

Christina School District
Substitute Nurse Services
Contract No. CSD-2014-03

I. Overview

To provide the Christina School District with nurse substitutes who hold a valid Professional License from the State of Delaware for designated building nurses in grades Pre-K -12. The District employs 42 nurses, and we are requesting a fill rate of 95% as absences occur for these employees.

This request for proposals (“RFP”) is issued pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* §§ 6981 and 6982.

The proposed schedule of events subject to the RFP is outlined below:

<i>Public Notice</i>	<i>Date: April 11, 2014</i>
<i>Deadline for Receipt of Proposals</i>	<i>Date: April 30, 2014 2:00 pm EST</i>
<i>Notification of Award</i>	<i>Date: June 30, 2014</i>

Each proposal must be accompanied by a transmittal letter which briefly summarizes the proposing firm’s interest in providing the required professional services. The transmittal letter must also clearly state and justify any exceptions to the requirements of the RFP which the applicant may have taken in presenting the proposal. Furthermore, the transmittal letter must attest to the fact that no activity related to this proposal contract will take place outside of the United States. The Christina School District reserves the right to deny any and all exceptions taken to the RFP requirements. Please provide the cost to provide the required professional services in a separate letter in a separate envelope.

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II. Scope of Services

Specifications:

Working Hours

Substitute rates for partial days worked will not be prorated. The minimum rate paid will be for ½ day. Any time worked beyond ½ day will be treated as a full day.

Vendor Responsibilities

- Recruit, interview, employ, verify professional license, and train all substitutes prior to placement.
- Provide all employment services including: Payroll: Social Security contributions, Unemployment contributions, Worker's Compensation costs, and record keeping, including all state and federal reporting.
- Provide a minimum of \$1,000,000.00 liability insurance for each substitute employed. All substitutes are to be fully bonded.
- Hold the Christina School District harmless from any and all liability claims arising from any actions of a provided substitute and carry the Christina School District as an insured.
- Provide a 24-hour toll-free number and/or a website for substitutes and District personnel. A District representative will contact the vendor directly to request a substitute.
- Allow the District representative to request specific substitutes by name.
- Provide substitutes for nurses who leave or call in after school has begun, but for no time period less than 3 hours and 45 minutes.
- Maintain all documentation necessary to verify the valid State of Delaware Professional License for substitute nurses.
- Insure that substitutes meet all State health, police background checks, and other requirements of the Delaware Code and Department of Education, and local District requirements pertaining to substitute nurses and maintain documentation which substantiates meeting these requirements.
- Waive any fees if the Christina School District hires a substitute into any position within the District.

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Substitute Responsibilities

- Report, on time, to the administration of the designated school for nursing coverage.
- Follow the state guideline for nursing to ensure the health and wellness of students and staff.
- Conduct daily nursing procedures including but not limited to dispensing of medications and data entry of office visits.
- Communicate with parents, physicians, staff and community as necessary to ensure student and staff wellness.
- Maintain confidentiality of all medical cases following state and federal laws.
- May be required to attend field trips or community-based instructions outings with students requiring medication; dispense any required medications and/or emergency services.
- Be appropriately dressed.

Performance Complaints

If there is a complaint from the building principal, the substitute will be removed from the assignment immediately and not be placed in another assignment until an investigation has been completed and the School District has been informed of the outcome.

The School District reserves the right to have any substitute removed immediately from service to any school or to the entire District.

Questions

Questions pertaining to the scope of work for this project may be addressed to: Lisa Lawson at 302-552-2685 or lawsonl@christina.k12.de.us

References

Submit with your bid a minimum of three references from school districts in our local area for which you are currently providing substitute services. You should provide the name, address, and telephone number for each of these references with your bid response. You should also provide data for the latest available three-month period in which you indicate the total number of days of substitute service requested and the total number of days that you were successful in securing substitutes for the entire district for the two references.

Bid Prices

Bid prices shall be firm for the contract period.

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Materials

- Provide with your bid an orientation or training agenda for substitute nurses.
- Provide with your bid samples of materials that would be provided to all substitutes.

General Information

The district plans to award the contract to successful bidder(s) for a period of one year with an option to renew two additional one year periods. The district reserves the right to monitor, inspect, and evaluate the performance of the vendor and its staff on an on-going basis. The district may revise or terminate the contract if the vendor fails to provide the services or remediate deficiencies after receiving notice of such by the district.

The Contract(s) may be extended for additional time periods or may be increased or decreased based on the availability of funds and successful contract performance as outlined in the specifications.

Note: Cost to deliver services outlined above must be submitted under separate cover by itself.

ADDITIONAL MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The following information shall be provided in each proposal in the order listed below. Failure to respond to any request for information within this proposal may result in rejection of the proposal at the sole discretion of the District.

A. Minimum Requirements

1. The contractor will provide all required insurance and workers compensation for the staff members while at CSD.
2. Delaware business license: Provide evidence of a Delaware business license or evidence of an application to obtain the business license.
3. During the term of this contract, the vendor shall, at its own expense, carry insurance minimum limits as follows:

a.	Comprehensive General Liability	\$1,000,000
b.	Professional Liability/Misc. Error & Omissions/Product Liability	\$1,000,000/\$3,000,000

B. REFERENCE

Provide minimum three (3) references with name, address, phone number and contact person.

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III. Criteria for Evaluation

General Evaluation Requirements:

Criteria	Weight
Proven ability to provide qualified staffing	20%
Service and Quality Assurance Procedures.	25%
Demonstrated experience base, geographical presence, business profile and references	30%
Price proposal/pricing structure or total proposed cost	25%
Total	100%

VI. Professional Services RFP Administrative Information

A. RFP Issuance

1. Obtaining Copies of the RFP

This RFP is available in electronic form through the State of Delaware website at <http://bids.delaware.gov> Paper copies of this RFP will be available by emailing Yagles@Christina.k12.de.us or by contacting (302) 552 2600

2. Public Notice

Public notice has been provided in accordance with 29 *Del. C.* § 6981.

3. Assistance to Vendors with a Disability

Vendors with a disability may receive accommodation regarding the means of communicating this RFP or participating in the procurement process. For more information, contact the Designated Contact no later than ten days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

4. RFP Designated Contact

All requests, questions, or other communications about this RFP shall be made in writing to the Christina School District. Address all communications to the person listed below; communications made to other Christina School District personnel or attempting to ask questions by phone or in person will not be allowed or recognized as valid and may disqualify the vendor. Vendors should rely only on written statements issued by the RFP designated contact.

Mr. Gaurang Pathak
Christina School District
Business Office
600 N. Lombard Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
Pathakg@christina.k12.de.us

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To ensure that written requests are received and answered in a timely manner, electronic mail (e-mail) correspondence is acceptable, but other forms of delivery, such as postal and courier services can also be used.

5. Consultants and Legal Counsel

The Christina School District may retain consultants or legal counsel to assist in the review and evaluation of this RFP and the vendors' responses. Bidders shall not contact consultant or legal counsel on any matter related to the RFP.

6. Contact with State Employees

Direct contact with Christina School District employees other than the Christina School District Designated Contact regarding this RFP is expressly prohibited without prior consent. Vendors directly contacting Christina School District employees risk elimination of their proposal from further consideration. Exceptions exist only for organizations currently doing business in the State who require contact in the normal course of doing that business.

7. Organizations Ineligible to Bid

Any individual, business, organization, corporation, consortium, partnership, joint venture, or any other entity including subcontractors currently debarred or suspended is ineligible to bid. Any entity ineligible to conduct business in the Christina School District for any reason is ineligible to respond to the RFP.

8. Exclusions

The Proposal Evaluation Team reserves the right to refuse to consider any proposal from a vendor who:

- a) Has been convicted for commission of a criminal offense as an incident to obtaining or attempting to obtain a public or private contract or subcontract, or in the performance of the contract or subcontract;
- b) Has been convicted under State or Federal statutes of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, receiving stolen property, or other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty that currently and seriously affects responsibility as a State contractor;
- c) Has been convicted or has had a civil judgment entered for a violation under State or Federal antitrust statutes;
- d) Has violated contract provisions such as:
 - 1) Knowing failure without good cause to perform in accordance with the specifications or within the time limit provided in the contract; or
 - 2) Failure to perform or unsatisfactory performance in accordance with terms of one or more contracts;
- e) Has violated ethical standards set out in law or regulation; and
- f) Any other cause listed in regulations of the Christina School District determined to be serious and compelling as to affect responsibility as a State contractor, including suspension or debarment by another governmental entity for a cause listed in the regulations.

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B. RFP Submissions

1. Acknowledgement of Understanding of Terms

By submitting a bid, each vendor shall be deemed to acknowledge that it has carefully read all sections of this RFP, including all forms, schedules and exhibits hereto, and has fully informed itself as to all existing conditions and limitations.

2. Proposals

To be considered, all proposals must be submitted in writing and respond to the items outlined in this RFP. The District reserves the right to reject any non-responsive or non-conforming proposals. **Each proposal must be submitted with 4 (four) paper copies and 1 (one) electronic copy on CD.**

All properly sealed and marked proposals are to be sent to the Christina School District and received no later than 2:00 PM EST on April 30, 2014. The Proposals may be delivered by Express Delivery (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.), US Mail, or by hand to:

**Christina School District
Business Office
600 N. Lombard Street
Wilmington, DE 19801**

Any proposal submitted by US Mail shall be sent by either certified or registered mail. Proposals must be received at the above address no later than **2:00 PM EST on April 30, 2014**. Any proposal received after this date, or time shall not be considered and shall be returned unopened. The proposing vendor bears the risk of delays in delivery. The contents of any proposal shall not be disclosed as to be made available to competing entities during the negotiation process.

Upon receipt of vendor proposals, each vendor shall be presumed to be thoroughly familiar with all specifications and requirements of this RFP. The failure or omission to examine any form, instrument or document shall in no way relieve vendors from any obligation in respect to this RFP.

3. Proposal Modifications

Any changes, amendments or modifications to a proposal must be made in writing, submitted in the same manner as the original response and conspicuously labeled as a change, amendment or modification to a previously submitted proposal. Changes, amendments or modifications to proposals shall not be accepted or considered after the hour and date specified as the deadline for submission of proposals.

4. Proposal Costs and Expenses

The Christina School District will not pay any costs incurred by any Vendor associated with any aspect of responding to this solicitation, including proposal preparation, printing or delivery, attendance at vendor's conference, system demonstrations or negotiation process.

5. Proposal Expiration Date

Prices quoted in the proposal shall remain fixed and binding on the bidder at least through 90 (sixty) days. The Christina School District reserves the right to ask for an extension of time if needed.

6. Late Proposals

Proposals received after the specified date and time will not be accepted or considered. To guard against premature opening, sealed proposals shall be submitted, plainly

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marked with the proposal title, vendor name, and time and date of the proposal opening. Evaluation of the proposals is expected to begin shortly after the proposal due date. To document compliance with the deadline, the proposal will be date and time stamped upon receipt.

7. Proposal Opening

The Christina School District will receive proposals until the date and time shown in this RFP. Proposals will be opened only in the presence of the Christina School District personnel. Any unopened proposals will be returned to Vendor.

There will be no public opening of proposals but a public log will be kept of the names of all vendor organizations that submitted proposals. The contents of any proposal shall not be disclosed to competing vendors prior to contract award.

8. Non-Conforming Proposals

Non-conforming proposals will not be considered. Non-conforming proposals are defined as those that do not meet the requirements of this RFP. The determination of whether an RFP requirement is substantive or a mere formality shall reside solely within the Christina School District.

9. Concise Proposals

The Christina School District discourages overly lengthy and costly proposals. It is the desire that proposals be prepared in a straightforward and concise manner. Unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other promotional materials beyond those sufficient to present a complete and effective proposal are not desired. The Christina School District's interest is in the quality and responsiveness of the proposal.

10. Realistic Proposals

It is the expectation of the Christina School District that vendors can fully satisfy the obligations of the proposal in the manner and timeframe defined within the proposal. Proposals must be realistic and must represent the best estimate of time, materials and other costs including the impact of inflation and any economic or other factors that are reasonably predictable.

The Christina School District shall bear no responsibility or increase obligation for a vendor's failure to accurately estimate the costs or resources required to meet the obligations defined in the proposal.

11. Confidentiality of Documents

All documents submitted as part of the vendor's proposal will be deemed confidential during the evaluation process. Vendor proposals will not be available for review by anyone other than the Christina School District/Proposal Evaluation Team or its designated agents. There shall be no disclosure of any vendor's information to a competing vendor prior to award of the contract.

The Christina School District is a public agency as defined by state law, and as such, it is subject to the Delaware Freedom of Information Act, 29 *Del. C.* Ch. 100. Under the law, all the Christina School District's records are public records (unless otherwise declared by law to be confidential) and are subject to inspection and copying by any person. Vendor(s) are advised that once a proposal is received by the Christina School District and a decision on contract award is made, its contents will become public record and nothing contained in the proposal will be deemed to be confidential except proprietary information.

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Vendor(s) shall not include any information in their proposal that is proprietary in nature or that they would not want to be released to the public. Proposals must contain sufficient information to be evaluated and a contract written without reference to any proprietary information. If a vendor feels that they cannot submit their proposal without including proprietary information, they must adhere to the following procedure or their proposal may be deemed unresponsive and will not be recommended for selection. Vendor(s) must submit such information in a separate, sealed envelope labeled "Proprietary Information" with the RFP number. The envelope must contain a letter from the Vendor's legal counsel describing the documents in the envelope, representing in good faith that the information in each document is not "public record" as defined by 29 Del. C. § 10002(d), and briefly stating the reasons that each document meets the said definitions.

Upon receipt of a proposal accompanied by such a separate, sealed envelope, the Christina School District will open the envelope to determine whether the procedure described above has been followed.

12. Multi-Vendor Solutions (Joint Ventures)

Multi-vendor solutions (joint ventures) will be allowed only if one of the venture partners is designated as the "**prime contractor**". The "**prime contractor**" must be the joint venture's contact point for the Christina School District and be responsible for the joint venture's performance under the contract, including all project management, legal and financial responsibility for the implementation of all vendor's systems. If a joint venture is proposed, a copy of the joint venture agreement clearly describing the responsibilities of the partners must be submitted with the proposal. Services specified in the proposal shall not be subcontracted without prior written approval by the Christina School District, and approval of a request to subcontract shall not in any way relieve Vendor of responsibility for the professional and technical accuracy and adequacy of the work. Further, vendor shall be and remain liable for all damages to the Christina School District caused by negligent performance or non-performance of work by its subcontractor or its sub-subcontractor.

Multi-vendor proposals must be a consolidated response with all cost included in the cost summary. Where necessary, RFP response pages are to be duplicated for each vendor.

a. Primary Vendor

The Christina School District expects to negotiate and contract with only one "prime vendor". The Christina School District will not accept any proposals that reflect an equal teaming arrangement or from vendors who are co-bidding on this RFP. The prime vendor will be responsible for the management of all subcontractors.

Any contract that may result from this RFP shall specify that the prime vendor is solely responsible for fulfillment of any contract with the District as a result of this procurement. The District will make contract payments only to the awarded vendor. Payments to any-subcontractors are the sole responsibility of the prime vendor (awarded vendor).

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Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Christina School District from the full exercise of its options under Section IV.B.16 regarding multiple source contracting.

b. Sub-Contracting

The vendor selected shall be solely responsible for contractual performance and management of all subcontract relationships. This contract allows subcontracting assignments; however, vendors assume all responsibility for work quality, delivery, installation, maintenance, and any supporting services required by a subcontractor.

Use of subcontractors must be clearly explained in the proposal, and major subcontractors must be identified by name. **The prime vendor shall be wholly responsible for the entire contract performance whether or not subcontractors are used.** Any sub-contractors must be approved by Christina School District.

c. Multiple Proposals

A primary vendor may not participate in more than one proposal in any form. Sub-contracting vendors may participate in multiple joint venture proposals.

13. Sub-Contracting

The vendor selected shall be solely responsible for contractual performance and management of all subcontract relationships. This contract allows subcontracting assignments; however, vendors assume all responsibility for work quality, delivery, installation, maintenance, and any supporting services required by a subcontractor.

Use of subcontractors must be clearly explained in the proposal, and subcontractors must be identified by name. Any sub-contractors must be approved by Christina School District.

14. Discrepancies and Omissions

Vendor is fully responsible for the completeness and accuracy of their proposal, and for examining this RFP and all addenda. Failure to do so will be at the sole risk of vendor. Should vendor find discrepancies, omissions, unclear or ambiguous intent or meaning, or should any questions arise concerning this RFP, vendor shall notify the Christina School District's Designated Contact, in writing, of such findings at least ten (10) days before the proposal opening. This will allow issuance of any necessary addenda. It will also help prevent the opening of a defective proposal and exposure of vendor's proposal upon which award could not be made. All unresolved issues should be addressed in the proposal.

Protests based on any omission or error, or on the content of the solicitation, will be disallowed if these faults have not been brought to the attention of the Designated Contact, in writing, no later than ten (10) calendar days prior to the time set for opening of the proposals.

a. RFP Question and Answer Process

We welcome your interest in working with us, and we will be pleased to answer any questions you may have in formulating your response to this Request for Proposal.

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All questions with regard to the interpretation of this solicitation, drawings, or specifications, or any other aspect of this RFP must be received in writing by, **April 23, 2014**. All questions will be answered in writing by **April 25, 2014** and posted on <http://bids.delaware.gov> website. Vendors' names will be removed from questions in the responses released. Questions should be submitted in the following format. Deviations from this format will not be accepted.

Section number

Paragraph number

Page number

Text of passage being questioned

Question

Questions not submitted electronically shall be accompanied by a CD and questions shall be formatted in Microsoft Word.

15. District's Right to Reject Proposals

The Christina School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals or any part of any proposal, to waive defects, technicalities or any specifications (whether they be in the Christina School District's specifications or vendor's response), to sit and act as sole judge of the merit and qualifications of each product offered, or to solicit new proposals on the same project or on a modified project which may include portions of the originally proposed project as the Christina School District may deem necessary in the best interest of the Christina School District.

16. District's Right to Cancel Solicitation

The Christina School District reserves the right to cancel this solicitation at any time during the procurement process, for any reason or for no reason. The Christina School District makes no commitments expressed or implied, that this process will result in a business transaction with any vendor.

This RFP does not constitute an offer by the Christina School District. Vendor's participation in this process may result in the Christina School District selecting your organization to engage in further discussions and negotiations toward execution of a contract. The commencement of such negotiations does not, however, signify a commitment by the Christina School District to execute a contract nor to continue negotiations. The Christina School District may terminate negotiations at any time and for any reason, or for no reason.

17. District's Right to Award Multiple Source Contracting

Pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* § 6986, the Christina School District may award a contract for a particular professional service to two or more vendors if the agency head makes a determination that such an award is in the best interest of the Christina School District.

18. Notification of Withdrawal of Proposal

Vendor may modify or withdraw its proposal by written request, provided that both proposal and request is received by the Christina School District prior to the proposal

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due date. Proposals may be re-submitted in accordance with the proposal due date in order to be considered further.

Proposals become the property of the Christina School District at the proposal submission deadline. All proposals received are considered firm offers at that time.

19. Revisions to the RFP

If it becomes necessary to revise any part of the RFP, an addendum will be posted on the State of Delaware website at <http://bids.delaware.gov>. The Christina School District is not bound by any statement related to this RFP made by any Christina School District employee, contractor or its agents.

20. Exceptions to the RFP

Any exceptions to the RFP, or the Christina School District's terms and conditions, must be highlighted and included in writing in the proposal. Acceptance of exceptions is within the sole discretion of the evaluation committee.

21. Award of Contract

The final award of a contract is subject to approval by the Christina School District. The Christina School District has the sole right to select the successful vendor(s) for award, to reject any proposal as unsatisfactory or non-responsive, to award a contract to other than the lowest priced proposal, to award multiple contracts, or not to award a contract, as a result of this RFP.

Notice in writing to a vendor of the acceptance of its proposal by the Christina School District and the subsequent full execution of a written contract will constitute a contract, and no vendor will acquire any legal or equitable rights or privileges until the occurrence of both such events.

a. RFP Award Notifications

After reviews of the evaluation committee report and its recommendation, and once the contract terms and conditions have been finalized, the Christina School District will award the contract.

The contract shall be awarded to the vendor whose proposal is most advantageous, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in the RFP.

It should be explicitly noted that the Christina School District is not obligated to award the contract to the vendor who submits the lowest bid or the vendor who receives the highest total point score, rather the contract will be awarded to the vendor whose proposal is the most advantageous to the Christina School District. The award is subject to the appropriate Christina School District approvals.

After a final selection is made, the winning vendor will be invited to negotiate a contract with the Christina School District; remaining vendors will be notified in writing of their selection status.

C. RFP Evaluation Process

An evaluation team composed of representatives of the Christina School District will evaluate proposals on a variety of quantitative criteria. Neither the lowest price nor highest scoring proposal will necessarily be selected.

The Christina School District reserves full discretion to determine the competence and responsibility, professionally and/or financially, of vendors. Vendors are to provide in a timely

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manner any and all information that the Christina School District may deem necessary to make a decision.

1. Proposal Evaluation Team

The Proposal Evaluation Team shall be comprised of representatives of the Christina School District. The Team shall determine which vendors meet the minimum requirements pursuant to selection criteria of the RFP and procedures established in 29 *Del. C.* §§ 6981 and 6982. The Team shall make a recommendation regarding the award to the Program Director, who shall have final authority, subject to the provisions of this RFP and 29 *Del. C.* § 6982, to award a contract to the successful vendor in the best interests of the Christina School District.

2. Proposal Selection Criteria

The Proposal Evaluation Team shall assign up to the maximum number of points for each Evaluation Item to each of the proposing vendor's proposals. All assignments of points shall be at the sole discretion of the Proposal Evaluation Team.

The proposals all contain the essential information on which the award decision shall be made. The information required to be submitted in response to this RFP has been determined by the Christina School District to be essential for use by the Team in the bid evaluation and award process. Therefore, all instructions contained in this RFP shall be met in order to qualify as a responsive and responsible contractor and participate in the Proposal Evaluation Team's consideration for award. Proposals which do not meet or comply with the instructions of this RFP may be considered non-conforming and deemed non-responsive and subject to disqualification at the sole discretion of the Team.

The Team reserves the right to:

- Select for contract or for negotiations a proposal other than that with lowest costs.
- Reject any and all proposals or portions of proposals received in response to this RFP or to make no award or issue a new RFP.
- Waive or modify any information, irregularity, or inconsistency in proposals received.
- Request modification to proposals from any or all vendors during the contract review and negotiation.
- Negotiate any aspect of the proposal with any vendor and negotiate with more than one vendor at the same time.
- Select more than one vendor pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* §6986. Such selection will be based on the following criteria:
 - (list criteria for multiple vendor award selection)

a. Criteria Weight

All proposals shall be evaluated using the same criteria and scoring process. The following criteria shall be used by the Evaluation Team to evaluate proposals:

Criteria	Weight
Proven ability to provide qualified staffing	20%
Service and Quality Assurance Procedures.	25%
Demonstrated experience base, geographical presence,	30%

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Criteria	Weight
business profile and references	
Price proposal/pricing structure or total proposed cost	25%
Total	100%

3. Proposal Clarification

The Evaluation Team may contact any vendor in order to clarify uncertainties or eliminate confusion concerning the contents of a proposal. Proposals may not be modified as a result of any such clarification request.

4. References

The Evaluation Team may contact any customer of the vendor, whether or not included in the vendor's reference list, and use such information in the evaluation process. Additionally, the Christina School District may choose to visit existing installations of comparable systems, which may or may not include vendor personnel. If the vendor is involved in such site visits, the Christina School District will pay travel costs only for Christina School District personnel for these visits.

5. Oral Presentations

Selected vendors may be invited to make oral presentations to the Evaluation Team. The vendor representative(s) attending the oral presentation shall be technically qualified to respond to questions related to the proposed system and its components.

All of the vendor's costs associated with participation in oral discussions and system demonstrations conducted for the Christina School District are the vendor's responsibility.

D. Contract Terms and Conditions

1. General Information

- a. The term of the contract between the successful bidder and the District shall be for 1 (one) years with 2 (two) extensions for a period of 1 (one) year for each extension.
- b. The selected vendor will be required to enter into a written agreement with the Christina School District. The Christina School District reserves the right to incorporate standard District contractual provisions into any contract negotiated as a result of a proposal submitted in response to this RFP. Any proposed modifications to the terms and conditions of the standard contract are subject to review and approval by the Christina School District. Vendors will be required to sign the contract for all services, and may be required to sign additional agreements.
- c. The selected vendor or vendors will be expected to enter negotiations with the Christina School District, which will result in a formal contract between parties. Procurement will be in accordance with subsequent contracted agreement. This RFP and the selected vendor's response to this RFP will be incorporated as part of any formal contract.

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- d. The Christina School District's standard contract will most likely be supplemented with the vendor's software license, support/maintenance, source code escrow agreements, and any other applicable agreements. The terms and conditions of these agreements will be negotiated with the finalist during actual contract negotiations.
- e. The successful vendor shall promptly execute a contract incorporating the terms of this RFP within twenty (20) days after award of the contract. No vendor is to begin any service prior to receipt a Christina School District purchase order signed by two authorized representatives of the district requesting service, properly processed through the Christina School District Business Office and the Department of Finance. The purchase order shall serve as the authorization to proceed in accordance with the bid specifications and the special instructions, once it is received by the successful vendor.
- f. If the vendor to whom the award is made fails to enter into the agreement as herein provided, the award will be annulled, and an award may be made to another vendor. Such vendor shall fulfill every stipulation embraced herein as if they were the party to whom the first award was made.

2. Collusion or Fraud

Any evidence of agreement or collusion among vendor(s) and prospective vendor(s) acting to illegally restrain freedom from competition by agreement to offer a fixed price, or otherwise, will render the offers of such vendor(s) void.

By responding, the vendor shall be deemed to have represented and warranted that its proposal is not made in connection with any competing vendor submitting a separate response to this RFP, and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud; that the vendor did not participate in the RFP development process and had no knowledge of the specific contents of the RFP prior to its issuance; and that no employee or official of the Christina School District participated directly or indirectly in the vendor's proposal preparation.

Advance knowledge of information which gives any particular vendor advantages over any other interested vendor(s), in advance of the opening of proposals, whether in response to advertising or an employee or representative thereof, will potentially void that particular proposal.

3. Lobbying and Gratuities

Lobbying or providing gratuities shall be strictly prohibited. Vendors found to be lobbying, providing gratuities to, or in any way attempting to influence a Christina School District employee or agent of the Christina School District concerning this RFP or the award of a contract resulting from this RFP shall have their proposal immediately rejected and shall be barred from further participation in this RFP.

The selected vendor will warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure a contract resulting from this RFP upon agreement or understanding for a commission, or a percentage, brokerage or contingent fee. For breach or violation of this warranty, the Christina School District shall have the right to annul any contract resulting from this RFP without liability or at its discretion deduct from the contract price or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

All contact with Christina School District employees, contractors or agents of the Christina School District concerning this RFP shall be conducted in strict accordance with the manner, forum and conditions set forth in this RFP.

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4. Solicitation of District Employees

Until contract award, vendors shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit any employee of the Christina School District to leave the Christina School District's employ in order to accept employment with the vendor, its affiliates, actual or prospective contractors, or any person acting in concert with vendor, without prior written approval of the Christina School District's contracting officer. Solicitation of Christina School District employees by a vendor may result in rejection of the vendor's proposal.

This paragraph does not prevent the employment by a vendor of a Christina School District employee who has initiated contact with the vendor. However, Christina School District employees may be legally prohibited from accepting employment with the contractor or subcontractor under certain circumstances. Vendors may not knowingly employ a person who cannot legally accept employment under District or federal law. If a vendor discovers that they have done so, they must terminate that employment immediately.

5. General Contract Terms

a. Independent contractors

The parties to the contract shall be independent contractors to one another, and nothing herein shall be deemed to cause this agreement to create an agency, partnership, joint venture or employment relationship between parties. Each party shall be responsible for compliance with all applicable workers compensation, unemployment, disability insurance, social security withholding and all other similar matters. Neither party shall be liable for any debts, accounts, obligations or other liability whatsoever of the other party, or any other obligation of the other party to pay on the behalf of its employees or to withhold from any compensation paid to such employees any social benefits, workers compensation insurance premiums or any income or other similar taxes.

It may be at the Christina School District's discretion as to the location of work for the contractual support personnel during the project period. The Christina School District shall provide working space and sufficient supplies and material to augment the Contractor's services.

b. Non-Appropriation

In the event the General Assembly fails to appropriate the specific funds necessary to enter into or continue the contractual agreement, in whole or part, the agreement shall be terminated as to any obligation of the District requiring the expenditure of money for which no specific appropriation is available at the end of the last fiscal year for which no appropriation is available or upon the exhaustion of funds.

c. Licenses and Permits

In performance of the contract, the vendor will be required to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, codes, and regulations. The cost of permits and other relevant costs required in the performance of the contract shall be borne by the successful vendor. The vendor shall be properly licensed and authorized to transact business in the Christina School District as provided in 30 *Del. C.* § 2502.

Prior to receiving an award, the successful vendor shall either furnish the Christina School District with proof of State of Delaware Business Licensure or initiate the process of application where required. An application may be requested in writing to: Division of Revenue, Carvel State Building, P.O. Box 8750, 820 N. French Street, Wilmington, DE

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19899 or by telephone to one of the following numbers: (302) 577-8200—Public Service, (302) 577-8205—Licensing Department.

Information regarding the award of the contract will be given to the Division of Revenue. Failure to comply with the State of Delaware licensing requirements may subject vendor to applicable fines and/or interest penalties.

d. Notice

Any notice to the Christina School District required under the contract shall be sent by registered mail to:

**Christina School District
Business Office
600 N. Lombard Street
Wilmington, DE 19801**

e. Indemnification

1. General Indemnification.

By submitting a proposal, the proposing vendor agrees that in the event it is awarded a contract, it will indemnify and otherwise hold harmless the Christina School District, its agents and employees from any and all liability, suits, actions, or claims, together with all costs, expenses for attorney's fees, arising out of the vendor's its agents and employees' performance work or services in connection with the contract, regardless of whether such suits, actions, claims or liabilities are based upon acts or failures to act attributable, ole or part, to the State, its employees or agents.

2. Proprietary Rights Indemnification

Vendor shall warrant that all elements of its solution, including all equipment, software, documentation, services and deliverables, do not and will not infringe upon or violate any patent, copyright, trade secret or other proprietary rights of any third party. In the event of any claim, suit or action by any third party against the Christina School District, the Christina School District shall promptly notify the vendor in writing and vendor shall defend such claim, suit or action at vendor's expense, and vendor shall indemnify the Christina School District against any loss, cost, damage, expense or liability arising out of such claim, suit or action (including, without limitation, litigation costs, lost employee time, and counsel fees) whether or not such claim, suit or action is successful.

If any equipment, software, services (including methods) products or other intellectual property used or furnished by the vendor (collectively "Products") is or in vendor's reasonable judgment is likely to be, held to constitute an infringing product, vendor shall at its expense and option either:

- (a)** Procure the right for the Christina School District to continue using the Product(s);

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- (b) Replace the product with a non-infringing equivalent that satisfies all the requirements of the contract; or
- (c) Modify the Product(s) to make it or them non-infringing, provided that the modification does not materially alter the functionality or efficacy of the product or cause the Product(s) or any part of the work to fail to conform to the requirements of the Contract, or only alters the Product(s) to a degree that the Christina School District agrees to and accepts in writing.

f. Insurance

1. Vendor recognizes that it is operating as an independent contractor and that it is liable for any and all losses, penalties, damages, expenses, attorney's fees, judgments, and/or settlements incurred by reason of injury to or death of any and all persons, or injury to any and all property, of any nature, arising out of the vendor's negligent performance under this contract, and particularly without limiting the foregoing, caused by, resulting from, or arising out of any act of omission on the part of the vendor in their negligent performance under this contract.
2. The vendor shall maintain such insurance as will protect against claims under Worker's Compensation Act and from any other claims for damages for personal injury, including death, which may arise from operations under this contract. The vendor is an independent contractor and is not an employee of the Christina School District.
3. During the term of this contract, the vendor shall, at its own expense, carry insurance minimum limits as follows:

a.	Comprehensive General Liability	\$1,000,000
b.	Professional Liability/Misc. Error & Omissions/Product Liability	\$1,000,000/\$3,000,000

If the contractual service requires the transportation of departmental clients or staff, the vendor shall, in addition to the above coverages, secure at its own expense the following coverage:

a.	Automotive Liability (Bodily Injury)	\$100,000/\$300,000
b.	Automotive Property Damage (to others)	\$ 25,000

4. The vendor shall provide a certificate of insurance as proof that the vendor has the required insurance.

g. Performance Requirements

The selected Vendor will warrant that it possesses, or has arranged through subcontractors, all capital and other equipment, labor, materials, and licenses necessary to carry out and complete the work hereunder in compliance with any and all Federal and District laws, and County and local ordinances, regulations and codes.

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- h. Warranty**
The Vendor will provide a warranty that the deliverables provided pursuant to the contract will function as designed for a period of no less than one (1) year from the date of system acceptance. The warranty shall require the Vendor correct, at its own expense, the setup, configuration, customizations or modifications so that it functions according to the State's requirements.
- i. Costs and Payment Schedules**
All contract costs must be as detailed specifically in the Vendor's cost proposal. No charges other than as specified in the proposal shall be allowed without written consent of the Christina School District. The proposal costs shall include full compensation for all taxes that the selected vendor is required to pay.
The Christina School District will require a payment schedule based on defined and measurable milestones. Payments for services will not be made in advance of work performed. The Christina School District may require holdback of contract monies until acceptable performance is demonstrated (as much as 25%).
- j. Penalties**
The Christina School District may include in the final contract penalty provisions for non-performance, such as liquidated damages.
- k. Termination for Cause.**
If for any reasons, or through any cause, the Vendor fails to fulfil in timely and proper manner his obligations under the contract, or if the Vendor violates any of the covenants, agreements or stipulations of the contract, the Christina School District shall thereupon have the right to terminate the contract by giving written notice to the Vendor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least five (5) days before the effective date of such termination, In that event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, photographs and reports or other material prepared by the Vendor under the contract shall, at the option of the Christina School District, become its property, and the Vendor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents and other materials which is useable to the Christina School District.
- l. Termination for Convenience**
The Christina School District may terminate the contract at any time by giving written notice of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least thirty (30) days before the effective date of such termination. In that event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, photographs and reports or other material prepared by the Vendor under the contract shall, at the option of the Christina School District, become its property, and the Vendor shall be entitled to compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents and other materials which is useable to the Christina School District. If the contract is terminated by the Christina School District as so provided, the Vendor will be paid an amount which bears the same ratio to the total compensation as the services actually performed bear to the total services of the Vendor as covered by the contract, less payments of compensation previously made. Provided however, that if less than 60 percent of the services covered by the contract have been performed upon the effective date of termination, the Vendor shall be reimbursed (in addition to the above payment) for that portion of actual out of pocket expenses (not otherwise reimbursed under the contract) incurred by the Vendor during the contract period which are directly attributable to the uncompleted portion of the services covered by the contract.

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- m. Non-discrimination**
In performing the services subject to this RFP the vendor will agree that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, sex or national origin. The successful vendor shall comply with all federal and state laws, regulations and policies pertaining to the prevention of discriminatory employment practice. Failure to perform under this provision constitutes a material breach of contract.
- n. Covenant against Contingent Fees**
The successful vendor will warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement of understanding for a commission or percentage, brokerage or contingent fee excepting bona-fide employees, bona-fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Vendor for the purpose of securing business. For breach or violation of this warranty the Christina School District shall have the right to annul the contract without liability or at its discretion to deduct from the contract price or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.
- o. Vendor Activity**
No activity is to be executed in an off shore facility, either by a subcontracted firm or a foreign office or division of the vendor. The vendor must attest to the fact that no activity will take place outside of the United States in its transmittal letter. Failure to adhere to this requirement is cause for elimination from future consideration.
- p. Work Product**
All materials and products developed under the executed contract by the vendor are the sole and exclusive property of the District. The vendor will seek written permission to use any product created under the contract.
- q. Contract Documents**
The RFP, the purchase order, the executed contract and any supplemental documents between the Christina School District and the successful vendor shall constitute the contract between the Christina School District and the vendor. In the event there is any discrepancy between any of these contract documents, the following order of documents governs so that the former prevails over the latter: contract, Christina School District's RFP, Vendor's response to the RFP and purchase order. No other documents shall be considered. These documents will constitute the entire agreement between the Christina School District and the vendor.
- r. Applicable Law**
The laws of the State of Delaware shall apply, except where Federal Law has precedence. The successful vendor consents to jurisdiction and venue in the Christina School District.
In submitting a proposal, Vendors certify that they comply with all federal, state and local laws applicable to its activities and obligations including:
- (1) the laws of the State of Delaware;
 - (2) the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
 - (3) the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued there under by the federal government;
 - (4) a condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at, without collusion, under penalty of perjury; and

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- (5) that programs, services, and activities provided to the general public under resulting contract conform with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the regulations issued there under by the federal government.

If any vendor fails to comply with (1) through (5) of this paragraph, the Christina School District reserves the right to disregard the proposal, terminate the contract, or consider the vendor in default.

The selected vendor shall keep itself fully informed of and shall observe and comply with all applicable existing Federal and State laws, and County and local ordinances, regulations and codes, and those laws, ordinances, regulations, and codes adopted during its performance of the work.

s. Scope of Agreement

If the scope of any provision of the contract is determined to be too broad in any respect whatsoever to permit enforcement to its full extent, then such provision shall be enforced to the maximum extent permitted by law, and the parties hereto consent and agree that such scope may be judicially modified accordingly and that the whole of such provisions of the contract shall not thereby fail, but the scope of such provisions shall be curtailed only to the extent necessary to conform to the law.

t. Other General Conditions

- (1) **Current Version** – “Packaged” application and system software shall be the most current version generally available as of the date of the physical installation of the software.
- (2) **Current Manufacture** – Equipment specified and/or furnished under this specification shall be standard products of manufacturers regularly engaged in the production of such equipment and shall be the manufacturer’s latest design. All material and equipment offered shall be new and unused.
- (3) **Volumes and Quantities** – Activity volume estimates and other quantities have been reviewed for accuracy; however, they may be subject to change prior or subsequent to award of the contract.
- (4) **Prior Use** – The Christina School District reserves the right to use equipment and material furnished under this proposal prior to final acceptance. Such use shall not constitute acceptance of the work or any part thereof by the Christina School District.
- (5) **Status Reporting** – The selected vendor will be required to lead and/or participate in status meetings and submit status reports covering such items as progress of work being performed, milestones attained, resources expended, problems encountered and corrective action taken, until final system acceptance.
- (6) **Regulations** – All equipment, software and services must meet all applicable local, state and Federal regulations in effect on the date of the contract.
- (7) **Changes** – No alterations in any terms, conditions, delivery, price, quality, or specifications of items ordered will be effective without the written consent of the Christina School District.
- (8) **Additional Terms and Conditions** – The Christina School District reserves the right to add terms and conditions during the contract negotiations.

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E. RFP Miscellaneous Information

1. No Press Releases or Public Disclosure

Vendors may not release any information about this RFP. The Christina School District reserves the right to pre-approve any news or advertising releases concerning this RFP, the resulting contract, the work performed, or any reference to the Christina School District with regard to any project or contract performance. Any such news or advertising releases pertaining to this RFP or resulting contract shall require the prior express written permission of the Christina School District.

2. RFP Reference Library

The Christina School District has made every attempt to provide the necessary information within this RFP. The Christina School District will make the reference library available only to the winning bidder.

3. Definitions of Requirements

To prevent any confusion about identifying requirements in this RFP, the following definition is offered: The words *shall*, *will* and/or *must* are used to designate a mandatory requirement. Vendors must respond to all mandatory requirements presented in the RFP. Failure to respond to a mandatory requirement may cause the disqualification of your proposal.

4. Production Environment Requirements

The Christina School District requires that all hardware, system software products, and application software products included in proposals be currently in use in a production environment by a least three other customers, have been in use for at least six months, and have been generally available from the manufacturers for a period of six months. Unreleased or beta test hardware, system software, or application software will not be acceptable.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - No Proposal Reply Form

Attachment 2 - Non-Collusion Statement

Attachment 3 – Exceptions

Attachment 4 – Confidentiality and Proprietary Information

Attachment 5 – Business References

Attachment 6 – Subcontractor Information Form

Attachment 7 - Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise Certification Application

IMPORTANT – PLEASE NOTE:

- **Attachments 2, 3, 4, and 5 must be included in your proposal**
- Attachment 6 must be included in your proposal if subcontractors will be involved

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In accordance with Executive Order 14 – Increasing Supplier Diversity Initiatives within State Government, the State of Delaware is committed to supporting its diverse business industry and population. The successful Vendor will be required to report on the participation by a minority and/or women owned business (MWBE) under this awarded contract. The reported data elements shall include but not be limited to; name of state contract/project, the name of the MWBE, MWBE contact information (phone, email), type of product or service provided by MWBE and any MWBE certifications for the subcontractor (State MWBE certification, Minority Supplier Development Council, Women’s Business Enterprise Council). The format used for this 2nd Tier report is found in Attachment 9.

2nd tier reports (Attachment 8) shall be submitted to the contracting Agency’s Supplier Diversity Liaison found at http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/omwbe/docs/sdc/mwbe_liasions.xls and the OMWBE at vendorusage@state.de.us on the 15th (or next business day) of the month following each quarterly period. For consistency quarters shall be considered to end the last day of March, June, September and December of each calendar year. Contract spend during the covered periods shall result in a report even if the contract has expired by the report due date.

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Attachment 1

NO PROPOSAL REPLY FORM

To assist us in obtaining good competition on our Request for Proposals, we ask that each firm that has received a proposal, but does not wish to bid, state their reason(s) below and return in a clearly marked envelope displaying the contract number. This information will not preclude receipt of future invitations unless you request removal from the Vendor's List by so indicating below, or do not return this form or bona fide proposal.

Unfortunately, we must offer a "No Proposal" at this time because:

1. We do not wish to participate in the proposal process.

2. We do not wish to bid under the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposal document. Our objections are:

3. We do not feel we can be competitive.

4. We cannot submit a Proposal because of the marketing or franchising policies of the manufacturing company.

5. We do not wish to sell to the State. Our objections are:

6. We do not sell the items/services on which Proposals are requested.

7. Other: _____

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FIRM NAME

SIGNATURE

We wish to remain on the Vendor's List **for these goods or services.**

We wish to be deleted from the Vendor's List **for these goods or services.**

OPENING DATE: April 30, 2014

NON-COLLUSION STATEMENT

This is to certify that the undersigned Vendor has neither directly nor indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with this proposal, **and further certifies that it is not a sub-contractor to another Vendor who also submitted a proposal as a primary Vendor in response to this solicitation** submitted this date to the State of Delaware, Christina School District

It is agreed by the undersigned Vendor that the signed delivery of this bid represents the Vendor's acceptance of the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal including all specifications and special provisions.

NOTE: Signature of the authorized representative **MUST** be of an individual who legally may enter his/her organization into a formal contract with the State of Delaware, Christina School District.

COMPANY NAME _____ Check one)

	Corporation
	Partnership
	Individual

NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

(Please type or print) _____

SIGNATURE _____ TITLE _____

COMPANY ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ FAX NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

STATE OF DELAWARE

FEDERAL E.I. NUMBER _____
 NUMBER _____

LICENSE

(circle one)

(circle one)

(circle one)

COMPANY CLASSIFICATIONS:	<u>Women</u> Yes No	<u>Minority</u> Yes No	<u>Disadvantaged</u> Yes No
CERT. NO. _____	<u>Business</u>	<u>Business</u>	<u>Business</u>
	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Enterprise</u>
	<u>(WBE)</u>	<u>(MBE)</u>	<u>(WBE)</u>

[The above table is for informational and statistical use only.]

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PURCHASE ORDERS SHOULD BE SENT TO:

(COMPANY NAME) _____

ADDRESS _____

CONTACT _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ FAX NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

AFFIRMATION: Within the past five years, has your firm, any affiliate, any predecessor company or entity, owner, Director, officer, partner or proprietor been the subject of a Federal, State, Local government suspension or debarment?

YES _____ NO _____ if yes, please explain _____

THIS PAGE SHALL BE SIGNED, NOTARIZED AND RETURNED WITH YOUR PROPOSAL TO BE CONSIDERED

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME this _____ day of _____, 20 _____

Notary Public _____ My commission expires _____

City of _____ County of _____ State of _____

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Attachment 5

Business References

List a minimum of three business references, including the following information:

- Business Name and Mailing address
- Contact Name and phone number
- Number of years doing business with
- Type of work performed

Please do not list any State Employee as a business reference. If you have held a State contract within the last 5 years, please list the contract.

1. Business Name/Mailing Address:
Contact Name/Phone Number:

Number of years doing business with :

Describe type of work performed:

2. Business Name/Mailing Address:
Contact Name/Phone Number:

Number of years doing business with :

Describe type of work performed:

3. Business Name/Mailing Address:
Contact Name/Phone Number:

Number of years doing business with :

Describe type of work performed:

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SUBCONTRACTOR INFORMATION FORM

ATTACHMENT 6

PART I – STATEMENT BY PROPOSING VENDOR		
1. CONTRACT NO.	2. Proposing Vendor Name:	3. Mailing Address
4. SUBCONTRACTOR		
a. NAME	4c. Company OMWBE Classification: Certification Number: _____	
b. Mailing Address:	4d. Women Business Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 4e. Minority Business Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 4f. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
5. DESCRIPTION OF WORK BY SUBCONTRACTOR		
6a. NAME OF PERSON SIGNING	7. BY (<i>Signature</i>)	8. DATE SIGNED
6b. TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING		

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PART II – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY SUBCONTRACTOR		
9a. NAME OF PERSON SIGNING	10. BY (<i>Signature</i>)	11. DATE SIGNED
9b. TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING		

* Use a separate form for each subcontractor

Insert most recent OMWBE Certification Application found here:

<http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/omwbe/certify.shtml>

State of Delaware

Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise

Certification Application



Complete application and send via email, fax or mail to:

Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise (OMWBE)

100 Enterprise Place Suite # 4 Dover, DE 19904-8202 Telephone: (302) 857-4554 Fax: (302) 677-7086

Email: deomwbe@state.de.us

Web site: <http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/omwbe/index.shtml>

Link to Certification Application: <http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/omwbe/certify.shtml>