

Vendors must have an active, approved master contract under the SITE program and be approved in the category or categories listed in the RFO document in order to respond to and RFO. Vendor is responsible for reading all addenda associated with the RFO.

IT Professional Technical Services

SITE Program

T#:14ATM

Request for Offers (RFO)

For Technology Services

Issued By

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Project Title: Charting the Future Projects

Category: Web Application Design & Development (up to 3 resources, not necessarily from the same company)

Location at St. Paul, MN and Waite Park, MN

Business Need

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) is seeking Professional/Technical Services to work on Charting the Future projects. We are looking for staff in the analysis, design, & development of enterprise J2EE application systems developed and/or supported by the Information Technology Services (ITS) division of the System Office.

Provide up to Three (3) consultants to assist in the design and implementation of J2EE Enterprise Software Applications for the MnSCU System Office ITS division. The project has multiple IT application development tasks requiring Senior J2EE Technical Analysis & Development.

Currently, MnSCU lacks the capacity for the needed J2EE experience or expertise's to satisfactory meet the application development needs being requested from a variety of business units including Human Resources, Finance, and Academic Affairs. Supplementing System Office ITS division staff on the Charting the Future projects will help provide an effective application development capability to meet the short and long term goals of our business customers.

All design work and implementation must be consistent with MnSCU Architecture team standards.

Project Deliverables

Specific deliverables will be determined by the individual development supervisor and approved by ITS management. In general terms the individuals filling this role will need to provide the following technical services:

- Work with the development supervisor and team.
- Work with business analyst & technical lead to understand business requirements.
- Perform analysis and participate in the design of complex technical specifications, including performing object-oriented design and analysis, for the development of programs in accordance with MnSCU software development standards.
- Transfer knowledge to existing team members.
- Track and report status of assigned work to the technical lead, applications supervisor, and / or project manager.
- Assist in developing and executing module & system test plans.
- Support Quality Assurance staff during the QA phase by providing documentation or answering questions about the functionality of the application, and correcting reported defects.
- Support other system development staff with understanding or integration issues.
- Support Help Desk staff by answering questions about application functionality or assistance with identifying bugs or design flaws.
- Support trainers and technical writers by describing application functionality.

Project Milestones and Schedule

There are immediate needs for Senior J2EE Developers. We would anticipate a July 1st, 2016 start. As there are many strategic and major Charting the Future projects on the horizon, and we currently have multiple projects planned to start on July 1st, 2016. We would anticipate resources will be required for at least the next 2 fiscal years (until June 2018), with an option to extend until April 15th, 2019.

Project Environment

The Projects that will be covered include resources from all areas of our IT organization including:

- Architecture (Web, System, Data, Infrastructure, Security)
- Development (BAs, Coders, Analysts, Tech Leads)
- Testing (Quality Assurance)
- System Management
- Operations
- Customer Support

Project Requirements

- The vendor must comply with MnSCU development methodologies.
- Primarily work on site at:
 - MnSCU System Office 30 Seventh Street East, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN, 55101
 - Quarry Center Office, 314 10th Avenue South, Suite 140, Waite Park, MN 56387
- Occasional travel required at various outstate MnSCU Staff locations (Bemidji & Granite Falls).
- Comply with MnSCU Architecture and Infrastructure initiatives.
- Be required to follow MnSCU's project management guidelines, deployment procedures and support procedures.

Required Skills (To be initially scored as pass/fail. Thereafter, proposed resources that meet the Mandatory Qualifications will be scored in part on the extent to which the resource exceeds these mandatory minimums. See RFO Evaluation Process, below.)

- Five (5) years Senior J2EE development experience with all of the following:
 - JBoss or Tomcat, Spring, and Hibernate;
 - Relational database systems (such as Oracle, MS SQL);
 - HTML, Javascript, and CSS;
 - Web services;
 - Automated unit testing;
 - Distributed version control (DVCS) systems such as Git
- Two (2) years Groovy and Grails technologies building responsive design;
- Two (2) years of experience working within government and Higher Education;

Process Schedule

- Deadline for Questions 04/06/2016, 10:00 A.M. CST
- Anticipated Posted Response to Questions 04/08/2016, 2:00 P.M. CST
- Proposals Due 04/18/2016, 2:00 P.M. CST
- Anticipated Proposal Evaluation Begins 04/27/2016
- Anticipated Proposal Evaluation and Decision 05/06/2016

Questions

Any questions regarding this Request for Offers should be submitted via e-mail according to the date and time listed in the process schedule to:

Name: Dan Duffy
Organization: MnSCU – Contracts and Purchasing
Email Address: Dan.Duffy@so.mnscu.edu

Questions and answers will be posted via an addendum to the RFO on the Office of MN.IT Services website (<http://mn.gov/buyit/14atm/rfo/active.html>) according to the process schedule above.

Other persons ARE NOT authorized to discuss this RFO or its requirements with anyone throughout the selection process and responders should not rely on information obtained from non-authorized individuals. If it is discovered a Responder contacted other State staff other than the individual above, the responder's proposal may be removed from further consideration.

RFO Evaluation Process

- Proposed Candidate(s) Development Experience (50%)
- Experience developing applications within government and Higher Education (20%)
- Cost (30%)

MnSCU reserves to the right to award to one, or more responders.

This Request for Offers does not obligate the state to award a work order or complete the assignment, and the state reserves the right to cancel the solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest. The Organization reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

Submission Format

The proposal should be assembled as follows:

Cover Page:

Vendor Name
Vendor Address
Vendor City, State, Zip
Contact Name for Vendor
Contact's direct phone/cell phone (if applicable)
Contact's email
Resource Name being submitted

Overall Experience:

1. Provide narrative, including companies and contacts where your resource has demonstrated the required skills as previously noted. If pass/fail requirements are not met, further scoring of the proposal will be discontinued.
2. Attach a resume(s) for proposed resource(s) in addition to the narrative description. Be certain the resume has dates of work and notes whether the resource was an employee or consultant.
3. Include a separate document labeled "Cost Proposal" with the proposed cost (hourly rate) of candidate. If travel is required to work in St. Paul or Waite Park, provide weekly estimate of travel and reimbursable expenses that will be used to determine total cost.
4. Include the names of 3 references who can speak to the resources work on a similar project. Include the company name and address, reference name, reference email, reference phone number and a brief description of the project this resource completed.
5. Conflict of interest statement as it relates to this project
6. Required forms to be returned or additional provisions that must be included in proposal
 - a) Affirmative Action Certificate of Compliance (if over \$100,000, including extension options) <http://www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us/doc/affaction.doc>
 - b) Equal Pay Certificate Form (if proposals exceeds \$500,000, including extension options) <http://www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us/doc/equalpaycertificate.doc>
 - c) Affidavit of non-collusion <http://www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us/doc/noncollusion-2.doc>
 - d) Certification Regarding Lobbying (if over \$100,000, including extension options) <http://www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us/doc/lobbying.doc>

The STATE reserves the right to determine if further information is needed to better understand the information presented. This may include a request for a presentation.

Proposal Submission Instructions

- **Vendor is limited to submission of 3 resumes/candidates in response to the Request for Offers**
 - Response Information:
 - Please submit via email to:
 - Dan.duffy@so.mnscu.edu
 - Submissions are due according to the process schedule previously listed.
 - Do not notify MnSCU by email if you are not responding

- A copy of the response must also be sent to MNIT.SITE@state.mn.us for vendor performance tracking.
- You must submit an email with your response or email notification that you will not respond to MNIT.SITE@state.mn.us. Failure to do either of these tasks will count against your program activity and may result in removal from the program.

General Requirements

Proposal Contents

By submission of a proposal, Responder warrants that the information provided is true, correct and reliable for purposes of evaluation for potential award of this work order. The submission of inaccurate or misleading information may be grounds for disqualification from the award as well as subject the responder to suspension or debarment proceedings as well as other remedies available by law.

Liability

Indemnification: In the performance of this contract by Contractor, or Contractor's agents or employees, the contractor must indemnify, save, and hold harmless the State, its agents, and employees, from any claims or causes of action, including attorney's fees incurred by the state, to the extent caused by Contractor's:

- 1) Intentional, willful, or negligent acts or omissions; or
- 2) Actions that give rise to strict liability; or
- 3) Breach of contract or warranty.

The indemnification obligations of this section do not apply in the event the claim or cause of action is the result of the State's sole negligence. This clause will not be construed to bar any legal remedies the Contractor may have for the State's failure to fulfill its obligation under this contract.

Disposition of Responses

All materials submitted in response to this RFO will become property of the State and will become public record in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 13.591, after the evaluation process is completed. Pursuant to the statute, completion of the evaluation process occurs when the government entity has completed negotiating the contract with the selected vendor. If the Responder submits information in response to this RFO that it believes to be trade secret materials, as defined by the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. § 13.37, the Responder must: clearly mark all trade secret materials in its response at the time the response is submitted, include a statement with its response justifying the trade secret designation for each item, and defend any action seeking release of the materials it believes to be trade secret, and indemnify and hold harmless the State, its agents and employees, from any judgments or damages awarded against the State in favor of the party requesting the materials, and any and all costs connected with that defense. This indemnification survives the State's award of a contract. In submitting a response to this RFO, the Responder agrees that this indemnification survives as long as the trade secret materials are in possession of the State.

The State will not consider the prices submitted by the Responder to be proprietary or trade secret materials.

Conflicts of Interest

Responder must provide a list of all entities with which it has relationships that create, or appear to create, a conflict of interest with the work that is contemplated in this request for proposals. The list should indicate the name of the entity, the relationship, and a discussion of the conflict.

The responder warrants that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, and except as otherwise disclosed, there are no relevant facts or circumstances which could give rise to organizational conflicts of interest. An organizational conflict of interest exists when, because of existing or planned activities or because of relationships with other persons, a vendor is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the State, or the vendor's objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired, or the vendor has an unfair competitive advantage. The responder agrees that, if after award, an organizational conflict of interest is discovered, an immediate and full disclosure in writing must be made to the Assistant Director of the Department of Administration's Materials Management Division ("MMD") which must include a description of the action which the contractor has taken or proposes to take to avoid or mitigate such conflicts. If an organization conflict of interest is determined to exist, the State may, at its discretion, cancel the contract. In the event the responder was aware of an organizational conflict of interest prior to the award of the contract and did not disclose the conflict to MMD, the State may terminate the contract for default. The provisions of this clause must be included in all subcontracts for work to be performed similar to the service provided by the prime contractor, and the terms "contract," "contractor," and "contracting officer" modified appropriately to preserve the State's rights.

IT Accessibility Standards

All documents and other work products delivered by the vendor must be accessible in order to conform with the State Accessibility Standard. Information about the Standard can be found at:

<http://mn.gov/mnit/programs/policies/accessibility/>.

Nonvisual Access Standards

Nonvisual access standards require:

1. The effective interactive control and use of the technology, including the operating system, applications programs, prompts, and format of the data presented, are readily achievable by nonvisual means;
2. That the nonvisual access technology must be compatible with information technology used by other individuals with whom the blind or visually impaired individual must interact;
3. That nonvisual access technology must be integrated into networks used to share communications among employees, program participants, and the public; and
4. That the nonvisual access technology must have the capability of providing equivalent access by nonvisual means to telecommunications or other interconnected network services used by persons who are not blind or visually impaired.

Preference to Targeted Group and Economically Disadvantaged Business and Individuals

In accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 1230.1810, subpart B and Minnesota Rules, part 1230.1830, certified Targeted Group Businesses and individuals submitting proposals as prime contractors will receive a six percent preference in the evaluation of their proposal, and certified Economically Disadvantaged Businesses and individuals submitting proposals as prime contractors will receive a six percent preference in the evaluation of their proposal. Eligible TG businesses must be currently certified by the Materials Management Division prior to the solicitation opening date and time. For information regarding certification, contact the Materials Management Helpline at 651.296.2600, or you may reach

the Helpline by email at mmdhelp.line@state.mn.us. For TTY/TDD communications, contact the Helpline through the Minnesota Relay Services at 1.800.627.3529.

Veteran-Owned Small Business Preference

Unless a greater preference is applicable and allowed by law, in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 16C.16, subd. 6a, the Commissioner of Administration will award a 6% preference in the amount bid on state procurement to certified small businesses that are majority owned and operated by veterans.

A small business qualifies for the veteran-owned preference when it meets one of the following requirements. 1) The business has been certified by the Department of Administration/Materials Management Division as being a veteran-owned or service-disabled veteran-owned small business. 2) The principal place of business is in Minnesota AND the United States Department of Veterans Affairs verifies the business as being a veteran-owned or service-disabled veteran-owned small business under Public Law 109-461 and Code of Federal Regulations, title 38, part 74 (Supported By Documentation). See Minn. Stat. § 16C.19(d).

Statutory requirements and certification must be met by the solicitation response due date and time to be awarded the preference.

Foreign Outsourcing of Work Prohibited

All services under this contract shall be performed within the borders of the United States. All storage and processing of information shall be performed within the borders of the United States. This provision also applies to work performed by subcontractors at all tiers.

Work Force Certification

For all contracts estimated to be in excess of \$100,000, responders are required to complete the Affirmative Action Certificate of Compliance and return it with the response. As required by Minnesota Rule 5000.3600, "It is hereby agreed between the parties that Minnesota Statute § 363A.36 and Minnesota Rule 5000.3400 - 5000.3600 are incorporated into any contract between these parties based upon this specification or any modification of it. A copy of Minnesota Statute § 363A.36 and Minnesota Rule 5000.3400 - 5000.3600 are available upon request from the contracting agency."

Equal Pay Certification

If the Response to this solicitation could be in excess of \$500,000, the Responder must obtain an Equal Pay Certificate from the Minnesota Department of Human Rights (MDHR) or claim an exemption prior to contract execution. A responder is exempt if it has not employed more than 40 full-time employees on any single working day in one state during the previous 12 months. Please contact MDHR with questions at: 651-539-1095 (metro), 1-800-657-3704 (toll free), 711 or 1-800-627-3529 (MN Relay) or at compliance.MDHR@state.mn.us.