necessary services and support, at no cost to the State, to ensure the Licensed Product operates in accordance with the warranties set forth herein.

- c. **Training and Certification Warranty.** The Contractor warrants that all staff assigned to the State's account will be kept current in training and certification. Any fees or charges incurred by the Contractor to obtain and maintain such training and certification shall be the responsibility of the Contractor and may not be billed to the State.
- d. **Breach of Warranty.** In the event of any breach of the above warranties, the Contractor shall, as applicable: (i) correct errors and defects that caused the breach of warranty, or (ii) re-perform the deficient services. If the Contractor does not correct the program errors or re-perform the service in a commercially reasonable time and manner, the State may pursue other remedies set forth herein.

Appendix R
NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S
DATA PRIVACY APPENDIX FOR GRANT CONTRACTS

ARTICLE I: DEFINITIONS

As used in this Data Privacy Appendix (“DPA”), the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. **Access:** The ability to view or otherwise obtain, but not copy or save, data arising from the on-site use of an information system or from a personal meeting.
2. **Breach:** The unauthorized Access, acquisition, use, or Disclosure of information obtained from the New York State Education Department (NYSED) pursuant to this contract, whether or not that information is personal information as defined below. A Breach is (a) accomplished in a manner not permitted by New York State and federal laws, rules, and regulations, or in a manner that compromises NYSED’s data security or privacy, (b) executed by or provided to a person not authorized to acquire, access, use, or receive it, or (c) a Breach of Contractor’s or Subcontractor’s security that leads to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, Access to or Disclosure of, information obtained from NYSED pursuant to this contract including but not limited to personal information.
3. **Disclose or Disclosure:** The intentional or unintentional release, transfer, or communication of information obtained from NYSED pursuant to this contract, including but not limited to personal information by any means, including oral, written, or electronic.
4. **Personal Information:** Information concerning a natural person which, because of name, number, personal mark, or other identifier, can be used to identify such natural person.
5. **Services:** Services provided by Contractor pursuant to this Contract with NYSED to which this DPA is attached and incorporated.
6. **Subcontractor:** Contractor’s non-employee agents, consultants, volunteers, including student interns, who is engaged in the provision of Services pursuant to an agreement with or at the direction of the Contractor.

ARTICLE II: PRIVACY AND SECURITY OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Compliance with Law.

When providing Services pursuant to this Contract, Contractor may receive and/or have Access to Personal Information regulated by one or more New York and/or federal laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act at 12 U.S.C. § 1232g (34 CFR Part 99); Children's Online Privacy Protection Act at 15 U.S.C. §§ 6501-6502 (16 CFR Part 312); Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment at 20 U.S.C. § 1232h (34 CFR Part 98); the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act at 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq. (34 CFR Part 300); the New York Education Law at § 2-d (8 NYCRR Part 121); the New York General Business Law at article 39-F; and the New York Personal Privacy Protection Law at Public Officers Law article 6-A. Contractor agrees to maintain the confidentiality and security of Personal Information in accordance with applicable New York, federal and local laws, rules and regulations.

2. Data Privacy and Security.

- (a) Contractor agrees and understands that it has no property, licensing, or ownership rights or claims to any information disclosed to Contractor for the purpose of providing Services under this contract, and Contractor shall not use Personal Information for any purpose other than to provide Services. Contractor will ensure that its Subcontractors agree and understand that neither the Subcontractor nor Contractor has any property, licensing or ownership rights or claims to any information received or Accessed by or Disclosed to Subcontractor for the purpose of assisting Contractor in providing Services.
- (b) Contractor shall adopt and maintain reasonable safeguards to protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of any information obtained from NYSED pursuant to this contract, whether or not that information is Personal Information, in a manner that complies with General Business Law section 899-bb and other applicable New York State, federal and local laws, rules and regulations.
- (c) Upon NYSED's request, Contractor may be required to undergo an audit of its privacy and security safeguards, measures, and controls, and/or undergo a penetration test. In lieu of performing an audit, Contractor may provide NYSED with an industry standard independent audit report on Contractor's data privacy and security practices that is no more than twelve months old.

3. Contractor's Employees and Subcontractors and Access to Personal Information.

- (a) Access to or Disclosure of Personal Information shall only be provided to Contractor's employees and Subcontractors who need to know the Personal Information to provide the Services and such Access and/or Disclosure of Personal Information shall be limited to the extent necessary to provide such Services. Contractor shall ensure that all such employees and Subcontractors comply with the terms of this DPA.
- (b) Contractor must ensure that each Subcontractor performing Services where the Subcontractor will have Access to and/or receive Disclosed Personal Information is contractually bound by a written agreement that includes confidentiality and data security obligations equivalent to, consistent with, and no less protective than, those found in this DPA.
- (c) Contractor shall examine the data privacy and security measures of its Subcontractors. If at any point a Subcontractor fails to materially comply with the requirements of this DPA, Contractor shall (i) notify NYSED, (ii) as applicable, remove such Subcontractor's Access to Personal Information; and (iii) as applicable, retrieve all Personal Information received or stored by such Subcontractor and/or ensure that such Personal Information has been securely deleted or securely destroyed in accordance with this DPA. In the event there is an incident in which Personal Information held, possessed, or stored by the Subcontractor is compromised, unlawfully Accessed, or unlawfully Disclosed, Contractor shall follow the Data Breach reporting requirements set forth in Section 5 of this DPA.

- (d) Contractor shall take full responsibility for the acts and omissions of its employees and Subcontractors.
- (e) Other than Contractor's employees and Subcontractors who have a need to know the Personal Information, Contractor must not provide Access to or Disclose Personal Information to any other party unless such Disclosure is required by statute, court order or subpoena, and Contractor notifies NYSED of the court order or subpoena no later than the time the Personal Information is Disclosed, unless such Disclosure to NYSED is expressly prohibited by the statute, court order or subpoena. Notification shall be made in accordance with the Notice provisions of this Contract and shall also be provided to the Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, NYS Education Department, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12234.
- (f) Contractor shall ensure that its Subcontractors know that they cannot provide Access to or Disclose Personal Information to any other party unless such Disclosure is required by statute, court order or subpoena. If a Subcontractor is required to provide Access to or Disclose Personal Information pursuant to a court order or subpoena, the Subcontractor shall, unless prohibited by statute, court order or subpoena, notify Contractor no later than two (2) days before any Personal Information is Disclosed. Upon receipt of notice from a Subcontractor, Contractor shall provide notice to NYSED no later than the time that the Subcontractor is scheduled to provide Access to or Disclose the Personal Information.
- (g) Contractor shall ensure that all its employees and Subcontractors who will receive Personal Information will be trained on the federal and state laws governing confidentiality of such data prior to receipt.

4. Personal Information Data Return and Destruction .

- (a) Contractor is prohibited from retaining Disclosed Personal Information or continuing to Access Personal Information, including any copy, summary or extract of Personal Information, on any storage medium (including, without limitation, hard copies, and storage in secure data centers and/or cloud-based facilities) beyond the term of this Contract unless such retention is expressly authorized by this Contract, necessary for purpose of facilitating the transfer of Personal Information to NYSED, or expressly required by law. As applicable, upon expiration or termination of this Contract, Contractor shall transfer Personal Information to NYSED in a format agreed to by the Parties.
- (b) When the purpose that necessitated Contractor's Access to and/or Disclosure of Personal Information has been completed or Contractor's authority to have Access to Personal Information and/or retain Disclosed Personal Information has expired, Contractor shall ensure that, as applicable, (1) all privileges providing Access to Personal Information are revoked, and (2) all Personal Information (including without limitation, all hard copies, archived copies, electronic versions, electronic imaging of hard copies) retained by Contractor and/or its Subcontractors, including all Personal Information maintained on behalf of Contractor or its Subcontractors in a secure data center and/or cloud-based facilities is securely deleted and/or destroyed

in a manner that does not allow it to be retrieved or retrievable, read, or reconstructed. Hard copy media must be shredded or destroyed such that Personal Information cannot be read, or otherwise reconstructed, and electronic media must be securely cleared, purged, or destroyed such that the Personal Information cannot be retrieved, read, or reconstructed. When Personal Information is held in paper form, destruction of such Personal Information, and not redaction, will satisfy the requirements for data destruction. Redaction is specifically excluded as a means of data destruction.

- (c) Upon request by NYSED, Contractor may be required to provide NYSED with a written certification of (1) revocation of Access to Personal Information granted by Contractor and/or its Subcontractors, and (2) the secure deletion and/or secure destruction of Personal Information held by the Contractor or Subcontractors, at the address for notifications set forth in this Contract.
- (d) To the extent that Contractor and/or its Subcontractors continue to be in possession of any de-identified data (i.e., data that has had all direct and indirect identifiers removed), Contractor agrees that it will not attempt to re-identify de-identified data and/or transfer de-identified data to any person or entity, except as provided in subsection (a) of this section and that it will prohibit its Subcontractors from the same.

5. Breach.

- (a) Contractor shall promptly notify NYSED of any Breach of any information obtained from NYSED pursuant to this contract, whether or not that information is Personal Information. Contractor shall notify NYSED regardless of whether the Contractor or a Subcontractor suffered the Breach, without delay and in the most expedient way possible, but in no circumstance later than seven (7) calendar days after discovery of the Breach. Notifications, if necessary shall be made in accordance with the notice provisions of this contract and shall also be provided to the office of the Chief Privacy Officer, NYS Education Department, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12234 and must include a description of the Breach that identifies the date of the incident, the date of discovery, the types of information affected and whether it included Personal Information and the number of records affected; a description of Contractor's investigation; and the name of a point of contact.
- (b) Contractor and its Subcontractors will cooperate with NYSED, and law enforcement where necessary, in any investigations into a Breach. Any costs incidental to the required cooperation or participation of the Contractor or its Subcontractors will be the sole responsibility of the Contractor if such Breach is attributable to Contractor or its Subcontractors.
- (c) If necessary, Contractor shall promptly notify the affected individuals of any Breach, regardless of whether Contractor or a Subcontractor suffered the Breach. Such notice shall be made using one of the methods prescribed by § 899-aa (5) of the New York General Business Law. If Contractor requires information from NYSED to

perform such notifications, Contractor shall reimburse NYSED for the cost of assembling and providing such information to Contractor.

6. Termination.

The confidentiality and data security obligations of Contractor under this DPA shall survive any termination of this Contract to which this DPA is attached and shall continue for as long as Contractor or its Subcontractors retain Access to any information obtained from NYSED pursuant to this contract, whether or not that information is Personal Information.