



STATE OF DELAWARE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

State of Delaware

Band Uniforms

Request for Proposal

Contract No. GSS18644-BAND_UNIF

January 25, 2018

**- Deadline to Respond -
February 21, 2018
3:00 PM (Local Time)**

STATE OF DELAWARE
Office of Management and Budget
Government Support Services

CONTRACT NO. GSS18644-BAND_UNIF

ALL VENDORS:

The enclosed packet contains a "REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL" for Band Uniforms .The proposal consists of the following:

Contents:

- I. INTRODUCTION
- II. SCOPE OF WORK
- III. FORMAT FOR PROPOSAL
- IV. PROPOSAL EVALUATION PROCEDURES
- V. MANDATORY PREBID MEETING
- VI. DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS
- VII. PROPOSAL REPLY SECTION

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A – SCOPE OF WORK AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Appendix B – PRICING FORMS

**** [Ctrl+Click on the headings above will take you directly to the section.](#)**

In order for your proposal to be considered, the Proposal Reply Section shall be executed completely and correctly and returned in a sealed envelope **clearly displaying the contract number and vendor name** by **3:00pm February 21, 2018** (Local Time) to be considered.

Proposals must be mailed to:

**State of Delaware
Government Support Services
Contracting Section
ATTN: GSS18644-BAND_UNIF
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202**

Please review and follow the information and instructions contained in the General Provisions and this Request for Proposal (RFP). Should you need additional information, please email Shannon Wrobel at shannon.wrobel@state.de.us.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Request for Proposal is to obtain sealed proposals for Band Uniforms meeting the requirements of Delaware School Districts and covered agencies.

It is the goal of this Request for Proposal to identify a vendor(s) and execute a contract to Band Uniforms meeting the requirements of ordering agencies including measuring and altering to correct fit as well as providing for a Band Uniform Management System.

1. COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSAL

It has been determined by Director, Government Support Services, pursuant to **Delaware Code Title 29, Chapter 6924 (a)** that this solicitation be offered as a request for competitive sealed proposals because the use of competitive sealed bidding is not practical and/or not in the best interest of the State. The use of competitive sealed proposals is necessary to:

- Use a contract other than a fixed-price type; or
- Conduct oral or written discussions with vendors concerning technical and price aspects of their proposals; or
- Afford vendors an opportunity to revise their proposals through best and final offers; or
- Compare the different price, quality and contractual factors of the proposals submitted; or
- Award a contract in which price is not the determining factor.

2. CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

This contract will be issued to cover the requirements for all State Agencies and shall be accessible to any School District, Political Subdivision, Municipality, Volunteer Fire Company or higher education entity receiving state funds. Furthermore, this contract shall be accessible to all other entities as identified by Del. Code, Chapter 69, Title 29 § 6910.

3. MANDATORY USE CONTRACT

REF: Title 29, Chapter 6911(d) Delaware Code. All Covered Agencies as defined in 29 Del. C. §6902(6) shall procure all material, equipment and nonprofessional services through the statewide contracts administered by Government Support Services, Office of Management and Budget. Delaware State University, Delaware Technical and Community College, school districts, and the Legislative Branch are specifically exempted from the requirements of this subchapter. In addition, the Delaware Transit Corporation is exempt from the entire procurement chapter. Pursuant to 29 Del. C. §6904(l) and (n) respectively, the Department of Elections and the Board of Pension Trustees have certain exemptions from the procurement chapter which may or may not apply to this Request for Proposals.

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4. COOPERATIVE USE OF AWARD

As a publicly competed contract awarded in compliance with 29 DE Code Chapter 69, this contract is available for use by other states and/or governmental entities through a participating addendum. Interested parties should contact the State Contract Procurement Officer identified in the contract for instruction. Final approval for permitting participation in this contract resides with the Director of Government Support Services and in no way places any obligation upon the awarded vendor(s).

5. MULTIPLE SOURCE AWARD

The Agency reserves the right to award this contract to more than one vendor pursuant to 29 Del.C. §6926. Government Support Services reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part, to make multiple awards, partial awards, award by types, item by item, or lump sum total, whichever may be most advantageous to the State of Delaware.

6. POTENTIAL CONTRACT OVERLAP

Vendors shall be advised that the State, at its sole discretion, shall retain the right to solicit for goods and/or services as required by its agencies and as it serves the best interest of the State. As needs are identified, there may exist instances where contract deliverables, and/or goods or services to be solicited and subsequently awarded, overlap previous awards. The State reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part, to make partial awards, to award to multiple vendors during the same period, to award by types, on a zone-by-zone basis or on an item-by-item or lump sum basis item by item, or lump sum total, whichever may be most advantageous to the State of Delaware.

7. CONTRACT PERIOD

Each Vendor's contract shall be valid for a three (3) year period from May 4, 2018 to April 30, 2021. Each contract may be renewed for two (2) one (1) year periods through negotiation between the Vendor and Government Support Services. Negotiation may be initiated no later than ninety (90) days prior to the termination of the current agreement.

The State reserves the right to extend this contract on a month-to-month basis for a period of up to three months after the term of the full contract has been completed.

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B. KEY RFP DATES/MILESTONES

The following dates and milestones apply to this RFP and subsequent contract award. Vendors are advised that these dates and milestones are not absolute and may change due to unplanned events during the bid proposal and award process.

Activity	Due Date
RFP Availability to Vendors	Thursday, January 25, 2018
Written Questions Due No Later Than (NLT)	8:00am. Monday, February 5, 2018
Written Answers Due/Posted to Website NLT	Monday, February 12, 2018
Proposals Due NLT	3:00pm Wednesday, February 21, 2018
Samples Due NLT	3:00pm Wednesday, February 21, 2018
Public Proposal Opening	3:00pm Wednesday, February 21, 2018
Proposal Evaluation/Presentations as required	TBD, if required
Vendor Best & Final Discussions, as required	TBD, if required
Contract Award	Will occur within 90 days of bid opening

C. INQUIRIES & QUESTIONS

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.

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 8:00am, February 5, 2018. All questions will be answered in writing by February 12, 2018 and posted on <http://bids.delaware.gov/> website. All questions must make specific reference to the section(s) and page numbers from this RFP where applicable. Oral explanations or instructions will not be binding.

D. RFP DESIGNATED CONTACT

All requests, questions, or other communications about this RFP shall be made in writing to the State of Delaware. Address all communications to the person listed below; communications made to other State of Delaware 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.

**State of Delaware
Government Support Services
Attn: Shannon Wrobel
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202**

OR

Shannon.wrobel@state.de.us

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.

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E. CONTACT WITH STATE EMPLOYEE

Direct contact with State of Delaware employees other than the State of Delaware Designated Contact regarding this RFP is expressly prohibited without prior consent. Vendors directly contacting State of Delaware 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.

II. SCOPE OF WORK

A. OVERVIEW

The Vendor(s) shall provide all equipment, materials and labor to supplement the State of Delaware's need for as described herein. The contract will require the Vendor(s) to cooperate with the ordering agency to insure the State receives the most current state-of-the-art material and/or services.

B. BACKGROUND

Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services is interested in contracting with a vendor(s) capable of meeting the Band Uniform requirements of all Delaware School Districts and covered agencies. The establishment of a central contract for Band Uniforms to be utilized by all school districts and covered agencies will provide the State with the opportunity to benefit from favorable pricing associated with volumes of scale as well as recognize cost savings through reduced contract administration requirements.

C. STATEMENT OF NEEDS

Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services seeks to establish a contract with a vendor(s) having a proven ability to providing quality Band Uniforms and related accessories in the significant volumes. It is expected that the vendor(s) will be positioned to provide on-site measuring, required alterations, and delivery of finished products in a time efficient and cost effective manner.

D. DETAILED REQUIREMENTS

The technical requirements of this RFP are stated in Appendix A. Vendors must provide pricing for the items listed in the Excel Spreadsheet, Appendix B.

III. FORMAT FOR PROPOSAL

A. INTRODUCTION

This section prescribes the mandatory format for the presentation of a proposal in response to this RFP. Each Vendor must provide every component listed in the order shown in this RFP, using the format prescribed for each component. A proposal may be rejected if it is incomplete or conditional.

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B. PROPOSAL RESPONSE

The Request for Proposal may contain pre-printed forms for use by the vendor in submitting its proposal. The forms required by this solicitation shall be considered mandatory, prevailing documents.

When preprinted forms are used, the forms shall contain basic information such as description of the item and the estimated quantities and shall have blank spaces for use by the vendor for entering information such as unit bid price, total bid price, as applicable.

The Vendor's proposal shall be written in ink or typewritten on the form provided, and any corrections or erasures MUST be initialed by vendor's representative completing the bid submission.

If items are listed with a zero quantity, Vendor shall state unit price ONLY (intended for open end purchases where estimated requirements are not known). The proposal shall show a total bid price for each item bid and the total bid price of the proposal excluding zero quantity items.

Vendors' proposal must respond to each and every requirement outlined in the RFP criteria in order to be considered responsive. Proposals must be clear and concise.

C. . 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 State of Delaware.

D. CONCISE PROPOSALS

The State of Delaware 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 State of Delaware's interest is in the quality and responsiveness of the proposal.

E. COVER LETTER

Each proposal will have a cover letter on the letterhead of the company or organization submitting the proposal. The cover letter must briefly summarize the Vendor's ability to provide the services specified in the RFP. The cover letter shall be signed by a representative who has the legal capacity to enter the organization into a formal contract with Government Support Services.

F. TABLE OF CONTENTS

Each proposal must include a Table of Contents with page numbers for each of the required components of the proposal.

G. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES AND QUALIFICATIONS

Each proposal must contain a detailed description of how the Vendor will provide the goods and services outlined in this RFP. This part of the proposal may also include descriptions of any enhancements or additional services or qualifications the Vendor will provide that are not mentioned in this RFP.

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H. DISCOUNT

Vendors are invited to offer in their proposal value added discounts (i.e. speed to pay discounts for specific payment terms). Cash or separate discounts should be computed and incorporated into unit bid price(s).

I. SAMPLES OR BROCHURES

Samples or brochures may be required by the agency for evaluation purposes. They shall be such as to permit the Agency to compare and determine if the item offered complies with the intent of the specifications.

J. 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.

K. BID BOND REQUIREMENT

The Bid Bond requirement has been waived.

L. PERFORMANCE BOND REQUIREMENT

The Performance Bond requirement has waived.

M. NUMBER OF COPIES WITH MAILING OF PROPOSAL

To be considered, all proposals must be submitted in writing and respond to the items outlined in this RFP. The State reserves the right to reject any non-responsive or non-conforming proposals. Each proposal must be submitted with two (2) paper copies and one (1) electronic copies on CD, DVD media disk or USB Memory Stick. One of the paper copies shall be marked "Master Copy" and will contain original signatures in all locations requiring a vendor signature. The remaining paper copy does not require original signatures. CD, DVD media disk or USB memory Stick must contain the proposal response, excluding Appendix B, saved in PDF format. Appendix B Excel sheets is to be saved in Excel format.

All properly sealed and marked proposals are to be sent to the State of Delaware and received no later than 3:00 PM (Local Time) on February 21, 2018. The Proposals may be delivered by Express Delivery (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.), US Mail, or by hand to:

**State of Delaware
Government Support Services
Contracting Section
Attn: GSS18644-BAND_UNIF
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202**

Any proposal submitted by US Mail shall be sent by either certified or registered mail. Any proposal received after the date and time deadline referenced above 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.

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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.

The State reserves the right to award the proposed contract to multiple Vendors if the Head of the Agency determines that such an award is in the best interest of the State.

N. PROPOSAL EXPIRATION DATE

Prices quoted in the proposal shall remain fixed and binding on the bidder at least through initial contract period. Delaware reserves the right to ask for an extension of time if needed.

O. WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS

A Vendor may withdraw its proposal unopened after it has been deposited, if such a request is made prior to the time set for the opening of the proposal.

P. PROPOSAL MODIFICATIONS

Any changes, amendments or modifications to a submitted proposal requires that the original proposal be withdrawn, **prior** to the time set for the submission of the proposal, and a new proposal submitted **prior** to the deadline for submission of proposals.

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.

Q. 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 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.

R. ADDENDA TO THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFP, revisions will be posted at <http://bids.delaware.gov/>. By submitting an offer to the State, vendors have acknowledged receipt, understanding and commitment to comply with all materials, revisions, and addenda related to the Request for Proposal.

S. INCURRED EXPENSES

The State will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by the Vendor in preparing and submitting a proposal.

T. ECONOMY OF PREPARATION

Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straight-forward, concise description of the Vendor's offer to meet the requirements of the RFP.

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U. 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 State of Delaware'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.

V. EXCEPTIONS

Bidders may elect to take **minor exception** to the terms and conditions of this RFP by completing Attachment 3. Government Support Services shall evaluate each exception according to the intent of the terms and conditions contained herein, but Government Support Services must reject exceptions that do not conform to State bid law and/or create inequality in the treatment of bidders. Exceptions shall be considered only if they are submitted with the bid or before the date and time of the bid opening.

Exceptions must be submitted utilizing Attachment 3 to be considered. Exceptions listed elsewhere in the Vendor's proposal will not be considered. Government Support Services maintains sole discretion to reject any vendor exceptions that are submitted.

W. BUSINESS REFERENCES

Business references are to be provided via Attachment 6.

X. DOCUMENT(S) EXECUTION

All vendors must complete and submit with its proposal the non-collusion statement that is enclosed with this Request for Proposal labeled as Attachment 2. The awarded vendor(s) will be presented with the contract form for signature and seal, if appropriate. Both of these documents shall be executed by a representative who has the legal capacity to enter the organization into a formal contract with Government Support Services.

The State of Delaware requires completion of the [Delaware Substitute Form W-9](#) to make payments to vendors. Successful completion of this form enables the creation of a State of Delaware vendor record. The Taxpayer ID (SSN or EIN) and Applicant (vendor) name are submitted to the Internal Revenue Service for "matching." If the Taxpayer ID and name do not match, the vendor record cannot be approved.

It is the applicant's responsibility to select the appropriate 1099 Withholding Type and Class. If incorporated, a business is not subject to 1099 reporting unless the business is providing legal or medical services.

Any questions about completing this form or specific comments about a form that you have submitted, please contact vendor services by phone at 302-672-5000.

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Y. SUBCONTRACTS

Subcontracting is permitted under this RFP and contract. However, every subcontractor shall be identified in the Proposal using Attachment 7.

Z. CONFIDENTIALITY

Subject to applicable law or the order of a court of competent jurisdiction to the contrary, all documents submitted as part of the vendor's proposal will be treated as confidential during the evaluation process. As such, vendor proposals will not be available for review by anyone other than the State of Delaware/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 unless such disclosure is required by law or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

The State of Delaware and its constituent agencies are required to comply with the State of Delaware Freedom of Information Act, [29 Del. C. § 10001, et seq. \("FOIA"\)](#). FOIA requires that the State of Delaware's records are public records (unless otherwise declared by FOIA or other law to be exempt from disclosure) and are subject to inspection and copying by any person upon a written request. Once a proposal is received by the State of Delaware and a decision on contract award is made, the content of selected and non-selected vendor proposals will likely become subject to FOIA's public disclosure obligations.

The State of Delaware wishes to create a business-friendly environment and procurement process. As such, the State respects the vendor community's desire to protect its intellectual property, trade secrets, and confidential business information (collectively referred to herein as "confidential business information"). Proposals must contain sufficient information to be evaluated. If a vendor feels that they cannot submit their proposal without including confidential business information, they must adhere to the following procedure or their proposal may be deemed unresponsive, may not be recommended for selection, and any applicable protection for the vendor's confidential business information may be lost.

In order to allow the State to assess its ability to protect a vendor's confidential business information, vendors will be permitted to designate appropriate portions of their proposal as confidential business information.

Vendor(s) may submit portions of a proposal considered to be confidential business information in a separate, sealed envelope labeled "Confidential Business Information" and include the specific 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, 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 State of Delaware will open the envelope to determine whether the procedure described above has been followed. A vendor's allegation as to its confidential business information shall not be binding on the State. The State shall independently determine the validity of any vendor designation as set forth in this section. Any vendor submitting a proposal or using the procedures discussed herein expressly accepts the State's absolute right and duty to independently assess the legal and factual validity of any information designated as confidential business information. Accordingly, Vendor(s) assume the risk that confidential business information included within a proposal may enter the public domain.

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AA. PRICE NOT CONFIDENTIAL

Vendors shall be advised that as a publically bid contract, no Vendor shall retain the right to declare their pricing confidential.

BB. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – No Proposal Reply Form
Attachment 2 – Non-Collusion Statement
Attachment 3 – Exceptions
Attachment 4 – Company Profile and Capabilities
Attachment 5 – Confidentiality and Proprietary Information
Attachment 6 – Business References
Attachment 7 – Subcontractor Information Form
Attachment 8 – Monthly Usage Report
Attachment 9 – Subcontracting (2nd Tier Spend) Report
Attachment 10 – Office of Supplier Diversity Certification Application
Attachment 11 – Performance Bond (waived)
Attachment 12 – Bid Bond (waived)
Attachment 13 – Proposal Reply Requirements
Appendix A – Scope of Work Details
Appendix B – Pricing Forms and Instructions

IV. PROPOSAL EVALUATION PROCEDURES

A. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

1. STATE'S RIGHT TO REJECT PROPOSALS

Government Support Services reserves the right to reject any or all proposals in whole or in part, to make multiple awards, partial awards, award by types, item by item, or lump sum total, whichever is determined to be the most advantageous to the State of Delaware. Vendors submitting proposals may be afforded an opportunity for discussion. Vendors may be requested to provide a best and final offer during the negotiation process. Negotiations may be conducted with responsible Vendors who submit proposals found to be reasonably likely to be selected for award. The contents of any proposal shall not be disclosed so as to be available to competing Vendors during the negotiation process.

2. STATE'S RIGHT TO CANCEL SOLICITATION

The State of Delaware reserves the right to cancel this solicitation at any time during the procurement process, for any reason or for no reason. The State of Delaware 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 State of Delaware. Vendor's participation in this process may result in the State of Delaware 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 State of Delaware to execute a contract nor to continue negotiations. The State of Delaware may terminate negotiations at any time and for any reason, or for no reason.

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3. FORMAL CONTRACT AND/OR PURCHASE ORDER

No employee of the Contractor(s) is to begin any work prior to receipt of a State of Delaware Purchase Order signed by authorized representatives of the agency requesting service, properly processed through the State of Delaware Accounting Office. A purchase order, telephone call, email, fax or State credit card shall serve as the authorization to proceed with work in accordance with the bid specifications and the special instructions, once it is received by the Contractor(s).

4. DELIVERY OF PROPOSALS

Proposals shall be delivered in sealed envelopes, and shall bear on the outside the name and address of the Vendor as well as the designation of the contract. Proposals forwarded by U.S. Mail shall be sent first class to the address stated in this RFP. Proposals forwarded by delivery service other than the U.S. Mail or hand delivered must be delivered to the applicable addresses also stated in this RFP. All bids must clearly display the bid number on the envelope.

**State of Delaware
Government Support Services
Attn: GSS18644-BAND_UNIF
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202**

All proposals will be accepted at the time and place set in the RFP. Vendor bears the risk of delays in delivery. Proposals received after the time set for public opening will be returned unopened.

5. PUBLIC OPENING OF PROPOSALS

The proposals shall be publicly opened at the time and place specified by the Agency. Vendors or their authorized representatives are invited to be present.

Only the vendor's name and address will be read aloud during the bid opening process.

6. DISQUALIFICATION OF VENDORS

Any one or more of the following causes may be considered as sufficient for the disqualification of a vendor and the rejection of its proposal or proposals:

- a. More than one proposal for the same contract from an individual, firm, or corporation under the same or different names.
- b. Evidence of collusion among vendors.
- c. Unsatisfactory performance record as evidenced by past experience with the State of Delaware or on a State of Delaware central contract.
- d. Any suspension or debarment of the parent company, subsidiary or individual involved with the vendor by federal, any state or any local governments within the last five (5) years.
- e. If the unit prices are obviously unbalanced either in excess or below reasonable cost analysis values.

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- f. If there are any unauthorized additions, interlineations, conditional or alternate bids or irregularities of any kind which may tend to make the proposal incomplete, indefinite, or ambiguous as to its meaning.

- g. Non-attendance of mandatory pre-bid meetings shall be cause of disqualification.

7. AUTHORITY OF AGENCY

On all questions concerning the interpretation of specifications, the acceptability and quality of material furnished and/or work performed, the classification of material, the execution of the work, and the determination of payment due or to become due, the decision of the Agency shall be final and binding.

8. OR EQUAL (PRODUCTS BY NAME)

Specifications of products by name are intended to be descriptive of quality or workmanship, finish and performance. Desirable characteristics are not intended to be restrictive. Substitutions of products for those named will be considered provided the vendor certifies that the function, characteristics, performance and endurance qualities of the material offered is equal or superior to that specified.

9. RESPONSIVENESS AND RESPONSIBILITY OF VENDOR

Government Support Services shall award this contract to the most responsible and responsive vendor who best meets the terms and conditions of the proposal.

1. Rejection of individual proposals. -- A proposal may be rejected for 1 or more of the following reasons:
 - a. The person responding to the solicitation is determined to be nonresponsive or non-responsible;
 - b. It is unacceptable;
 - c. The proposed price is unreasonable; or
 - d. It is otherwise not advantageous to the State.
2. Vendors whose proposals are rejected as non-responsive shall be notified in writing about the rejection.
3. Responsibility of vendors. -- It shall be determined whether a vendor is responsible before awarding a contract. Factors to be considered in determining if a vendor is responsible include:
 - a. The vendor's financial, physical, personnel or other resources, including subcontracts;
 - b. The vendor's record of performance and integrity;
 - c. Any record regarding any suspension or debarment;
 - d. Whether the vendor is qualified legally to contract with the State;
 - e. Whether the vendor supplied all necessary information concerning its responsibility; and
 - f. Any other specific criteria for a particular procurement which an agency may establish
4. If a vendor is determined to be non-responsible, the vendor shall be informed in writing.

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5. The State reserves the right to waive minor irregularities, or request additional information before determining the responsiveness of the Vendor. All Vendors will be afforded the same or similar opportunities, as necessary, and will be treated with equal regard before such determinations are finalized.

C. PROPOSAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Proposal Evaluation Committee ("Committee") is comprised of representatives of the State of Delaware.

The Committee 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. §6926. Such selection will be based on the following criteria: The communicated ability of any one vendor to meet the needs of the entire State representative of the best value to the State

Government Support Services reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part, to make multiple awards, partial awards, award by types, item by item, or lump sum total, whichever may be most advantageous to the State of Delaware.

D. REQUIREMENTS OF THE VENDOR

The purpose of this section is to assist the Proposal Evaluation Committee to determine the ability of the organization to provide the materials and services described in the application. The proposal response should contain at a minimum the following information:

- Brief history of the organizations, including accreditation status, if applicable.
- Applicant's experience, if any, providing similar services. At least three references are required (See Attachment 6).
- Brief history of the subcontractor of the organization, if applicable. At least three references of subcontractor, if applicable.
- Financial information (balance sheets and income statements) for the past three years.
- Experience of the Service Technicians.
- Describe the methodology/approach used for this project including details of required service and turnaround time.
- The bidder should take special care to address all items under criteria and scoring section below.

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E. CRITERIA AND SCORING

	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
1.	Demonstrates the ability to provide complete uniforms, uniform components, and accessories of consistent high quality meeting the identified specifications including (samples).	35
2.	Lead Times	20
3.	Demonstrates the availability of resources to measure for fit on-site and provide an appropriately altered uniform or accessory in a timely manner	15
4.	Demonstrates successful experience in meeting the requirements of a contract of similar scope.	10
5.	Pricing	45
6.	References	15
	TOTAL SCORE	135

Procurement Evaluation Committee members will assign up to the maximum number of points listed for each of the criteria listed above. For items having quantitative answers, points will be proportionate to each proposal's response. Items with qualitative answers will receive the average of points assigned by Proposal Evaluation Committee members.

F. BEST AND FINAL OFFERS

Once the proposals have been evaluated and negotiations have been held with the vendor(s) determined to be likely to receive an award, the Procurement Evaluation Committee issue a request for Best and Final Offers from the vendor(s).

G. REFERENCES

The Committee 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 State of Delaware 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 State of Delaware will pay travel costs only for State of Delaware personnel for these visits.

H. ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Selected vendors may be invited to make oral presentations to the Committee. 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 State of Delaware are the vendor's responsibility.

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V. MANDATORY PREBID MEETING

A mandatory pre-bid meeting has not been established for this Request for Proposal.

VI. DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

The attached Definitions and General Provisions apply to all contracts and are part of each Request for Proposal. The requirement to furnish a bid bond and performance bond is applicable unless waived. Should the General Provisions conflict with the Special Provisions, the Special Provisions shall prevail. Vendors or their authorized representatives are required to fully acquaint themselves as to State procurement laws and regulations prior to submitting bid.

A. DEFINITIONS: Whenever the following terms are used, their intent and meaning shall be interpreted as follows:

STATE: The State of Delaware

AGENCY: State Agency as noted on cover sheet.

BIDDER OR VENDOR: Any individual, firm, or corporation formally submitting a proposal for the material or work contemplated, acting directly or through a duly authorized representative.

BID INVITATION: The "invitation to bid" or "Request for Proposal" is a packet of material sent to vendors and consists of General Provisions, Special Provisions, specifications, and enclosures.

BOND: The approved form of security furnished by the Vendors and its surety as a guaranty of good faith on the part of the Vendor to execute the work in accordance with the terms of the contract.

CONTRACT: The written agreement covering the furnishing and delivery of material or work to be performed.

DESIGNATED OFFICIAL: The agent authorized to act for an Agency.

GENERAL PROVISIONS: General Provisions are instructions pertaining to contracts in general. They contain, in summary, requirements of laws of the State, policies of the Agency, and instructions to vendors.

LOCAL TIME: Eastern Standard Time/Eastern Daylight Time

OPPORTUNITY BUY: A special offer from a supplier that is usually associated with a limited time to respond.

PROPOSAL: The offer of the Vendor submitted on the approved form and setting forth the Vendor's prices for performing the work or supplying the material or equipment described in the specifications.

RFP: Request for Proposal.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS: Special Provisions are specific conditions or requirements peculiar to the contract under consideration and are supplemental to the General Provisions. Should the Special Provisions conflict with the General Provisions, the Special Provisions shall prevail.

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SURETY: The corporate body which is bound with and for the contract, or which is liable, and which engages to be responsible for the Vendor's payments of all debts pertaining to and for its acceptable performance of the work for which he has contracted

VENDOR'S DEPOSIT: The security designated in the proposal to be furnished by the Vendor as a guaranty of good faith to enter into a contract with the Agency if the work to be performed or the material or equipment to be furnished is awarded to it.

B. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. INTERPRETATION OF ESTIMATES/QUANTITIES

- a. Unless stated otherwise, the quantities given in the RFP are to be considered to be approximate only and are given as a basis for the comparison of bids. The Agency may increase or decrease the amount of any item as may be deemed necessary or expedient, during the period of the contract. Bidders shall recognize there are no guaranteed minimum contract quantities or values associated with this solicitation.
- b. An increase or decrease in the quantity for any item is not sufficient ground for an increase or decrease in the unit price.
- c. Vendor usage reports for previous awards, if applicable, may be found at <http://contracts.delaware.gov/> and referring to the prior award contract page. Past usage shall not be considered a guaranteed future volume.

2. SILENCE OF SPECIFICATIONS

The apparent silence of the specifications as to any detail, or the apparent omission from it of detailed description concerning any point, shall be regarded as meaning that only the best commercial practice is to prevail and only material and workmanship of the first quality are to be used. Proof of specifications compliance will be the responsibility of the vendor.

3. EXAMINATION OF SPECIFICATIONS AND PROVISIONS

The Vendor shall examine carefully the proposal and the contract forms for the material contemplated. The Vendor shall investigate and satisfy itself as to the conditions to be encountered, quality and quantities of the material to be furnished, and the requirements of any Special Provisions in the RFP and the contract. The submission of a proposal shall be conclusive evidence that the Vendor has made examination of the aforementioned conditions.

4. PRICES QUOTED

The prices quoted are those for which the material will be furnished F.O.B. Ordering Agency and include all charges that may be imposed during the period of the contract. **All prices quoted must be in U.S. Dollars.**

All vendors that maintain a core list of products under this contract shall maintain the appropriate negotiated prices on their core list. Vendors shall routinely offer to add to the core list materiel that has been identified as necessary. The Vendors are expected to routinely update any changes to the core list with the appropriate discounts listed.

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Any adjustments to a core list must receive prior written approval from the State before a core list can be changed by the Vendor. Changes include but are not limited to the migration of items on and off the core list as well as any price adjustments from the original agreed upon pricing.

5. PUBLIC INSPECTION OF PROPOSALS

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 State of Delaware/Proposal Evaluation Committee 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 State of Delaware 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 State of Delaware'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 State of Delaware 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.

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 State of Delaware will open the envelope to determine whether the procedure described above has been followed.

6. LAWS TO BE OBSERVED

The Vendor is presumed to know and shall strictly comply with all Federal, State, or County laws, and City or Town ordinances and regulations in any manner affecting the conduct of the work. The Vendor shall indemnify and save harmless the State of Delaware, the Agency, and all Officers, Agency and Servants thereof against any claim or liability arising from or based upon the violation of any such laws, ordinances, regulations, orders, or decrees whether by itself, by its employees, or by its subcontractor(s).

7. APPLICABLE LAW AND JURISDICTION

This bid, any resulting contract, and any and all litigation or other disputes arising therefrom, in connection with, or related hereto shall be governed by the applicable laws, regulations and rules of evidence of the State of Delaware. Bidder submits to personal jurisdiction in the State of Delaware. Any and all litigation or other disputes arising out of, in connection with, or relating to this bid, and any resulting contract, shall be brought exclusively in a court in the State of Delaware or the United States District Court of the District of Delaware as applicable.

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8. SEVERABILITY

If any term or provision of this Agreement is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable, the same shall not affect the other terms or provisions hereof or the whole of this Agreement, but such term or provision shall be deemed modified to the extent necessary in the court's opinion to render such term or provision enforceable, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced accordingly, preserving to the fullest permissible extent the intent and agreements of the parties herein set forth.

9. PERMITS AND LICENSES

All necessary permits, licenses, insurance policies, etc. required by local, State or Federal laws, shall be provided by the Vendor at its own expense.

10. PATENTED DEVICES, MATERIAL AND PROCESSES

- a. The Vendor shall provide for the use of any patented design, device, material, or process to be used or furnished under this contract by suitable legal agreement with the patentee or owner, and shall file a copy of this agreement with the Agency.
- b. The Vendor and the surety shall hold and save harmless the State of Delaware, the Agency, the Director, their Officers or Agents from any and all claims because of the use of such patented design, device, material, or process in connection with the work agreed to be performed under this contract.

11. EMERGENCY TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

- a. Due to restrictions which may be established by the United States Government on material, or work, a contract may be terminated by the cancellation of all or portions of the contract.
- b. In the event the Vendor is unable to obtain the material required to complete the items of work included in the contract because of restrictions established by the United States Government and if, in the opinion of the Agency, it is impractical to substitute other available material, or the work cannot be completed within a reasonable time, the incomplete portions of the work may be cancelled, or the contract may be terminated.

12. TAX EXEMPTION

- a. Material covered by this proposal is exempt from all FEDERAL and STATE TAXES. Such taxes shall not be included in prices quoted.
- b. Any material which is to be incorporated in the work or any equipment required for the work contemplated in the proposal may be consigned to the Agency. If the shipping papers show clearly that any such material is so consigned, the shipment will be exempt from the tax on the transportation of property under provisions of Section 3475 (b) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended by Public Law 180 (78th Congress). All transportation charges shall be paid by the Vendor. Each Vendor shall take its exemption into account in calculating its bid for its work.

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13. INVOICING

After the awards are made, the agencies participating in the bid may forward their purchase orders ("P.O.") to the successful Vendor(s) in accordance with State Purchasing Procedures. The State will generate a payment voucher upon receipt of an acceptable invoice from the vendor.

14. EQUALITY OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ON PUBLIC WORKS

During the performance of any contract for public works financed in whole or in part by appropriation of the State of Delaware, the contractor agrees as follows:

- a. The contractor, as set forth in Title 19 Delaware Code Chapter 7 section 711, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment with respect to compensation, terms, conditions or privileges of employment because of such individual's race, marital status, genetic information, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated equally during employment without regard to their race, marital status, genetic information, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: advertising, lay-off or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training including apprenticeships. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, notices to be provided by the contracting agency setting forth the provisions of this non-discrimination clause.
- b. During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:
 1. The contractor, as set forth in Title 19 Delaware Code Chapter 7 section 711, will not discriminate against any individual with respect to compensation, terms, conditions or privileges of employment because of such individual's race, marital status, genetic information, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The contractor will take positive steps to ensure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, marital status, genetic information, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment notices to be provided by the contracting agency setting forth this nondiscrimination clause.
 2. The contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, marital status, genetic information, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin."
- c. The term "contractor for public works" means construction, reconstruction, demolition, alteration, and/or repair work, maintenance work, and paid for in whole or in part out of the funds of a public body except work performed under a vocational rehabilitation program. The manufacture or furnishing of materials, articles, supplies or equipment is not a public work within the meaning of this subsection unless conducted in connection with and at the site of the public work.

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15. PRICES

Prices and/or rates shall remain firm for the initial three year term of the contract, unless further negotiations are deemed necessary by the State.

The pricing policy that you choose to submit must address the following concerns:

- a. The structure must be clear, accountable and auditable.
- b. It must cover the full spectrum of services required.
- c. Costs and compensation must be consistent with the rates established or negotiated as a result of this RFP or P.O. issued based on this contract.

16. COOPERATIVES

Vendors, who have been awarded similar contracts through a competitive bidding process with a cooperative, are welcome to submit the cooperative pricing for this solicitation.

17. PRICE ADJUSTMENT

The Vendor is not prohibited from offering a price reduction on its services or materiel offered under the contract. The State is not prohibited from requesting a price reduction on those services or materiel during the initial term or any subsequent options that the State may agree to exercise.

If agreement is reached to extend this contract beyond the initial three year period, Government Support Services shall have the option of offering a determined price adjustment that shall not exceed the current Philadelphia All Urban Consumers Price Index (CPI-U), U.S. City Average. If the CPI-U is used, any increase/decrease shall reflect the change during the previous published twelve (12) month period at the time of renegotiation.

18. SHIPPING TERMS

FOB Destination, freight prepaid.

19. ELECTRONIC CATALOG

At the discretion of Government Support Services, the successful vendor(s) may be required to submit their items list in an electronic format designated by the State.

By example, but not limited to, the following items may be required:

- Electronic catalogs,
- Electronic catalogs converted to a CSV format with contract specific pricing,
- Items designated by commodity/classification code: United Nations Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC), and/or
- A unique item ID for all items in your system and/or our award.

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20. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS

The parties to any contract from this solicitation shall be independent contractors to one another, and nothing herein shall be deemed to cause the 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.

21. TEMPORARY PERSONNEL ARE NOT STATE EMPLOYEES UNLESS AND UNTIL THEY ARE DIRECTLY HIRED

Vendor agrees that any individual or group of temporary staff person(s) provided to the State of Delaware pursuant to this Solicitation shall remain the employee(s) of Vendor for all purposes including any required compliance with the Affordable Care Act by the Vendor. Vendor agrees that it shall not allege, argue, or take any position that individual temporary staff person(s) provided to the State pursuant to this Solicitation must be provided any benefits, including any healthcare benefits by the State of Delaware and Vendor agrees to assume the total and complete responsibility for the provision of any healthcare benefits required by the Affordable Care Act to aforesaid individual temporary staff person(s). In the event that the Internal Revenue Service, or any other third party governmental entity determines that the State of Delaware is a dual employer or the sole employer of any individual temporary staff person(s) provided to the State of Delaware pursuant to this Solicitation, Vendor agrees to hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the State to the maximum extent of any liability to the State arising out of such determinations.

Notwithstanding the content of the preceding paragraph, should the State of Delaware subsequently directly hire any individual temporary staff employee(s) provided pursuant to this Solicitation, the aforementioned obligations to hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the State of Delaware shall cease and terminate for the period following the date of hire. Nothing herein shall be deemed to terminate the Vendor's obligation to hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the State of Delaware for any liability that arises out of compliance with the ACA prior to the date of hire by the State of Delaware. Vendor will waive any separation fee provided an employee works for both the vendor and hiring agency, continuously, for a three (3) month period and is provided thirty (30) days written notice of intent to hire from the agency. Notice can be issued at second month if it is the State's intention to hire.

22. ACA SAFE HARBOR

The State and its utilizing agencies are not the employer of temporary or contracted staff. However, the State is concerned that it could be determined to be a Common-law Employer as defined by the Affordable Care Act ("ACA"). Therefore, the State seeks to utilize the "Common-law Employer Safe Harbor Exception" under the ACA to transfer health benefit insurance requirements to the staffing company. The Common-law Employer Safe Harbor Exception can be attained when the State and/or its agencies are charged and pay for an "Additional Fee" with respect to the employees electing to obtain health coverage from the Vendor.

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The Common-law Employer Safe Harbor Exception under the ACA requires that an Additional Fee must be charged to those employees who obtain health coverage from the Vendor, but does not state the required amount of the fee. The State requires that all Vendors shall identify the Additional Fee to obtain health coverage from the Vendor and delineate the Additional Fee from all other charges and fees. The Vendor shall identify both the Additional Fee to be charged and the basis of how the fee is applied (i.e. per employee, per invoice, etc.). The State will consider the Additional Fee and prior to award reserves the right to negotiate any fees offered by the Vendor. Further, the Additional Fee shall be separately scored in the proposal to ensure that neither prices charged nor the Additional Fee charged will have a detrimental effect when selecting vendor(s) for award.

23. FUNDING OUT or 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 State 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.

24. MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

As a part of the contract requirements, the contractor must obtain at its own cost and expense and keep in force and effect during the term of this contract, including all extensions, the minimum coverage limits specified below with a carrier satisfactory to the State. All contractors must carry the following coverage depending on the type of service or product being delivered.

a. Commercial General Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 aggregate,

and

b. Medical/Professional Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 aggregate,

or

c. Miscellaneous Errors and Omissions - \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 aggregate,

or

d. Product Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 aggregate,

and

e. Automotive Liability Insurance covering all automotive units used in the work with limits of not less than \$100,000 each person and \$300,000 each accident as to bodily injury and \$25,000 as to property damage to other,

and

f. 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 State of Delaware.

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All contractors must carry (a), (e), and (f), and at least one of (b), (c), or (d), depending on the scope of work being delivered.

Before any work is done with the State, a Certificate of Insurance referencing the name and contract number stated herein, shall be filed with the State. The certificate holder is as follows:

**State of Delaware
Government Support Services
Contract # GSS18644-BAND_UNIF
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202**

Note: The State of Delaware shall not be named as an additional insured.

Should any of the above described policies be cancelled before the expiration date thereof, notice will be delivered in accordance with the policy provisions.

25. STATE OF DELAWARE BUSINESS LICENSE

Prior to receiving an award, the successful Vendor shall either furnish the Agency 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 19899 or by telephone to one of the following numbers: 302-577-8778. <http://revenue.delaware.gov/services/BusServices.shtml>

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

26. INDEMNIFICATION

a. 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 State of Delaware, 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.

b. 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 State of Delaware, the State of Delaware 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 State of Delaware 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.

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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:

1. Procure the right for the State of Delaware to continue using the Product(s);
2. Replace the product with a non-infringing equivalent that satisfies all the requirements of the contract; or
3. 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 State of Delaware agrees to and accepts in writing.

27. NON-PERFORMANCE

In the event the Vendor does not fulfill its obligations under the terms and conditions of this contract, in addition to proceeding with termination of the contract, the ordering agency may terminate any individual orders in accordance with General Provisions, Item 47 below and purchase equivalent product on the open market. Regarding any such open market purchase, payment for any difference in cost or expense in excess of the contract prices for reasonably equivalent products or services herein shall be the responsibility of the Vendor and shall be submitted to the State no later than 30 days following the delivery of the State's invoice detailing the open market purchase. Under no circumstances shall monies be due the Vendor in the event open market products can be obtained below contract cost. Any monies charged to the Vendor may be deducted from an open invoice.

28. FORCE MAJEURE

Neither the vendor nor the ordering agency shall be held liable for non-performance under the terms and conditions of this contract due, but not limited to, government restriction, strike, flood, fire, or unforeseen catastrophe beyond either party's control. Each party shall notify the other in writing of any situation that may prevent performance under the terms and conditions of this contract.

29. VENDOR NON-ENTITLEMENT

State of Delaware Vendors for Materiel and for Services shall not have legal entitlement to utilize any Central Contract held by the State of Delaware. The Vendors may not seek business from another Vendors' Central Contract for the purpose of preparing a bid or proposal to the State of Delaware. Additionally, they shall not utilize other Central Contracts to fulfill the requirements of their respective contract unless they are considered a "Covered Agency" as defined by Title 29 Chapter 69 of the State Procurement Code or otherwise permitted by law.

This is not a prohibition from any Vendor choosing to work with another Vendor who holds a State Central Contract for private business.

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30. OPPORTUNITY BUYS

The Director for the State of Delaware, Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services can waive use of a central contract pursuant to 29 Del. C. §6911(e). A process has been developed to permit any vendor the opportunity to submit an Opportunity Buy offer to the State for goods and/or services for consideration despite the existence of a central contract. See [Opportunity Buy Flowchart](#). The Director will afford any vendor on an existing central contract an opportunity to match or to beat the Opportunity Buy offer made by a non-contracted vendor prior to a waiver being granted.

31. I FOUND IT CHEAPER

Director for the State of Delaware, Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services can waive use of a central contract pursuant to 29 Del. C. §6911(e). A process has been developed to permit any State employee or Vendor to identify a lower price for material and or services for consideration despite the existence of a central contract. See [I Found It Cheaper Flowchart](#). The Director will afford any Vendor on an existing central contract an opportunity to match or to beat the I Found It Cheaper suggestion and if not matched or beaten, approve the purchase via a waiver.

32. REQUIRED REPORTING

One of the primary goals in administering this contract is to keep accurate records regarding its actual value/usage. This information is essential in order to update the contents of the contract and to establish proper bonding levels, if they are required. The integrity of future contracts revolves around our ability to convey accurate and realistic information to all interested parties.

A complete and accurate Usage Report (Attachment 8) shall be furnished in an Excel format and submitted electronically, no later than the 15th (or next business day after the 15th day) of each month, detailing the purchasing of all items and/or services on this contract. The reports shall be completed in Excel format, using the template provided, and submitted as an attachment to vendorusage@state.de.us, with a copy going to the contract officer identified as your point of contact. Submitted reports shall cover the full month (Report due by January 15th will cover the period of December 1 – 31.), contain accurate descriptions of the products, goods or services procured, purchasing agency information, quantities procured and prices paid. Reports are required monthly, including those with “no spend”. Any exception to this mandatory requirement or failure to submit complete reports, or in the format required, may result in corrective action, up to and including the possible cancellation of the award. Failure to provide the report with the minimum required information may also negate any contract extension clauses. Additionally, Vendors who are determined to be in default of this mandatory report requirement may have such conduct considered against them, in assessment of responsibility, in the evaluation of future proposals.

In accordance with Executive Order 44, the State of Delaware is committed to supporting its diverse business industry and population. The successful Vendor will be required to accurately report on the participation by Diversity Suppliers which includes: minority (MBE), woman (WBE), veteran owned business (VOBE), or service disabled veteran owned business (SDVOBE) under this awarded contract. The reported data elements shall include but not be limited to; name of state contract/project, the name of the Diversity Supplier, Diversity Supplier contact information (phone, email), type of product or service provided by the Diversity Supplier and any minority, women, veteran, or service disabled veteran certifications for the subcontractor (State OSD certification, Minority Supplier Development Council, Women's Business Enterprise Council, VetBiz.gov). The format used for Subcontracting 2nd Tier reporting is shown as Attachment 9.

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Accurate 2nd Tier reports shall be submitted to the contracting Agency's Office of Supplier Diversity at vendorausage@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.

33. ORDERING PROCEDURE

Successful Vendors are required to have either a local telephone number within the (302) area code, a toll free (800) number, or agree to accept collect calls. Depending on the nature and scope of the event, each State agency or other governmental entity shall be responsible for contacting the awarded vendor directly for all required resources. All consumables delivered by the Vendor and received by a State agency or other governmental entity, become the property of that State agency or entity. Orders may be accomplished by written purchase order, telephone, email, fax or computer on-line systems.

34. PURCHASE ORDERS

Agencies that are part of the First State Financial (FSF) system are required to identify the contract number GSS18644-BAND_UNIF on all Purchase Orders (P.O.) and shall complete the same when entering P.O. information in the state's financial reporting system.

35. BILLING

The Vendor is required to "Bill as Shipped" to the respective ordering agency(s). Ordering agencies shall provide contract number, ship to and bill to address, contact name and phone number. The Vendor shall not charge a late fee that exceeds more than one percent (1%) per month, not to exceed twelve percent (12%) per annum.

Agencies will make every effort to achieve available discount opportunities under this contract. Vendors shall be required to report semi-annually opportunities to enhance the discounts achieved.

36. METHOD OF PAYMENT

- a. For each P.O. issued as part of this contract, the State will pay Vendor monthly, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Vendor's billing, the amount which is legitimately earned by the Vendor, and supported by payroll data and an itemized accounting of reasonable reimbursable direct non-salary costs. A current progress report of the work shall accompany each billing.

Final settlement for total payment to the Vendor will be made within thirty (30) days from the date of final written State acceptance of the work and services as agreed to in the P.O.

- b. No premium time for overtime will be paid without prior written State authorization. Indirect overhead cost shall not be applied to the premium portion of the overtime.

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- c. The agencies or school districts using this award will authorize and process for payment each invoice within thirty (30) days after the date of receipt of a correct invoice. The State of Delaware intends to maximize the use of the P-Card for payment for goods and services provided under contract. Vendors shall not charge additional fees for acceptance of this payment method and shall incorporate any costs into their proposals. Additionally there shall be no minimum or maximum limits on any P-Card transaction under the contract. While it is the State's intention to utilize the P-card payment method the State reserves, at its discretion, the right to pay by ACH/ACI or check. Should a Vendor wish to provide a financial incentive to not process payment by P-Card in their proposal, they are to prepare their proposals to clearly outline any incentives for alternative payment methods the Vendor is willing to accept.

37. PRODUCT SUBSTITUTION

All items or services delivered during the life of the contract shall be of the same type and manufacture as specified or accepted as part of the proposal unless specific approval is given by the Agency to do otherwise. Awarded vendors are highly encouraged to offer any like substitute product (s), either generic or brand name, at any time during the subsequent contract term, especially if an opportunity for cost savings to the state exists. In all cases, the state may require the submission of written specifications and/or product samples for evaluation prior to any approvals being granted.

If a substitution is granted by the state, the Vendor must update its core list and maintain said list in a timely manner.

38. SCHEDULE FOR PERFORMANCE OF WORK

All work described in these specifications shall be completed with reasonable promptness. As used in this Section, the State of Delaware shall be the sole judge of the term "reasonable". If the Vendor does not begin the work in a reasonable amount of time, they will be notified that if they fail to initiate the work promptly, the contract may be terminated and the State will forthwith proceed to collect for nonperformance of work.

39. VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY

The State will enter into a contract with the successful Vendor(s). The successful Vendor(s) shall be responsible for all products and services as required by this RFP whether or not the Vendor or its subcontractor provided final fulfillment of the order. Subcontractors, if any, shall be clearly identified in the Vendor's proposal by completing Attachment 7, and are subject the approval and acceptance of Government Support Services.

40. VENDOR- OWNED RENTAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES REMOVAL

The awarded Vendor shall remove all rental equipment and supplies from the event location (s) no later than an agreed to date once all contract obligations by the Vendor have been met.

41. ENVIRONMENTAL PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS

- a. Energy Star - If applicable, the Vendor must provide products that earn the ENERGY STAR rating and meet the ENERGY STAR specifications for energy efficiency in order to keep overall event costs to a minimum. The Vendor is encouraged to visit www.energystar.gov for complete product specifications and updated lists of qualifying products.

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- b. Green Products – third party certification of green products accepted from GSS w/approved green certification shall be offered wherever available in addition to or as a substitute for non-green products.
- c. Vendors shall report all green items procured during the monthly reporting period using the Usage Report that will be provided to the awarded Vendor(s).
- d. Environmental Procurement Policies of the State shall determine acceptable consideration and credit for environmentally preferred products and services in the performance of this award. The State Environmental Procurement Policies may be found:

[Environmentally Preferred Purchasing Policy](#)

42. PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

- a. The Vendor represents that it has, or will secure at its own expense, all personnel required to perform the services required under this contract.
- b. All of the equipment and services required hereunder shall be provided by or performed by the Vendor or under its direct supervision, and all personnel, including subcontractors, engaged in the work shall be fully qualified and shall be authorized under State and local law to perform such services.
- c. None of the equipment and/or services covered by this contract shall be subcontracted without the prior written approval of the State. Only those subcontractors identified in Attachment 7 are considered approved upon award. Changes to those subcontractor(s) listed in Attachment 7 must be approved in writing by the State.

43. FAIR BACKGROUND CHECK PRACTICES

Pursuant to 29 Del. C. [§6909B](#), the State does not consider the criminal record, criminal history, credit history or credit score of an applicant for state employment during the initial application process unless otherwise required by state and/or federal law. Vendors doing business with the State are encouraged to adopt fair background check practices. Vendors can refer to 19 Del. C. [§711\(g\)](#) for applicable established provisions.

44. VENDOR BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIREMENTS

Vendor(s) selected for an award that access state property or come in contact with vulnerable populations, including children and youth, shall be required to complete background checks on employees serving the State's on premises contracts. Unless otherwise directed, at a minimum, this shall include a check of the following registry:

- Delaware Sex Offender Central Registry at:
<https://sexoffender.dsp.delaware.gov/>

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Individuals that are listed in the registry shall be prevented from direct contact in the service of an awarded state contract, but may provide support or off-site premises service for contract vendors. Should an individual be identified and the Vendor(s) believes their employee's service does not represent a conflict with this requirement, may apply for a waiver to the primary agency listed in the solicitation. The Agency's decision to allow or deny access to any individual identified on a registry database is final and at the Agency's sole discretion.

By Agency request, the Vendor(s) shall provide a list of all employees serving an awarded contract, and certify adherence to the background check requirement. Individual(s) found in the central registry in violation of the terms stated, shall be immediately prevented from a return to state property in service of a contract award. A violation of this condition represents a violation of the contract terms and conditions, and may subject the Vendor to penalty, including contract cancellation for cause.

Individual contracts may require additional background checks and/or security clearance(s), depending on the nature of the services to be provided or locations accessed, but any other requirements shall be stated in the contract scope of work or be a matter of common law. The Vendor(s) shall be responsible for the background check requirements of any authorized Subcontractor providing service to the Agency's contract.

45. DRUG TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR LARGE PUBLIC WORKS

Pursuant to 29 Del.C. [§6908\(a\)\(6\)](#), effective as of January 1, 2016, OMB has established regulations that require Contractors and Subcontractors to implement a program of mandatory drug testing for Employees who work on Large Public Works Contracts funded all or in part with public funds. The regulations establish the mechanism, standards and requirements of a Mandatory Drug Testing Program that will be incorporated by reference into all Large Public Works Contracts awarded pursuant to 29 Del.C. [§6962](#).

Final publication of the identified regulations can be found at the following:

[4104 Regulations for the Drug Testing of Contractor and Subcontractor Employees Working on Large Public Works Projects](#)

46. MINIMUM WAGE RATES

Work performed under this solicitation may fall under the [State of Delaware Minimum Wage Rates](#) or the Delaware Prevailing Wage rates. Prior to issuing a purchase order, the ordering agencies must obtain from the Department of Labor a determination if prevailing wage applies to the project and, if appropriate, what the applicable prevailing wage rates would be for the work to be performed. No work shall proceed without a determination by the Department of Labor. Request for prevailing wage certification can be found at: <http://dia.delawareworks.com/labor-law/prevailing-wage.php>.

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47. PREVAILING WAGE

The prevailing wage law, 29 Del.C. § [6960](#), is enforced by the Department of Labor and states that the specifications for every contract or aggregate of contracts relating to a public works project in excess of \$500,000 for new construction (including painting and decorating) or \$45,000 for alteration, repair, renovation, rehabilitation, demolition or reconstruction (including painting and decorating of building or works) to which this State or any subdivision thereof is a party and for which the State appropriated any part of the funds and which requires or involves the employment of mechanics and/or laborers shall contain a provision stating the minimum wages to be paid various classes of laborers and mechanics which shall be based upon the wages that will be determined by the Delaware Department of Labor, Division of Industrial Affairs, to be prevailing in the county in which the work is to be performed.

48. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

At the option of, and in the manner prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the parties shall attempt in good faith to resolve any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement promptly by negotiation between executives who have authority to settle the controversy and who are at a higher level of management than the persons with direct responsibility for administration of this Agreement. All offers, promises, conduct and statements, whether oral or written, made in the course of the negotiation by any of the parties, their agents, employees, experts and attorneys are confidential, privileged and inadmissible for any purpose, including impeachment, in arbitration or other proceeding involving the parties, provided evidence that is otherwise admissible or discoverable shall not be rendered inadmissible.

If the matter is not resolved by negotiation, as outlined above, or, alternatively, OMB elects to proceed directly to mediation, then the matter will proceed to mediation as set forth below. Any disputes, claims or controversies arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be submitted to mediation by a mediator selected by OMB, and if the matter is not resolved through mediation, then it shall be submitted, in the sole discretion of OMB, to the Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services Director, for final and binding arbitration. OMB reserves the right to proceed directly to arbitration or litigation without negotiation or mediation. Any such proceedings held pursuant to this provision shall be governed by Delaware law and venue shall be in Delaware. The parties shall maintain the confidential nature of the arbitration proceeding and the Award, including the Hearing, except as may be necessary to prepare for or conduct the arbitration hearing on the merits. Each party shall bear its own costs of mediation, arbitration or litigation, including attorneys' fees.

49. TERMINATION OF INDIVIDUAL ORDERS OR PURCHASE ORDERS

As a central contract, the contract resulting from this RFP shall include individual orders from state agencies and other entities authorized by law to procure from this contract. The individual orders may be terminated as follows:

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- a. **Termination for Cause:** If, for any reasons, or through any cause, the Vendor fails to fulfill in timely and proper manner his obligations, or if the Vendor violates any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this contract, the Agency shall have the right to terminate the P.O. 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 in the performance of the P.O. shall, at the option of the Agency, 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 usable to the Agency.
- b. **Termination for Convenience:** The Agency may terminate the P.O. at any time by giving written notice of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least sixty (60) days before the effective date of such termination. In that event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, models, photographs, reports, supplies, and other materials shall, at the option of the department, become its property and the Vendor shall be entitled to receive compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents and other materials which are usable to the Agency.
- c. **Termination for Non-Appropriations:** 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 State 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. This is not a termination for convenience and will not be converted to such.

50. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

As a central contract, the contract resulting from this RFP may be terminated as follows by Government Support Services.

- a. **Termination for Cause:** If, for any reasons, or through any cause, the Vendor fails to fulfill in timely and proper manner its obligations under this Contract, or if the Vendor violates any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the State shall thereupon have the right to terminate this contract by giving written notice to the Vendor 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 this Contract shall, at the option of the State, 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 usable to the State.

On receipt of the contract cancellation notice from the State, the Vendor shall have not less than five (5) days to provide a written response and may identify a method(s) to resolve the violation(s). A vendor response shall not effect or prevent the contract cancellation unless the State provides a written acceptance of the vendor response. If the State does accept the Vendor's method and/or action plan to correct the identified deficiencies, the State will define the time by which the Vendor must fulfill its corrective obligations. Final retraction of the State's termination for cause will only occur after the Vendor successfully rectifies the original violation(s). At its discretion the State may reject in writing the Vendor's proposed action plan and proceed with the original contract cancellation timeline.

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- b. Termination for Convenience:** The State may terminate this Contract at any time by giving written notice of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least sixty (60) days before the effective date of such termination. In that event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, models, photographs, reports, supplies, and other materials shall, at the option of the State, become its property and the Vendor shall be entitled to receive compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents and other materials, and which is usable to the State.
- c. Termination for Non-Appropriations:** 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 State 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. This is not a termination for convenience and will not be converted to such.

51. CHANGES

Both parties may, from time to time, require changes in the services to be provided by the Vendor under the Scope of Work. Such changes, including any increase or decrease in the amount of the Vendor's compensation, which are mutually agreed upon by and between the Agency and the Vendor shall be incorporated in written amendments to the Purchase Order or contract.

52. INTEREST OF VENDOR

The Vendor covenants that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree in providing products or performing services required under this contract. The Vendor further covenants, that in the performance of this contract, no person having any such interest shall be employed.

53. PUBLICATION, REPRODUCTION AND USE OF MATERIAL

No material produced in whole or part under this contract shall be subject to copyright in the United States or in any other country. The State shall have unrestricted authority to publish, disclose, distribute and otherwise use, in whole or in part, any reports, data, or other materials prepared under this contract; provided, however, that the State agrees not to use any design or engineering plans prepared by the Vendor for anything other than their intended purpose under this Contract. The Vendor shall have the right to publish any and all scientific findings. Appropriate acknowledgment and credit for the State's support shall be given in the publication.

54. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

The rights and obligations of each party to this agreement shall not be effective, and no party shall be bound by the terms of this agreement, unless and until a valid executed purchase order has been approved by the Secretary of Finance, and all procedures of the Department of Finance have been complied with. A separate purchase order shall be issued for every project or order.

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55. ASSIGNMENT OF ANTITRUST CLAIMS

As consideration for the award and execution of this contract by the State, the Vendor hereby grants, conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the State of Delaware all of its right, title and interest in and to all known or unknown causes of action it presently has or may now or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the State of Delaware, regarding the specific goods or services purchased or acquired for the State pursuant to this contract. Upon either the State's or the Vendor notice of the filing of or reasonable likelihood of filing of an action under the antitrust laws of the United States or the State of Delaware, the State and Vendor shall meet and confer about coordination of representation in such action.

56. TESTING AND INSPECTION

The State of Delaware reserves the right to conduct any test or inspection it may deem necessary to insure equipment, materials and services conform to contract requirements.

57. COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES

The Vendor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, excepting bona fide employees. For breach or violation of this warranty, the State shall have the right to annul this contract without liability or in its discretion to deduct from the contract price or consideration, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fees.

58. GRATUITIES

- a. If it is found, after notice and hearing, by the State that gratuities (in the form of entertainment, gifts, or otherwise) were offered or given by the Vendor or any agent of the State with a view toward securing a contract, or securing favorable treatment with respect to the awarding, amending, or the making of any determinations with respect to the performance of this contract, the State may, by written notice to the Vendor, terminate the right of the Vendor to proceed under this contract and/or may pursue such other rights and remedies provided by law or under this agreement; provided that the existence of the facts upon which the State makes such findings shall be in issue and may be reviewed in proceedings pursuant to the Remedies clause of this contract; and
- b. In the event this contract is terminated pursuant to subparagraph "a", the State shall be entitled (i) to pursue the same remedies against the Vendor, and (ii) to exemplary damages, as a penalty in addition to any other damages to which it may be entitled by law, in an amount which shall be not less than three, nor more than ten, times the costs incurred by the Vendor in providing any such gratuities to any such officer or employee. The amount of such exemplary damages shall be in the sole discretion of the State.

59. AFFIRMATION

The Vendor must affirm that within the past five (5) years the firm or any officer, controlling stockholder, partner, principal, or other person substantially involved in the contracting activities of the business is not currently suspended or debarred and is not a successor, subsidiary, or affiliate of a suspended or debarred business.

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60. AUDIT ACCESS TO RECORDS

The Vendor shall maintain books, records, documents, and other evidence pertaining to this Contract to the extent and in such detail as shall adequately reflect performance hereunder. The Vendor agrees to preserve and make available to the State, upon request, such records for a period of five (5) years from the date services were rendered by the Vendor. Records involving matters in litigation shall be retained for one (1) year following the termination of such litigation. The Vendor agrees to make such records available for inspection, audit, or reproduction to any official State representative in the performance of their duties under the Contract. Upon notice given to the Vendor, representatives of the State or other duly authorized State or Federal agency may inspect, monitor, and/or evaluate the cost and billing records or other material relative to this Contract. The cost of any Contract audit disallowances resulting from the examination of the Vendor's financial records will be borne by the Vendor. Reimbursement to the State for disallowances shall be drawn from the Vendor's own resources and not charged to Contract cost or cost pools indirectly charging Contract costs.

61. REMEDIES

Except as otherwise provided in this contract, all claims, counterclaims, disputes, and other matters in question between the State and the Vendor arising out of, or relating to, this contract, or a breach of it may be decided by arbitration if the parties mutually agree, or in a court of competent jurisdiction within the State of Delaware.

62. SUBCONTRACTS

Subcontracting is permitted under this RFP and contract. However, every subcontractor or reseller shall be identified in the Proposal (Attachment 7) and agreed to in writing by the State or as are specifically authorized in writing by the Agency during the performance of the contract. Any substitutions in or additions to such subcontractors, associates, or consultants will be subject to the prior written approval of the State.

The Vendor(s) shall be responsible for compliance by the subcontractor with all terms, conditions and requirements of the RFP and with all local, State and Federal Laws. The Vendor shall be liable for any noncompliance by any subcontractor. Further, nothing contained herein or in any subcontractor agreement shall be construed as creating any contractual relationship between the subcontractor and the State.

63. AGENCY'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Agency shall:

- a. Examine and review in detail all letters, reports, drawings and other documents presented by the Vendor to the Agency and render to the Vendor in writing, findings and decisions pertaining thereto within a reasonable time so as not to delay the services of Vendor.
- b. Give prompt written notice to the Contractor whenever the Agency observes or otherwise becomes aware of any development that affects the scope or timing of the Contractor's services.

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- c. When an ordering agency first experiences a relatively minor problem or difficulty with a vendor, the agency will contact the vendor directly and attempt to informally resolve the problem. This includes failure to perform by the date specified and any unacceptable difference(s) between the purchase order and the merchandise received. Ordering agencies should stress to vendors that they should expedite correction of the differences because failure to reply may result in an unfavorable rating in the execution of the awarded contract.
- d. The state has several remedies available to resolve non-performance issues with the contractor. The Agency should refer to the Contract Terms and Conditions to view these remedies. When a default occurs, the Agency should first review the contract to confirm that the issue is a part of the contract. If the issue is not covered by the contract, the state cannot expect the contractor to perform outside the agreement. If the issue is a part of the contract, the Agency or GSS - Contracting must then contact the contractor, discuss the reasons surrounding the default and establish a date when the contractor will resolve the non-performance issue.
- e. If there is a performance deficiency, a Corrective Action Report (CAR) may be used. Complete this form to report concerns with vendors or commodities. Be sure to furnish as much detail as possible.

[Corrective Action Report](#)

64. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

The Definitions and General Provisions and any Special Instructions, Specifications, Request for Proposal, Proposal, Purchase Order, and Contract shall be a part of and constitute the entire Agreement entered into by the State of Delaware and any 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
- Request for Proposal
- Specifications or Scope of Work
- Definitions & General Provisions
- Proposal
- Purchase Order
- Special Instruction

65. ASSIGNMENT

This contract shall not be assigned except by express prior written consent from the Agency.

66. NOTICE

Any notice to the State of Delaware required under the contract shall be sent by registered mail to:

**State of Delaware
Government Support Services
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202**

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67. VENDOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE POINT OF CONTACT

The awarded vendor(s) shall provide the name(s), telephone, or cell phone number(s) of those individuals who can be contacted twenty four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week where there is a critical need for commodities or services when the Governor of the State of Delaware declares a state of emergency under the Delaware Emergency Operations Plan or in the event of a local emergency or disaster where a state governmental entity requires the services of the vendor. Failure to provide this information could render the proposal as non-responsive.

In the event of a serious emergency, pandemic or disaster outside the control of the State, the State may negotiate, as may be authorized by law, emergency performance from the Contractor to address the immediate needs of the State, even if not contemplated under the original Contract or procurement. Payments are subject to appropriation and other payment terms.

68. NO PRESS RELEASES OR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

The State of Delaware reserves the right to pre-approve any news or broadcast advertising releases concerning this solicitation, the resulting contract, the work performed, or any reference to the State of Delaware with regard to any project or contract performance. Any such news or advertising releases pertaining to this solicitation or resulting contract shall require the prior express written permission of the State of Delaware.

The State will not prohibit or otherwise prevent the awarded vendor(s) from direct marketing to the State of Delaware agencies, departments, municipalities, and/or any other political subdivisions, however, the Vendor shall not use the State's seal or imply preference for the solution or goods provided.

C. AWARD AND EXECUTION OF CONTRACT

1. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

The right is reserved to waive technicalities, to reject any or all bids, or any portion thereof, to seek new proposals, to proceed to do the work otherwise, or to abandon the work, if in the judgment of the Agency or its agent, the best interest of the State will be promoted thereby.

2. MATERIAL GUARANTY

Before any contract is awarded, the successful Vendor may be required to furnish a complete statement of the origin, composition and manufacture of any or all of the material to be used in the contract together with such samples as may be requested for the purpose of testing.

3. AWARD OF CONTRACT

Within ninety (90) days from the date of opening proposals, the contract will be awarded or the proposals rejected.

4. EXECUTION OF CONTRACT

The Vendor (s) to whom the award is made shall execute a formal contract within twenty (20) days after date of official notice of the award of the contract.

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5. WARRANTY

The successful Vendor(s) shall be required to extend any policy guarantee usually offered to the general public, FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, or MUNICIPAL governments, on material in this contract against defective material, workmanship, and performance.

6. THE CONTRACT(S)

The contract(s) with the successful Vendor(s) will be executed with Government Support Services acting for all participating governmental entities.

7. INFORMATION REQUIREMENT

The successful Vendor's shall be required to advise and provide Government Support Services of the gross costs associated with this contract.

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VII. PROPOSAL REPLY SECTION

CONTRACT NO. GSS18644-BAND_UNIF

Band Uniforms

Please fill out the attached forms fully and completely and return with your proposal in a sealed envelope clearly displaying the contract number to the State of Delaware, Government Support Services by 3:00pm February 21, 2018 (Local Time) at which time bids will be opened.

NO MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING

Proposals must be mailed to:

**State of Delaware
Government Support Services
ATTN: GSS18644-BAND_UNIF
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202**

PUBLIC PROPOSAL OPENINGS

The public proposal opening insures the citizens of Delaware that contracts are being proposed fairly on a competitive basis and comply with Delaware procurement laws. The agency conducting the opening is required by law to publicly open the proposals at the time and place specified and the contract shall be awarded within ninety (90) days thereafter. The main purpose of the proposal opening is to reveal the name(s) of the Vendor(s), not to serve as a forum for determining the apparent low Vendors. The disclosure of additional information, including prices, shall be at the discretion of the contracting agency until such time that the responsiveness of each proposal has been determined.

After receipt of a fully executed contract(s), the Delaware public and all Vendors are invited to make an appointment with the agency in order to review pricing and other non-confidential information.

NOTE: ONLY THE VENDOR'S NAME AND ADDRESS WILL BE READ AT THE OPENING

ATTACHMENTS

The following attachments are required to be included in the final submission package.

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Attachment 1 – No Proposal

NO PROPOSAL REPLY FORM

Contract No.: **GSS18644-BAND_UNIF**

Contract Title: **Band Uniforms**

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: _____

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.**

PLEASE FORWARD NO PROPOSAL REPLY FORM TO THE CONTRACT OFFICER IDENTIFIED.

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Attachment 2 - NonCollusion

CONTRACT NO.: GSS18644-BAND UNIF TITLE: Band Uniforms
DEADLINE TO RESPOND: 3:00pm February 21, 2018

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, Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services.

It is agreed by the undersigned Vendor that the signed delivery of this bid represents, subject to any express exceptions set forth at Attachment 3, the Vendor's acceptance of the terms and conditions of this solicitation 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, Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Corporation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partnership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual

COMPANY NAME _____ (Check one)

NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE _____

SIGNATURE _____ TITLE _____

COMPANY ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ FAX NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

FEDERAL E.I. NUMBER _____ STATE OF DELAWARE
LICENSE NUMBER _____

COMPANY CLASSIFICATIONS: CERT. NO.: _____	Certification type(s)	Circle all that apply	
	Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)	Yes	No
	Woman Business Enterprise (WBE)	Yes	No
	Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)	Yes	No
	Veteran Owned Business Enterprise (VOBE)	Yes	No
	Service Disabled Veteran Owned Business Enterprise (SDVOBE)	Yes	No

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

PURCHASE ORDERS SHOULD BE SENT TO:

(COMPANY NAME) _____

ADDRESS _____

CONTACT _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ FAX NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

AFFIRMATION: Within the past five (5) 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 FOR YOUR BID 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 4 – Company Profile

Contract No.: **GSS18644-BAND_UNIF**
Contract Title: **Band Uniforms**

COMPANY PROFILE & CAPABILITIES FORM

Suppliers are required to provide a reply to each question listed below. Your replies will aid the evaluation committee as part of the overall qualitative evaluation criteria of this Request for Proposal. Your responses should contain sufficient information about your company so evaluators have a clear understanding of your company's background and capabilities. Failure to respond to any of these questions may result in your proposal to be rejected as non-responsive.

1.	Provide a brief history of your organization in a manner that will support your organization's ability to successfully meet the requirements of this RFP including performance information on government / school district contracts. Include the number of years the company has been in business.
2.	List five (5) accounts presently wearing band uniforms manufactured by the company. Uniforms should be 3 or more years old
3.	Clearly identify your organization's standard lead times for filling initial orders as well as lead times for any post-delivery alterations.
4.	Describe the procedures your company has in place for responding to temporary supply chain disruption.

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COMPANY PROFILE & CAPABILITIES FORM (continued)

5.	Provide a copy of written warranty. (Note: The warranty may not conflict with contract Terms and Conditions.)

6.	Describe the skill level of your company's labor force including any certifications your company has for employees directly involved in the construction of the items to be covered by this contract.

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Attachment 5 - Confidentiality

Contract No.: **GSS18644-BAND_UNIF**
Contract Title: **Band Uniforms**

CONFIDENTIALITY FORM

☐ By checking this box, the Vendor acknowledges that they are not providing any information they declare to be confidential or proprietary for the purpose of production under 29 Del. C. ch. 100, Delaware Freedom of Information Act.

Confidentiality and Proprietary Information

Note: Vendor may use additional pages as necessary, but the format shall be the same as provided above.

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Attachment 6 - References

Contract No.: **GSS18644-BAND_UNIF**
Contract Title: **Band Uniforms**

BUSINESS REFERENCES FORM

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 provide a separate list the contract(s).

1.	Contact Name & Title:	
	Business Name:	
	Address:	
	Email:	
	Phone # / Fax #:	
	Current Vendor (YES or NO):	
	Years Associated & Type of Work Performed:	
2.	Contact Name & Title:	
	Business Name:	
	Address:	
	Email:	
	Phone # / Fax #:	
	Current Vendor (YES or NO):	
	Years Associated & Type of Work Performed:	
3.	Contact Name & Title:	
	Business Name:	
	Address:	
	Email:	
	Phone # / Fax #:	
	Current Vendor (YES or NO):	
	Years Associated & Type of Work Performed:	

STATE OF DELAWARE PERSONNEL MAY NOT BE USED AS REFERENCES.

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Attachment 7 - Subcontractors

SUBCONTRACTOR INFORMATION FORM

PART I – STATEMENT BY PROPOSING VENDOR		
1. CONTRACT NO. GSS18644-BAND_UNIF	2. Proposing Vendor Name:	3. Mailing Address
4. SUBCONTRACTOR		
a. NAME	4c. Company OSD 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 4g. Veteran Owned Business Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 4h. Service Disabled Veteran Owned 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		
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

Attachment 8 – Usage Reporting

State of Delaware - Monthly Usage Report

Contract Number / Title: _____

E-mail report to **vendorusage@state.de.us** no later than the 15th of each month for prior calendar month usage

Report Start Date: _____
Report End Date: _____
Today's Date: _____

[illegible]

Completed reports shall be saved in an Excel format, and submitted to the following email address: vendorusage@state.de.us

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Attachment 9 – Tier 2 Reporting

SAMPLE REPORT – FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY

State of Delaware																		
Subcontracting (2nd tier) Quarterly Report																		
Prime Name:						Report Start Date:												
Contract Name/Number						Report End Date:												
Contact Name:						Today's Date:												
Contact Phone:						*Minimum Required					Requested detail							
Vend or Name *	Vend or TaxID *	Contra ct Name/ Numbe r*	Vendo r Conta ct Name *	Vendo r Conta ct Phone *	Repo rt Start Date*	Repo rt End Date*	Amount Paid to Subcontract or*	Work Performed by Subcontrac tor UNSPSC	M/WBE Certifyi ng Agency	Veteran/Serv ice Disabled Veteran Certifying Agency	2nd tier Suppli er Name	2nd tier Suppli er Addre ss	2nd tier Suppli er Phone Numb er	2nd tier Suppli er email	Descripti on of Work Performe d	2nd tier Suppli er Tax Id	Dat e Pai d	

Note: A copy of the current 2nd Tier Usage Report will be sent by electronic mail to the Awarded Vendor

Completed reports shall be saved in an Excel format, and submitted to the following email address: vendorusage@state.de.us

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Attachment 10 – Supplier Diversity

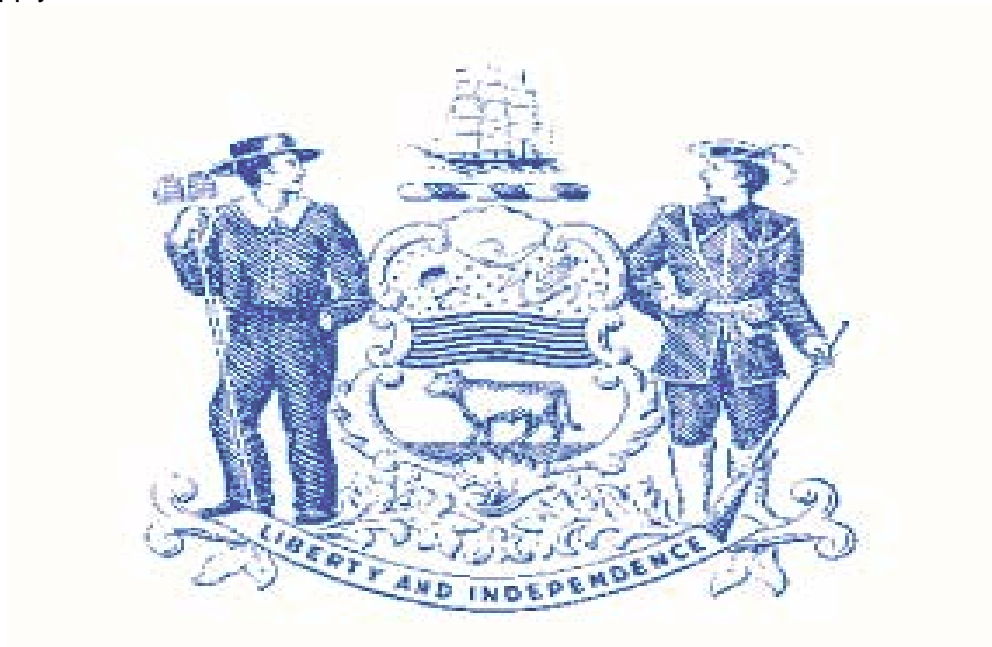
**State of Delaware
Office of Supplier Diversity
Certification Application**

The most recent application can be downloaded from the following site:

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

Submission of a completed Office of Supplier Diversity (OSD) application is optional and does not influence the outcome of any award decision.

The minimum criteria for certification require the entity must be at least 51% owned and actively managed by a person or persons who are eligible: minorities, women, veterans, and/or service disabled veterans. Any one or all of these categories may apply to a 51% owner.



Complete application and mail, email or fax to:

Office of Supplier Diversity (OSD)
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202
Telephone: (302) 857-4554 Fax: (302) 677-7086
Email: osd@state.de.us
Web site: <http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/osd/index.shtml>

**THE OSD ADDRESS IS FOR OSD APPLICATIONS ONLY.
THE OSD WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY VENDOR BID RESPONSE PACKAGES.**

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Attachment 11 – Performance Bond

PERFORMANCE BOND

Bond has been waived.

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Attachment 12 – Bid Bond

Bid Bond

Bond has been waived

PROPOSAL REPLY REQUIREMENTS

The response should contain the following minimum information:

1. A brief Cover Letter signed including an Applicant's experience, if any, providing similar services.
2. Vendor shall provide a detailed description of services to be provided, and shall respond to the Scope of Work identified. Failure to adequately describe the extent of their abilities may affect how the state evaluates and scores the vendor proposal.

Include catalogs or links, if that is what is asked for.

Vendors are encouraged to review the Evaluation criteria to see how the proposals will be scored and verify that the response has sufficient documentation to support each scoring criteria identified.

3. Complete, signed and notarized copy of the Non-Collusion Agreement (Attachment 2). **MUST HAVE ORIGINAL SIGNATURES AND NOTARY MARK** – Form must be included.
4. Completed RFP Exception Form (Attachment 3) – please check box if no information – Form must be included.
5. Completed Profile and Capabilities Form (Attachment 4)
6. Completed Confidentiality Form (Attachment 5) – please check if no information is deemed confidential – Form must be included.
7. Completed Business Reference Form (Attachment 6) – please provide references other than State of Delaware contacts – Form must be included.
8. Complete and signed copy of the Subcontractor Information Form (Attachment 7) for each subcontractor – only provide if applicable.
9. Complete OSD Application (see link on Attachment 10) – optional, only provide if applicable
10. Samples identified in the scope of work

The items listed above provide the basis for evaluating each vendor's proposal. **Failure to provide all appropriate information may deem the submitting vendor as “non-responsive” and exclude the vendor from further consideration.** If an item listed above is not applicable to your company or proposal, please make note in your submission package.

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PROPOSAL REPLY REQUIREMENTS (CONT'D)

Vendors shall compile all documentation noted above, and all other documents as required in the Scope of Work, Appendix A, and shall provide in the following format(s):

1. **Two** paper copies of the vendor proposal paperwork.
2. **One** electronic copy of the vendor proposal saved to CD or DVD media disk, or USB memory stick. Any copies of electronic price files shall be included on the same electronic media, but shall be saved separately from.
3. **One** electronic copy of each Manufacturer (listed in Appendix B) catalog in PDF format, **and** corresponding published price list incorporated into the proposal response on a separate CD or DVD media disk from rest of proposal response. No paper catalogs, or links to websites are to be submitted with proposal response

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Appendix A – SCOPE OF WORK AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

In setting forth these specifications it is the intention to offer equal opportunity to all responsible bidders. References to brand names, component names, component numbers, etc. are for descriptive purposes only and are not intended to be restrictive. The specified styles, material, linings and sundry items are believed to be equally available to all responsible bidders.

These specifications have been developed based on experience of garment construction methods that have proven to offer long-lived finished garments. If a bidder will deviate from these construction methods, such DEVIATIONS MUST BE DOCUMENTED on Attachment 3 of the RFP. Unless fully documented, such deviations may result in a proposal being considered non-responsive.

In submitting a proposal, the bidder is to furnish itemized quotations using the provided form in Appendix B. Any allowances or discounts are to be included in the quoted prices.

After contract award, at the request of an ordering Agency, the awarded vendor(s) is to provide a quotation showing the cost of each item, the total price per uniform, and the total price of the entire order. Any allowances or discounts are to be included in the quoted prices.

Bidder is to furnish a full time sales representative to handle all details of the order. **The fulltime sales representative must be available to provide on-site measuring as well as post-order servicing.** Bidder is to provide name, address and phone number of representative or representatives who are to be responsible for handling the order.

In submitting a bid, specify the time required for delivery of the complete order after receipt of a all details and a valid purchase order.

A. CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Bidders shall provide each of the State and the Contract Users a single, local point of contact (and a backup) to handle questions or problems that may arise. At least one Customer Service Representative must be available during Bidder's operating hours. All service representatives must have on-line access to information to provide immediate response to inquiries concerning the status of orders (shipped or pending), delivery information, back-order information, State contract pricing, contracted product offerings/exclusions, contract compliance requirements, and general product information. Representatives should be available by phone, fax, or email (local or 800 number preferred).

B. MANUFACTURER CATALOG AND PRICE LISTS

Vendors will be required to provide a PDF copy of each Manufacturer's catalog proposed, along with corresponding price list. Catalogs and Price Lists submitted with proposal response will be firm for the initial three year contract. No paper catalogs are to be submitted with proposal response.

Catalogs are intended to be for items beyond what is specified on the Item Specs tab of Appendix B.

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C. CATALOG DISCOUNT OFFERING

Vendors will be required to identify a "minimum" discount offering using Appendix B. The proposed discount percentage must not exceed 2 digits to the right of the decimal point. Awarded Vendor is not prohibited from offering a better discount on its equipment, accessories, or services offered under the resulting contract.

D. APPENDIX B

APPENDIX B is an Excel workbook to be completed electronically by the vendor. Vendors are asked to provide contract pricing for the products identified. Prices provided will be used as a basis for evaluating the pricing portion of this Request for Proposal. This Appendix will also be used to provide a variety of information for each manufacturer line included in the discount offering.

The State will not make a distinction in minor dimension variances due the different brands of the same item(s) when awarding this contract.

E. PRODUCT AVAILABILITY

Awarded Vendor(s) must agree that there will be no cancellation of products used without an equal and acceptable replacement approved by a designated State of Delaware representative, as listed in the final contract, during the term of the agreement. Manufacturer's discontinuation of any products must be communicated to Contract Users and Contract Officer by suppliers in writing within five (5) business days. In such instances, suppliers agree to work with Contract Users to identify and implement alternative options that maintain or reduce costs associated with the replacements.

F. SUBSTITUTIONS

Specifications of products are intended to be descriptive of quality or workmanship, finish and performance. Desirable characteristics are not intended to be restrictive. Substitutions of products for those named will be considered where requested in Appendix B, provided the bidder(s) certifies that the function, characteristics, performance and endurance qualities of the material offered is comparable to that specified. However, substitution on any product or quantities on any order will not be accepted by Contract Users, unless authorized in writing by a designated buyer.

G. QUALITY ASSURANCE GUARANTEES

The Awarded Vendor(s) is to guarantee its products to be free from defects in materials and workmanship, given normal use and care, over the period of the manufacturer warranty. The terms of this contract will supersede any language to the contrary on purchase orders, invoices or other documents produced by the supplier(s). The Awarded Vendor(s) is to agree to repair and/or immediately replace without charge to Contract Users any product or part thereof which proves to be defective or fails within the warranty period as specified.

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H. WARRANTY

Proposal must address each of the following:

- Applicable warranty and/or guarantee of equipment and installations including any conditions and response time for repair and/or replacement of any components during the warranty period.
- Availability of replacement parts.
- Life expectancy of equipment under normal use.
- Detailed information as to proposed return policy on all equipment.

I. RETURNS

Any materials delivered in poor condition, in excess of the amount authorized by the purchase order, or not included on the purchase order may, at the discretion of the ordering agency/entity, be returned to the vendor at the vendor's expense within 30 days. Return authorizations must be credited immediately once the vendor has received the returned goods.

1. INCORRECT PRODUCT ORDERED

Any agency returning unused stock, or special materials, to the vendor due to requirement changes may be liable for a restocking fee, not to exceed 15%.

2. DAMAGE AND/OR INCORRECT PRODUCT SHIPPED

The acceptance of delivery with or without objection shall not waive the right to claim damage for breach nor constitute a waiver of requirements for timely delivery or performance of any actions that shall remain the obligation of the contracted vendor.

- a) Damaged or incorrect product shall be reported to the contracted vendor by the ordering agency within a reasonable time frame after the damage is noticed.
- b) The contracted vendor is responsible for pick-up and replacement of all damaged goods within a reasonable time frame acceptable to the ordering agency.
- c) The contracted vendor shall bear all risk of loss or damage with respect to returned products except for loss or damage directly attributable to the negligence of the ordering agency.
- d) The contracted vendor is responsible for filing all claims for damage with carriers or other responsible parties in a timely manner.
- e) The contracted vendor is required to keep the ordering agency informed of the replacement process and delivery date for any and all replacement orders.
- f) The ordering agency will not be charged a re-stock fee for any returns due to a contracted vendor error, or damage.
- g) In the event that an ordering agency does not accept product due to damages or shipment error as described above, no ordering agency shall pay additional shipping and handling charges for the shipment of replacement products.

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J. DELIVERY

All shipments are made direct to each ordering agency/facility. F.O.B. destination with shipping charges pre-paid.

There will be no “small order”, “minimum order”, or “special order” charges or surcharges.

Any rush delivery that occurs as a result of Supplier’s error (e.g. stock-outs, delivery of wrong product, etc.) will be free of charge. No handling surcharges will be added or discounts lost for any rush or expedited orders.

K. BACK ORDER

It is the responsibility of the vendor to notify the ordering agency, in writing, immediately upon notification from the Manufacturer that an item is on back order. The vendor shall state the reason for the back order and the date the agency can expect delivery. After receiving this information the agency will make the determination to wait for the item or cancel it.

CONSTRUCTION AND MANUFACTURING SPECIFICATIONS

A. GENERAL

Coats, trousers, blouses and all major parts of the uniform are made to fit the nearest stock size from the information supplied by the company representative. This is done for a better year to year fitting program and allows more fitting flexibility. Exceptions are made on unusual sizes wherein the garment is cut and produced to the measurements taken by the company representative.

B. LABOR

It is expected that all garments will be made by a skilled labor force capable of producing manufactured goods of consistent high quality and reliable uniformity.

C. SHIPPING

Uniforms are to be shipped on wishbone style hangers. Hangers are to be hard plastic, not wood. Wooden hangers have a tendency to pick and pull the basic fabric, and they are not acceptable. The hangers must be bent and rounded at the top to allow the shoulder area of the garment to be spread and hung properly. Each uniform must be delivered in its own clear polyethylene bag to prevent soiling. Uniforms must be delivered in 200 lb. Test cardboard wardrobe containers, opening from the front, and having a metal bar reinforcement at the top with clasp to prevent hangers from disengaging from the metal structure. Each carton will be properly marked on the outside, with identification numbers of the uniforms contained in that specific carton.

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D. IDENTIFICATION

Each major garment item is to have identification numbers sewn into the individual pieces to allow for quick and easy issuing. Coats, trousers, and blouses are to have woven numerals. Trousers are to include inseam and waist information for future reference; coats shall have chest size and length indicated on a linen ticket. The original order is to include a bound booklet with the numbers of each uniform corresponding to the particular size of that uniform, arranged from the smallest to the largest. Size information shall include chest size, height, weight, and inseam for each uniform. Bound in the identification record shall be a size chart for use as reference for purchase of future uniforms.

E. INSPECTION

All garments are to be carefully inspected before final packing and shipment. All thread ends to be picked and cut and specifications, trim and details to be critically checked for each individual garment before shipment. Buttons are to be applied and sewn at that time.

F. FABRIC VERIFICATION

Fabric swatches must accompany each proposal, unless an exact sample uniform has been provided. Swatches shall be properly labeled to include weight, composition, lot number, and shade number. When using wool or dacron/wool materials, a "Kaumagraph" MUST appear on the back of the fabrics (other than white) insuring a first quality fabric. The "Kaumagraph" used on sample uniforms made of dacron/wool and 100% wool fabric is to be found on the inside of the garment.

NOTE: "Kaumagraphs" need not appear on fabric swatches.

G. VERIFICATION OF FABRIC PROCESSING AND STABILIZATION

Any dacron/wool blend fabric from any vendor must be professional cold water and alcohol sponged, decated, and inspected. Bidder must submit in writing, certification that dacron/wool blend fabric will have undergone this fabric stabilization prior to manufacture of the uniforms. Also, such certification should be submitted in writing by an officer of the bidding company.

The company actually performing the stabilizing process must be indicated, with an individual or officer of said company to contact for verification of processing.

As dacron/wool garments having not undergone such processing can experience significant and excessive shrinkage, bidders not providing such a sponging treatment and certification will not be considered for contract award.

COAT SPECIFICATIONS

A. PATTERNS

Patterns are to be marked, graded, and cut using a computerized system to insure accuracy. Patterns are to cover a full range of sizes, including male, female, short, regular, long, and extra-long from size 26 to 60.

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B. INNER-LINING

The inner-lining is the foundation of the coat and is to carry with it a complete limited lifetime warranty. The inner-lining **MUST** consist of 5 layers unless a lesser number of layers is specified by an ordering agency. The principle layer of the coat front is formed of preshrunk highly resilient natural hair canvas of 7.5 ounce per square yard. The hair content is 32% with 36% rayon, 29% cotton, and 3% polyester. The weft and filling yarns are spun from 45% hair, 50% rayon, and 5% polyester to provide superior shaping resilience and bounce. The Hymo canvas is cut and individually shaped to fit each coat, both the left and right coat fronts. The second layer is an additional chest piece of 4.53 ounces per square yard Monoflex. It is to be 6 " x 7 1/2" in dimension and darted in armhole area. This piece is specifically designed as a shoulder reinforcement in finely tailored garments to maintain the shape of the shoulder and chest area of the coat. The third layer is unique, being of the same natural hair canvas as the coat front, deeply darted in the upper armhole area to provide natural shape. It is wider than the Monoflex and extends deep into the coat front for resiliency in this area. The fourth layer, or felt chest piece area, is a heavy 4.2 ounces per square yard needle punched, supported felt. It extends 14" or more from the shoulder seam. Its shrink proof, non-woven characteristics adds more resilience to the chest and area below the armhole. The entire five-layered inner-lining is sewn together with 18-21 rows of zigzag stitching. The inner-lining is to be constructed as above with an additional top layer of white Poly-sil. This layer is used to prevent shadowing of the natural canvas through the outer shell fabric. It is to be 2.9 oz./sq. yd. and a construction count of 78 warp x 54 fill with a fiber content of 50% poly/50% preshrunk cotton. Under no circumstances is the Hymo and sewing operation to be substituted with a fusing or gluing operation. Under no circumstances is a white synthetic coat canvas to be used as an inner-lining, in lieu of the specified Hymo/Monoflex layers. Ordering agencies may specify lesser layers of interlining and awarded vendors will provide quotations accordingly.

C. SHOULDER PADS

Shoulder Pads are to consist of heavy density, 100% PREMIUM grade preshrunk "Harsh" quality combed Indian cotton ("Harsh" quality being resilient, bouncy). It is a large semi-oval shape, approximately 10" x 7" on extended shoulder patterns. Dimensions for regular shoulder patterns are to be approximately 4 1/2" x 7 1/2". The entire pad is covered with a print cloth, and quilt stitched throughout to prevent wadding. Shoulder Pads consisting of multiple layers of needle-punched preformed polyester are not acceptable. Stay cloth is not acceptable for the shoulder pad, due to stiffness.

D. SLEEVE HEAD PAD

There is a 1 3/4" sleeve head pad of preshrunk combed cotton sewn into the armhole of the coat assembly. It is reinforced with soft white percalaine and two sections of cotton fill. Strips of coat canvas are unacceptable for use as sleeve-head padding.

E. LINING

Coat linings are to be cut from a separate set of patterns designed specifically to fit the particular style of coat. Linings are not to be cut from coat patterns and then cut down. Lining material is to be the highest quality polyester twill; non-toxic, perspiration resistant, color fast, and non-shrinkable. It is to be fully dry-cleanable. Its composition is to be 124 warp x 72 fill and it is to meet government specifications. There is a pleat down the center back in the shoulder area to allow fullness. The lining is **COMPLETELY** sewn around the armhole, **NOT** just tacked.

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F. PERSPIRATION SHIELD (see illustration #1)

The perspiration shield is secured in the lower part of the armhole and is approximately 4" square.

It is made of an absorbent wool flannel, consisting of 85% wool and 15% nylon material. It is to be double sponged to prevent shrinkage. The shield is edged all around with a pre-shrunk bias poly/cotton finishing tape and completely sewn into the armhole area. Merely "tacking" the shield to the lining is not acceptable. Shields made of scraps from cutting the outer coat whipcord fabric are not acceptable.

G. POCKETS (see illustration #2)

All inside pockets are to be cut, sewn, and turned automatically with a double piped lock-stitch machine and reinforced with a non-woven fabric. Pockets are to be constructed with hidden inside bar tacks with welts of the same outer fabric as the coat. There is a 1 1/2" whipcord fabric extension down into the pocket, from the opening edges. Pocketing material is to be 70/30 poly/cotton, 50/50 in the warp and 100% poly in the fill. Pocket is to be "bagged" with no open seams at the bottom.

H. TAPING

Seams which are subject to usual stress, are to be taped with a preshrunk cross-wound cotton tailoring tape. Areas to be taped are down the inside coat front, extending around bottom sides and back, and around the armhole. There must be a 3-4" area at the upper back shoulder area of each sleeve seam, where the cloth tape is omitted. This allows proper "Stretch" across the shoulders during arm lift maneuvers.

I. SLEEVES

The sleeve is to be "felled" into the top of the armhole, using a special felling stitch which allows fullness, evenness, flexibility and strength. The bottom half of the armhole is machine lock-stitched to give the greatest strength in this high stress area. Sleeves are to be cut utilizing a 60/40 pattern per fine tailoring. They will be pitched forward 3-4 degrees in the armhole to allow for the arm-lift associated with playing a musical instrument. The cuff, or hem, is to have a generous 2 1/2" turn-under consisting of fabric and lining secured and constructed to allow easy altering of sleeve length. This is done utilizing an "easy alter" chain stitch.

J. SHOULDER LOOPS

Shoulder loops are to be die-cut to insure uniformity and are cut in two pieces. Shoulder loops are to be reinforced on each layer with heavy Pellon. They are sewn together on the inside, turned, and top-stitched all around the edge for body and durability. All buttons for attachment of shoulder loop and accessory items will be reinforced with backing buttons.

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K. TRIM

Coat front trim (braid, welts, appliques, embroidery, etc.) is to be applied only through the outer fabric. That is, it is NOT to be sewn through the chest piece four layer innerlining, nor the polyester twill coat lining. All trim is to be sewn before the lining is joined to the coat. Any trim using 1/4" unfilled tubular braid is to be applied with a FB or FBN corn straight 2 needle machine, then it is applied in cloverleaves, turned edges or other circular designs. The benefits of such application provide that the trim (A) lays flat to the fabric surface, and that (B) the stitching is equidistant from each edge along the entire border of the trim. Using a single needle stitch sewn twice is not acceptable. Trim applied with only one single needle stitch in the center is not acceptable.

L. HARD COLLAR (see illustration #3)

The inner core foundation of the standing collar is .014 Mylar. There is a laminated layer of non-woven Pellon P15 on the inboard side of the entire foundation. A stainless steel riveted hook and eye is to be the front closure. The hook and eye are riveted through the Mylar, Pellon and two layers of collar lining material. It is to be placed at the optimum angle to insure proper tension and comfort. A "sewn" hook and eye is not acceptable. The collar lining consists of two layers of Burlington Mills Cramerton fabric, which is 65% polyester and 35% combed cotton, pre-shrunk and non-wicking. Seven male gripper snaps are placed through both layers of the collar lining material, on front closing coats. Six male gripper snaps are placed through both layers of the collar lining material, on back closing coats. The snaps are supported on the inside by the laminated non-woven Pellon which also serves as a protective layer between the Mylar and the snaps. Female gripper snaps applied to the collar lining are unacceptable. The outboard side of the standing collar is to be covered with a whipcord fabric, as specified by the design specifications. The top edge of the Mylar base is bound with Cramerton fabric and has a finished welted seam on each side. The whipcord fabric is doubled over the top of Mylar base, along with the two layers of collar lining, and stitched along the top edge. This 5-layer construction results in a "beaded" edge and serves as a protection all along the top edge of the liner. This is accomplished with a SINGLE row of locked stitching through the Mylar base. A single layer of fusing tape or bridle-tape is not sufficient protection in this area and is not acceptable. The bottom edge of the standing collar is to be sewn through and through, to attach the double layers of Cramerton lining to the outer layer of whipcord. This row of stitching is immediately below the bottom edge of the Mylar foundation. Construction of the collar in this manner provides the most dimensionally stable garment, without the additional rows of needle holes. Braid trim, fabric welt, and embroidery are to be applied to the outer fabric of collar before assembly. This prevents sewing the trim "through" the Mylar core with additional rows of needle holes.

M. COLLAR LINER (see illustration #4)

The fabric used in the construction of the washable snap-in, replaceable liners is two layers of VISA treated polyester whipcord. The VISA treatment offers soil release properties in this washable part of the garment. The liner is to be die-cut in a curve to allow it to lie properly against the neck of the wearer. There are seven female gripper snaps evenly spaced and secured through both layers of liner fabric. These are to match up with male gripper snaps on collar lining. The top, bottom and rounded side edges of collar liner is to be bound with a finished binding of non-absorbent Cramerton fabric. There is to be a bartack at each end of the binding. The liner is to be positioned to extend 1/8" above the whipcord collar fabric. Each liner is to be sized to corresponding collar and numbered to match coat size.

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N. SOFT COLLAR

Soft collars, lapels, and outer pocket flaps are to be hand shaped and cut according to fine quality tailoring practices. Bridle tape is to be placed at the lapel roll, to retain smooth lines and afford a permanent shape. Under-collar felt is to be pre-biased 50% wool/50% Rayon composite. All edges are to be topstitched (with the exception of satin lapels) through and through, from the facing edge through coat front lapels and collar to the opposite edge. Topstitching is to be 1/8" from edge.

O. SEAMS

Coat is to be completely machine stitched except in areas where specific tailoring requires other methods. The ends of all seams are to be backstitched not less than 1/4". Coat back is tailored with either a 2-piece back or 4-piece back, if needed, to facilitate insertion of contrasting color panels, trim, etc.

P. THREAD

Threads for seaming are to be 50/3 cotton wrap core thread, 70/2 poly wrap core thread, or 100/2 poly wrap core thread based on the strength requirements of the type of seam. All threads are to be head resistant, vat dyed, sun-fast, dry-cleanable and moisture proof.

Q. BUTTONS / BUTTONHOLES

High-quality metal buttons are to be used where specified and are to be attached by sewing, ring and washer, or toggle and washer. Buttonholes are to be manufactured using the cut-first method. The hole is to be cut-first, and the edge is to be covered with gimp and twist to cover the fabric and inner canvas edge. The back of the buttonhole is to be closed with a bartack reinforcement.

R. ZIPPERS

Zipper is to be heavy-duty brass with an auto-locking pull-slide. Tape is to be 9/16". Zipper is to be bartacked top and bottom and sewn to facing surface, not sandwiched in between shell fabric and facing.

S. FUSING

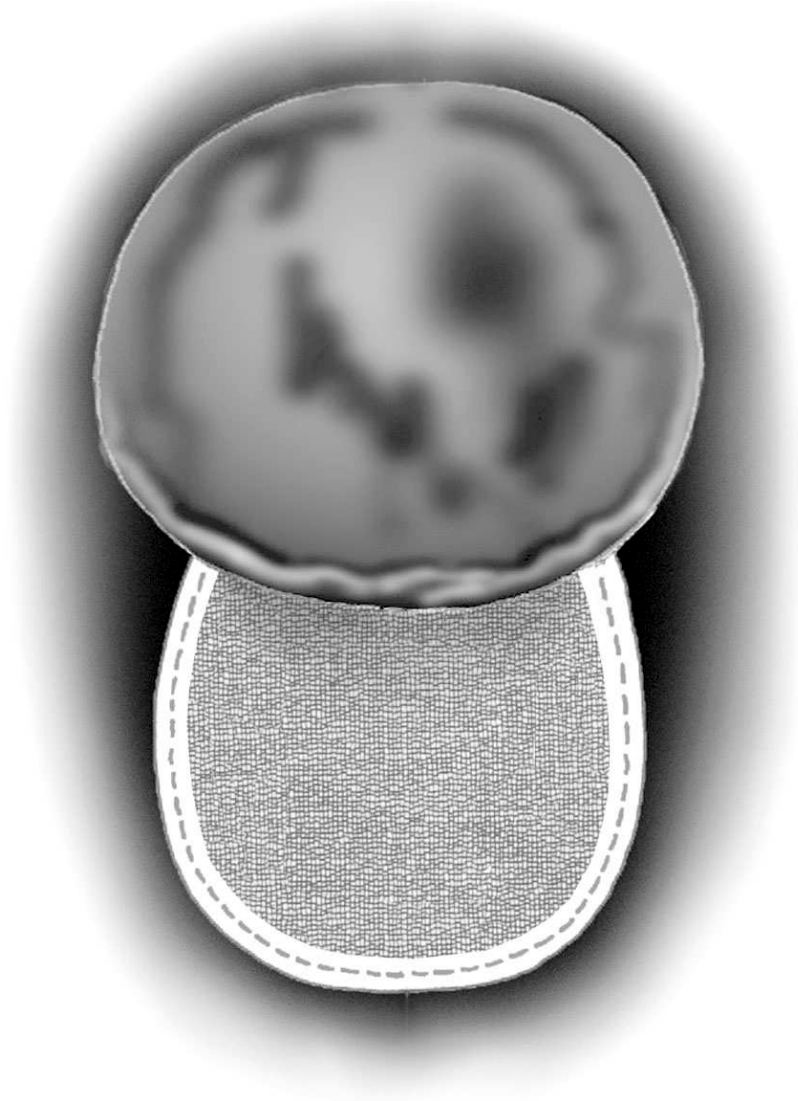
Certain trim designs call for added reinforcement. This is to be done with Pellon 8557 engineered dot fusible. It is guaranteed against delamination and dry-cleaning. It is to "tear away" from areas not covered with braid or other trim. Use of Pellon SF134 as reinforcement for trim is unacceptable. The entire coat front outer fabric is to be reinforced, in addition to the "traditional" sewn innerlining, whenever looped braid designs are specified. When sleeve cuff trim is utilized, the lower sleeve is to be reinforced from the cuff bottoms, up as needed.

T. WASHED ITEM

Ordering agencies may opt to change the coat specifications to be a washable item. The coat will have washable shoulder pads and will be fully lined. Front inner foundation, sleeve heads, and underarm shields may be omitted. The awarded vendor(s) will quote such option at the request of the ordering agency.

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Illustration #1



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Illustration #2

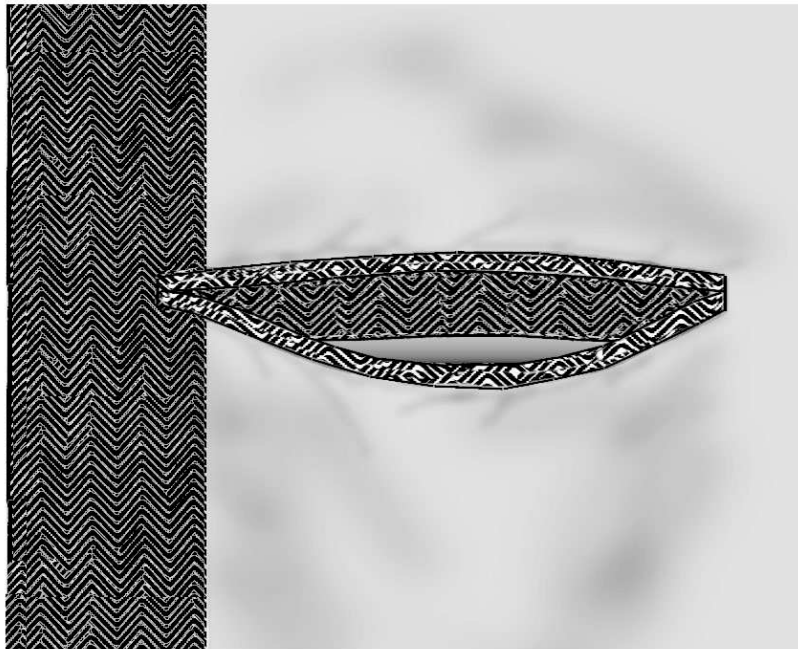
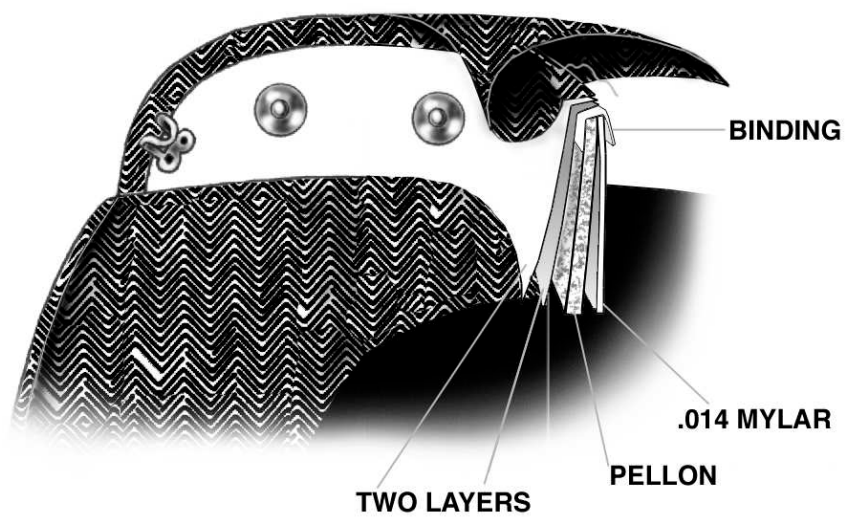


Illustration #3



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Illustration #4



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BIBBER TROUSER SPECIFICATIONS

A. PATTERNS

Bibber trousers are to be cut in a full-length pattern, allowing extra fullness at the waist area to accommodate a generous fit throughout the range of sizes. They are to utilize both MALE and FEMALE patterns. Computer graded, marked and cut for consistent size and shape. There are to be two darts in the seat and waist area, measuring approximately 10" on a 38R sample. Using single needle lockstitch (301 lock stitch) 8-10 SPI, 2-3-stitch backtack at the start and finish of dart, Tkt.24 thread.

B. SHOULDER STRAPS

Bibber is to be adjustable at the shoulders by means of a one-piece molded indestructible polymer slider. Slider is to be permanently fixed to the double-ply shoulder straps. Using 4 -.5"x.0938" 28 stitch bartacks. 2 across the width and one up each side of strap. Straps are turned and finished with a lockstitch (301 lock stitch) 8-10 SPI Tkt. 24 thread on each edge, set in 1/8". Width of shoulder strap is to measure no less than 1 1/2" and be a minimum of 14" in length for maximum adjustability.

C. INNERFACING

The upper portion of the bibber is to have a facing front and back with all exposed fabric edges tightly surged (504 over edge) 10-12 SPI Tkt. 245 thread to prevent raveling.

D. FRONT CLOSURE

The inside of the right fly is to be lined with a layer of durable 78x54 count twill 70/30 polyester cotton materials. It is to extend beyond the four-way crotch assembly. Edge turned under and sewn onto the inside outlet using single needle lockstitch (301 lock stitch) 8-10 SPI tkt. 24 thread. The left fly is to be reinforced with 4310 Harodite fusing to provide permanent shape retention and durability. It is to be bound with a preshrunk, 3125" finish size bias cut, tape for appearance and durability. Set with single needle lockstitch (301 lock stitch) 8-10 SPI tkt.24 thread. There are to be three bartacks at the base of the fly for additional reinforcement; two vertical bartacks on the lower front fly interior and one horizontal bartack at the bottom of the lower front fly exterior. .375"x.1875" 28 stitch bartack with Tkt. 40 thread. The fly zipper is to be 4.5 SOLID BRASS zipper chain of Y.K.K. quality with a brass semiautomatic lock slider. There is to be a #3 hardened brass wire stop at the base of the zipper. The front fly is to be secured at the top of the waistband with two stainless gripper snaps; placed above the zipper terminal. "Hook flex" #8 hook and #85 eye is also available, if requested.

E. CROTCH - (See Illustration 6)

There is to be a "four-way" crotch reinforcement consisting of 78x54 count twill 70/30% polyester-cotton pocketing cut on the bias for strength. There are to be four, two-ply sections, one on each side of the fly, seat seam and inseams. Attach using .1875" ga. 3-thread over edge stitch (504 over edge) tkt.24 thread to each panel before seaming. Crotch area is to be clean finished with no extra fabric extending from tops of inseams. Trousers having merely a two-way reinforcement or no reinforcement at all are not acceptable.

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F. LEGS

Trouser legs are to be finished at the bottom with a 3" turn under to allow alteration for future growth. Legs are cut straight down from the knee, resulting in a circumference of 19" at the finished bottom edge (standard 38R size). The hem is to be taped all around with a pre-shrunk bias polycotton finishing tape, 2.25" cut size to finish .625" then blind stitched (103 blind stitch) 3-4 SPI tkt.30 thread for appearance and ease of alterations. Taping all around provides a clean finished edge for full-length use, as well as protecting the fabric edge completely. Simple flat taping with a rayon hem tape is unacceptable. **(see Illustrations 7 & 8)**. Striping is 100% polyester tackle twill cut size 1.3125" to finish .625" set with Double needle chain stitch (401 twin needle chain stitch) 8-10 SPI tkt. 24 thread centered over the outseam and NOT sewn into the seam. It is to run the full length of the leg, including the turn-up allowance at the bottom edge. It is to be finished "flat" at the cuff turn under edge, not folded under the edge. The outseam of each trouser leg is to be a safety stitch .375 ga. (516 safety stitch) seam, or "blue jean" stitch. This type of seam is much stronger than the traditional "busted" seam and adds strength and stability to the "stripe side" of the leg. Flat pressed or "busted" seams in this area are unacceptable. The inseam of each leg is to be a flat pressed or "busted" seam whereby both ends of the fabric are stitched together (401 chain stitch) 8-10 SPI tkt. 40 thread and pressed back flat. This is necessary to facilitate alteration of the trouser within the seat and upper thigh area. **(See Illustration 5)**

G. SERGING

All edges of seams and outlets are to be surged (504 over edge stitch) 12 SPI tkt.24 thread in a professional, high quality manner, eliminating the possibility of raveling.

H. THREADS

Threads for seaming are to be 50/3 tkt.24 cotton wrap core, 70/2 tkt.30 poly wrap core, or 100/2-tkt.40-poly wrap core, based on the strength requirements of the type of seams.

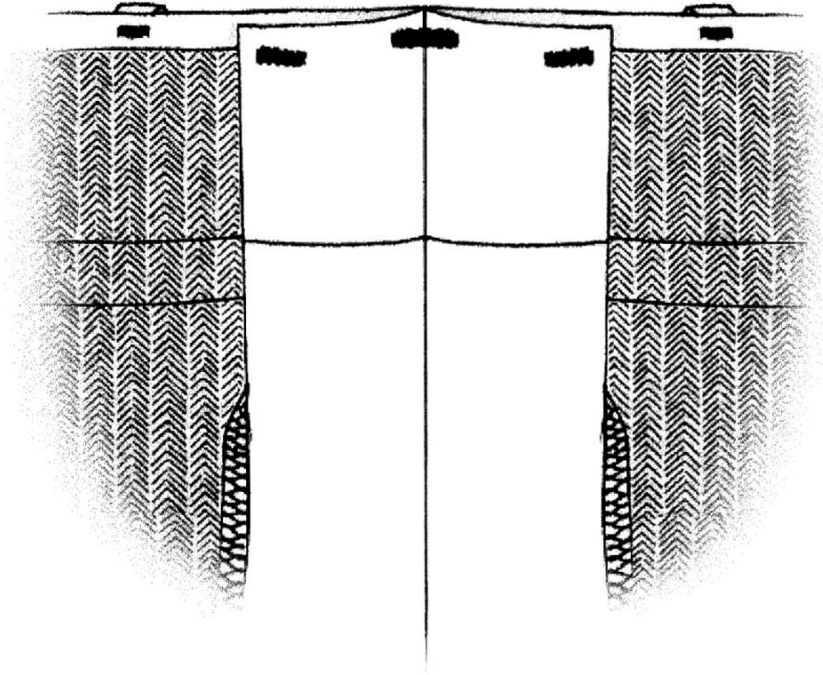
I. POCKETS

FOB watch pockets, when specified, are to be the same pre-creased pocket 78x54 count twill 70/30% poly cotton and are to be bar tacked .357"x.1875" 28 stitch bar tacks at the two upper corners. Pocketing material is to be 78x54 count twill 70/30 poly cotton; black. Pockets constructed in a "sandwiched" or "bagged" fashion are unacceptable.

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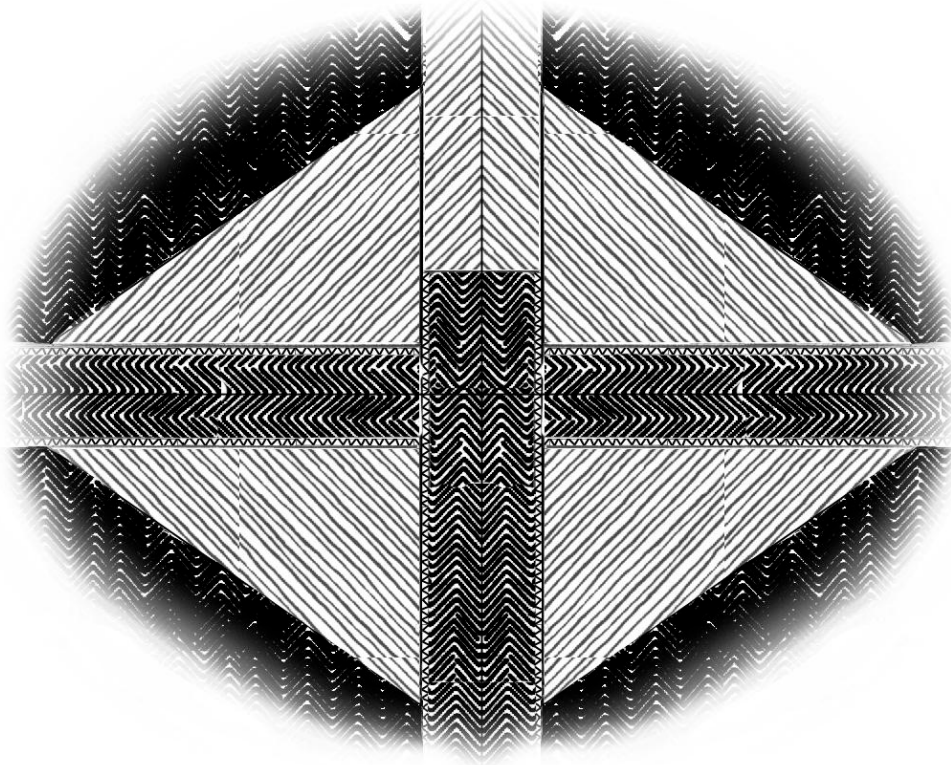
Illustration #5



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Illustration #6



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Illustration #7

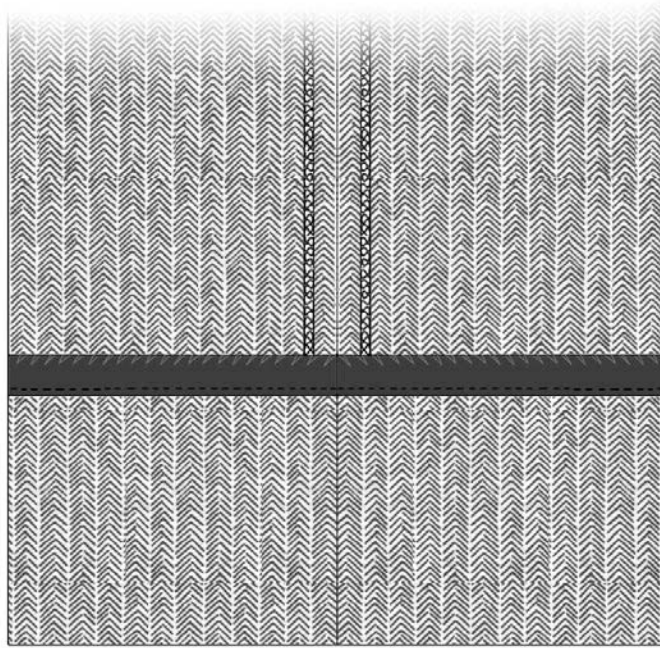
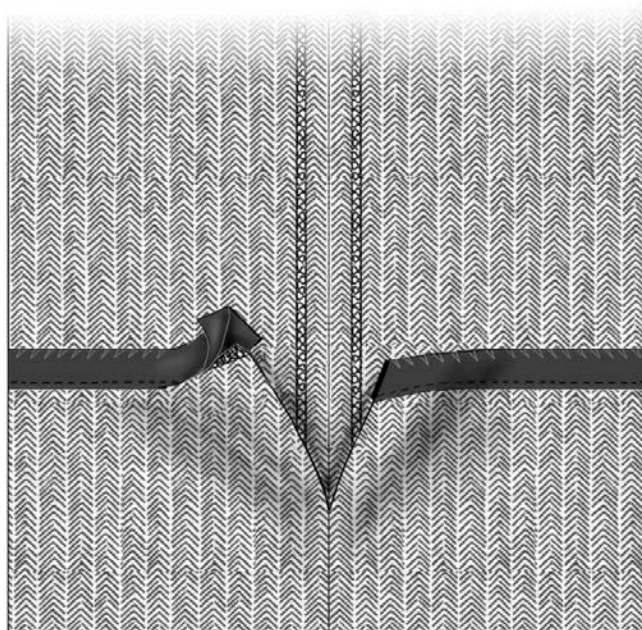


Illustration #8



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HEADWEAR SPECIFICATIONS

All shako products both fur and West Point styles are to be manufactured to Ashley or Bayly quality standards as follows:

Hats must have securely sewn construction using no brads or staples in shell to create discomfort. The bottom bands are to be tucked and sewn (not stapled) to insure against pulling out or frayed edges. The back seam must be double reinforced 1" from the top and 1" from the bottom. The drawstrings are to be polypropylene tipped and are extra-long.

The inside shells must contain a rubber additive to guard against cracking and to increase comfort to the wearer. The lack of this additive will produce a brittle shell composition and consequently an inferior base, subject to a number of problems in both high and low climate extremes. All units are packaged in a "strong box" case. Plume sockets when requested are made of unbreakable nylon.

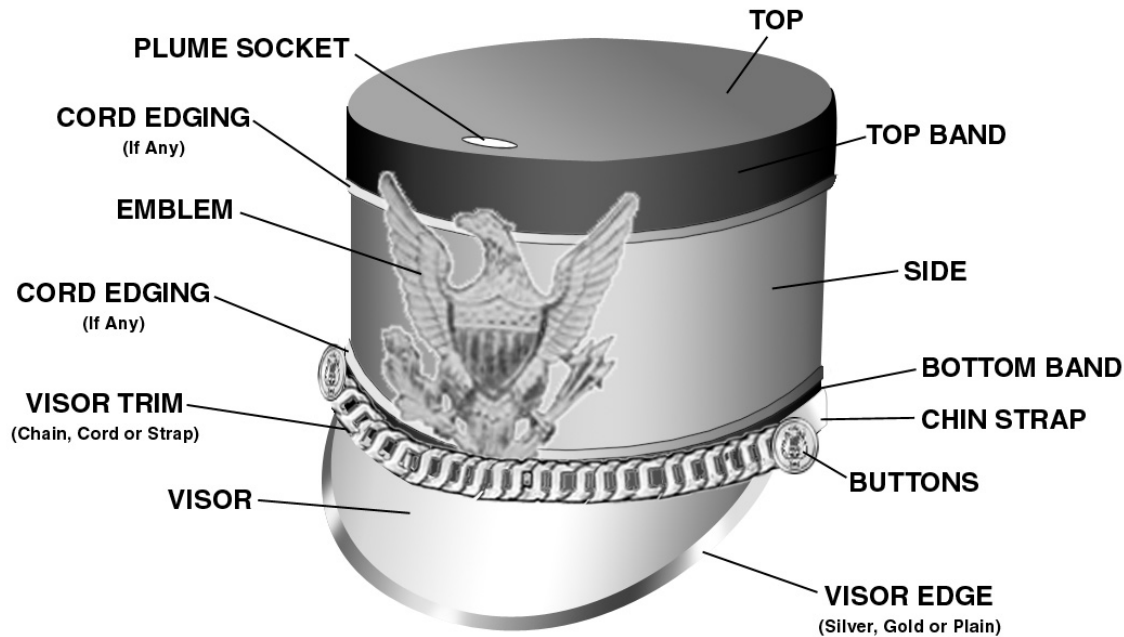
Special shako features must include heavier eyelets with washers on the back in the sweatband to strengthen the lace holes and protect against ripping and tearing of the holes in that sweatband. The back seam is double reinforced to strengthen and guard against splitting, tearing or exposing the inner shell during changes in weather conditions. The outer covering whether vinyl or fabric is used, must be fastened to the shell by bar tacking before applying the sweatband. This prevents the staples from weakening the shell or causing discomfort to the wearer. The visors are to be constructed of only laminated materials-not plastic-and must be sewn on to insure against cracking and discomfort. The use of plastic visors is not permitted as tests have clearly proven that cross hatched one piece visors will discolor and lose strength as a result of ultraviolet sun rays during wear. All buttons are metal only with reinforced back and extra-long prongs. No soldered or plastic buttons are acceptable. The Plastipak "strong box" is to be composed of high impact styrene and capable of withstanding 300 pounds of pressure. It is to be waterproof, snap-latched with an injection molded body and handle.

Fur covered shakos will have an imitation bearskin covering with approximately 1" pile. Fur is to be 75% acrylic and 25% mod acrylic with 100% poly backing. Weight is 27 oz. per yard. This material meets flammability requirements and is washable.

Plastics used for headwear products are hi-impact, multi-layered super tough materials that are extruded using advanced resin technology and state of the art systems. These components utilize proprietary extrusion systems to synchronize orientation levels and increase the product elongation and impact strength. They have passed 94HB Underwriters Laboratory standards.

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All Victory headwear and flocked aussie styles will incorporate a spring loaded cord lock to hold the hat securely during performance. The shell is constructed of the finest material with the same rubber additive mentioned above, to prevent problems with cracking, etc. The actual finish is a brilliant nylon flock fiber that is made for outdoor wear and durability. Each piece of headwear will have a patent vinyl edge guard available in black, white, silver and gold mylar to protect and enhance the appearance. Packaging will be in the "strong box" container and attaché' type carton with fold down handles and double wall construction.

Helmet is constructed in the style of the "Regiment" helmet and is made in a special vacuum formed mold. The helmet is constructed of hi-impact, multi-layered, super tough styrene that is extruded using advanced resin technology and state-of-the-art systems. These components utilize proprietary extrusion systems to synchronize orientation levels and increase the product elongation and impact strength. Materials have passed 94HB Underwriters Laboratory standards.

The inside is fitted with special multi-adjustable suspension system which will allow a one-size fits all product in this helmet. Each system can be adjusted to increase fitting pressure around the circumference, and is constructed of soft comfort-flex material with an easy adjustable snap-lock feature. All helmets are protected around the outer edge with vinyl edge guarding to protect the shell and for an enhanced appearance. Plume sockets when requested are made of unbreakable nylon.

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SPECIFIC GARMENT and ACCESSORY REQUIREMENTS

Given that multiple agencies will be utilizing this contract, the specifications for some styles of uniform components are written to provide for identification of fabric colors at time of order. Ordering agencies may also request quotations of a specific item with fabric colors other than those colors identified in the specifications below.

At the request of the ordering agency, awarded vendor(s) will be required to provide either fabric samples in sizes sufficient to establish quality and color accuracy or a uniform component(s) constructed with the specified fabric colors prior to the ordering agency issuing a purchase order.

It is the responsibility of the awarded vendor(s) to provide these pre-purchase order samples within the time frame identified by the ordering agency, provided the time frame is reasonable to the nature of the sample requested.

All specific garment and accessory requirements can be found in Appendix B on the Item Specs tab.

SAMPLES

Your bid, to be considered, is to be accompanied by the sample uniform components identified below in accordance to the exact specifications. Each bidder's interest in meeting these specifications is to be reflected in their willingness to manufacture these pilot samples and to make them available no later than the time and date of the official bid opening. Exact samples are also required to insure that construction meets the State's requirements so that purchases can be expedited soon after the award. **The sample uniform components are to be a male size 38 regular.**

The State reserves the right to inspect the workmanship of the sample, its inner construction in particular, and for this purpose will open the lining if necessary.

Samples are required for the following items. They must be such that evaluators can confirm the bidder's ability to construct uniforms as specified in the scope of work. Colors are at the bidder's option. Samples need not include specific school or band names that may appear in the specifications.

- Item 3 - Marching Band Coat - Type C
- Item 4 – Band Coat – Type A
- Item 9 - Marching Band Trousers - Type C
- Item 10 - Band Trousers - Type A
- Item 12 – Marching Band Baldric – Type A
- Item 13 – Marching Band Baldric – Type B
- Item 18 - Marching Vestee – Type A (fabric color of bidder's choice)
- Item 33 – Headgear w/ Ornament – Band – Type A
- Item 43 – Marching Band Gauntlets – Type C

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Stock Samples are Acceptable for the following items.

- Item 23 - Auxiliary Pants
- Item 25 - Auxiliary Tunic – Type A
- Item 26 – Auxiliary Tunic – Type B
- Item 35 - Plume
- Item 46 - Garment Bag
- Item 47 - Hanger
- Item 48 - Shako Box

NOTE: The above samples are required as part of proposal evaluation. Incumbent vendor(s) is exempted from the requirement to provide samples unless their proposal includes deviations from established specifications.

Subsequent to award, awarded vendors will be required to provide either actual fabric color swatches or an exact sample uniform component(s) constructed of the appropriate fabric colors for approval by the ordering agency prior to the ordering agency issuing a purchase order.

UNIFORM MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The State seeks a value added option of a Uniform Management System program encompassing the features identified below. A uniform management system is not a scored component of this Request for Proposal.

Customer information is available via:

- Uniform Management System - CD or Internet based
- Customer Data - CD or Internet based

The Uniform Management System will ideally manage band member information regarding the assignment of band uniforms and would be alterable on a continuing basis as sizing needs change. The system will ideally contain an AUTO-ASSIGN feature which automatically assigns uniform pieces to the students based on their entered measurements. In addition, the student database will ideally include full contact information for student and guardian, and offer the ability to generate address labels and garment bag identification tags.

Further desirable features of a Uniform Management System would be the ability to generate student uniform rental/usage agreements as per needed. The software will be compatible with Microsoft Windows Vista, Microsoft Windows 7 Professional, and Apple Mac OS X (PowerPC and Intel). It is expected that a component of a proposed Uniform Management System would be ONLINE/TELEPHONE technical support FREE OF CHARGE and that updates will be readily available as released.

Bidders offering a Uniform Management System are to include an example in their proposal.

Bidders offering a technology solution understand that acceptance of the technology is not guaranteed and additional terms and conditions may be required by the State prior to acceptance of technology solution offered.