EXHIBIT A

STATE OF MINNESOTA
GRANT CONTRACT AGREEMENT
Swift Contract Number:

This Grant Contract Agreement is between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Department of Commerce ("State") and Give the full name of the grantee including its address ("Grantee").

Recitals

Under Minnesota Statutes § 216C.02, subd. 1 the State is empowered to enter into this Grant Contract Agreement. The State is in need of Add brief narrative of the purpose of the grant. The Grantee represents that it is duly qualified and agrees to perform all services described in this Grant Contract Agreement to the satisfaction of the State.

Grant Contract Agreement

1 Term of Grant Contract Agreement

1.1 Effective Date. Spell out full date (e.g., July 1, 2023), or the date the State obtains all required signatures, whichever is later.

Per Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98, Subd. 5, the Grantee must not begin work until this Grant Contract Agreement is fully executed and the State's Authorized Representative has notified the Grantee that work may commence.

Per Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98 Subd. 7, no payments will be made to the Grantee until this Grant Contract Agreement is fully executed.

1.2 Expiration Date. Spell out full date (e.g., June 30, 2025), or until all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever occurs first.

1.3 Survival of Terms. The following clauses survive the expiration or cancellation of this Grant Contract Agreement: Liability; State Audits; Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property; Publicity and Endorsement; Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue; and Data Disclosure.

2 Specifications, Duties, and Scope of Work

The parties will perform the services outlined in Exhibit A: Specifications, Duties, and Scope of Work.

3 Time

The Grantee must comply with all the time requirements described in this Grant Contract Agreement. In the performance of this Grant Contract Agreement, time is of the essence and failure to meet a deadline date may be a basis for a determination by the State's Authorized Representative that the Grantee has not complied with the terms of the Grant Contract Agreement. The Grantee is required to perform all the duties cited within clause

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two “Specifications, Duties, and Scope of Work” within the grant period. The State is not obligated to extend the grant period.

4 Consideration and Terms of Payment

The consideration for all services performed by the Grantee pursuant to this Grant Contract Agreement shall be paid by the State as follows:

4.1 Compensation. The total obligation of the State under this Grant Contract Agreement, including all compensation and reimbursements, is not to exceed $ Total Compensation and Travel Reimbursement, which shall be paid in accordance with the terms outlined in Exhibit B: Payment Schedule, which is attached and incorporated into this Grant Contract Agreement.

4.2 Administrative Costs. Grantee administrative costs must be necessary and reasonable.

4.3 Travel Expenses. Reimbursement for travel and subsistence expenses actually and necessarily incurred by the Grantee because of this Grant Contract Agreement will not exceed $ Insert total travel budget here. If none, insert $0.00. The Grantee will not be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses incurred outside Minnesota unless it has received the State’s prior written approval for out of state travel. Minnesota will be considered the home state for determining whether travel is out of state.
The Grantee will be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses in the same manner and in no greater amount than provided in the current Commissioner’s Plan promulgated by the Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget.

4.5 Invoices. Payments shall be made by the State after the Grantee’s presentation of invoices for services satisfactorily performed and the written acceptance of such services by the State’s Authorized Representative. Invoices shall be submitted timely, with additional details as requested by the State, and according to the following schedule: Insert invoicing schedule here or refer to Exhibit B: Budget and Payment Schedule.

4.6 *Budget Categories*. Upon notice to and written approval by the State’s Authorized Representative, the Grantee’s budget for any one category in Exhibit B may be increased by up to 10% of the amount shown in Exhibit B for that category, with the amount of the increase moved from one or more other categories in Exhibit B. To move more than 10% into a budget category from another budget category or categories will require an amendment to the grant contract.

4.7 Unexpended Funds. The Grantee must promptly return to the State any unexpended funds that have not been accounted for in a financial report to the State.

5 Conditions of Payment

All services provided by the Grantee under this Grant Contract Agreement must be performed to the State’s satisfaction, as determined at the sole discretion of the State’s Authorized Representative and in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations. The Grantee will not receive payment for work found by the State to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, state, or local law.

6 Contracting and Bidding Requirements

The Grantee is required to comply with Minnesota Statutes §471.345, Uniform Municipal Contracting Law.

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6.1 The Grantee and any subrecipients must comply with prevailing wage rules per Minnesota Statutes §§ 177.41 through 177.50, as applicable.

6.2 The Grantee and any subrecipients must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government: Suspended and Debarred Vendors, Minnesota Office of State Procurement.

6.3 The Grantee must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts.

7. Authorized Representatives

7.1 The State's Authorized Representative is Name, title, email address, telephone number, or their successor, and has the responsibility to monitor the Grantee's performance and the authority to accept the services provided under this Grant Contract Agreement. If the services are satisfactory, the State's Authorized Representative will certify acceptance on each invoice submitted for payment.

7.2 The Grantee's Authorized Representative is Name, title, email address, telephone number, or their successor. If the Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time during this Grant Contract Agreement, the Grantee must immediately notify the state.

OPTIONAL - The Grantee's Project Manager is PMfirstname PMlastname, PMtitle, PMphone, or their successor. If the Grantee's Project Manager changes at any time during this grant contract, the Grantee must immediately notify the State.

7.3 The Grantee must clearly post on the Grantee's website the names of, and contact information for, the Grantee's leadership and the employee or other person who directly manages and oversees this Grant Contract Agreement on behalf of the Grantee.

8. Assignment, Amendments, Waiver, and Contract Complete

8.1 **Assignment.** The Grantee may neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this Grant Contract Agreement without the prior consent of the State and a fully executed agreement, executed and approved by the authorized parties or their successors.

8.2 **Amendments.** Any amendment to this Grant Contract Agreement must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original Grant Contract Agreement or their successors.

8.3 **Waiver.** If the State fails to enforce any provision of this Grant Contract Agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or its right to enforce it.

8.4 **Contract Complete.** This Grant Contract Agreement contains all negotiations and agreements between the State and the Grantee. No other understanding regarding this Grant Contract Agreement, whether written or oral, may be used to bind either party.

9. Subcontracting and Subcontract Payment

9.1 A subrecipient is a person or entity that has been awarded a portion of the work authorized by this Grant Contract Agreement by Grantee. The Grantee must document any subaward through a formal legal agreement. The Grantee must provide timely notice, in writing, to the State of any subrecipient(s) prior to the subrecipient(s) performing work under this Grant Contract Agreement.

9.2 The Grantee must monitor the activities of the subrecipient(s) to ensure the subaward is used for authorized purposes; is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the subaward, Minnesota Statutes § 16B.97, Subd.4 (a) 1, and other relevant statutes and regulations; and that subaward performance goals are achieved.

9.3 During this Grant Contract Agreement, if a subrecipient is determined to be performing unsatisfactorily by the State's Authorized Representative, the Grantee will receive written notification that the subrecipient can no longer be used for this Grant Contract Agreement.

9.4 No subagreement shall serve to terminate or in any way affect the primary legal responsibility of the Grantee for timely and satisfactory performances of the obligations contemplated by the Grant Contract Agreement.

9.5 The Grantee must pay any subrecipient in accordance with Minnesota Statutes § 16A.1245.

9.6 The Grantee and any subrecipients must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government.

10. Liability

The Grantee must indemnify, save, and hold the State, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims or causes of action, including attorney's fees incurred by the State, arising from performance of this Grant Contract Agreement by the Grantee or the Grantee's agents or employees. This clause will not be construed to bar any legal remedies the Grantee may have for the State's failure to fulfill its obligations under this Grant Contract Agreement.

11. State Audits

Under Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98, Subd. 8, the Grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices relevant to this Grant Contract Agreement are subject to examination by the Commissioner of Administration, the State granting agency, the State Auditor, the Attorney General, and the Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the expiration or termination of this Grant Contract Agreement, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all State and program retention requirements, whichever is later.

12. Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property Rights

12.1 Government Data Practices. The Grantee and State must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13, as it applies to all data provided by the State under this Grant Contract Agreement, and as it applies to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated by the Grantee under this Grant Contract Agreement. The civil remedies of Minnesota Statutes § 13.08 apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either the Grantee or the State.

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If the Grantee receives a request to release the data referred to in this Clause, the Grantee must immediately notify the State. The State will give the Grantee instructions concerning the release of the data to the requesting party before the data is released. The Grantee's response to the request shall comply with applicable law.

12.2 Intellectual Property Rights. The Grantee shall own all rights, title, and interest in all of the intellectual property rights, including copyrights, patents, trade secrets, trademarks, and service marks in the works and documents. The "works" means all inventions, improvements, discoveries (whether or not patentable), databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes, and disks conceived, reduced to practice, created or originated by the Grantee, its employees, agents, and subcontractors, either individually or jointly with others in the performance of this grant contract. "Works" includes documents. The "documents" are the originals of any databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes, disks, or other materials, whether in tangible or electronic forms, prepared by the Grantee, its employees, agents, or subcontractors, in the performance of this grant contract.

12.3 License to the State. Subject to the terms and conditions of this grant contract, the Grantee hereby grants to the State a perpetual, irrevocable, no-fee right and license to make, have made, reproduce, modify distribute, perform and otherwise use the works and documents for any and all purposes, in all forms and manners that the State, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate. The Grantee shall upon the request of the State, execute all papers and perform all other acts necessary, to document and secure said right and license to the works and documents by the State. At the request of the State, the Grantee shall permit the State to inspect the original documents and provide a copy of any of the document to the State, without cost, for use by the State in any manner the State, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate.

12.4 Obligations. Grantee represents and warrants that materials produced or used under this grant contract do not and will not infringe upon any intellectual property rights of other persons or entities including but not limited to patents, copyrights, trade secrets, trade names, and service marks and names. Grantee shall indemnify and defend the State, at Grantee's expense, from any action or claim brought against the State to the extent that it is based on a claim that all or part of the materials infringe upon the intellectual property rights of another. Grantee shall be responsible for payment of any and all such claims, demands, obligations, liabilities, costs, and damages including, but not limited to reasonable attorneys' fees arising out of this grant contract, amendments and supplements thereto, which are attributable to such claims or actions.

If such a claim or action arises, or in Grantee's or the State's opinion is likely to arise, Grantee shall, at the State's discretion, either procure for the State the right or license to continue using the materials at issue or replace or modify the allegedly infringing materials. This remedy shall be in addition to and shall not be exclusive to other remedies provided by law.

13. Workers Compensation

The Grantee certifies that it is in compliance with Minnesota Statutes § 176.181, Subd. 2, pertaining to workers' compensation insurance coverage. The Grantee's employees and agents will not be considered State employees. Any claims that may arise under the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act on behalf of these employees and any claims made by any third party as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of these employees are in no way the State's obligation or responsibility.

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14. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, Venue

Venue for all legal proceedings out of this Grant Contract Agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

15. Termination

15.1 Termination by the State.

15.1.1 Without Cause.

The State may terminate this Grant Contract Agreement without cause, upon 30 days' written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed.

15.1.2 With Cause.

The State may immediately terminate this Grant Contract Agreement if the State finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this Grant Contract Agreement, that reasonable progress has not been made, or that the purposes for which the funds were granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The State may take action to protect the interests of the State of Minnesota, including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

15.2 Termination by the Commissioner of Administration.

The Commissioner of Administration may immediately and unilaterally terminate this Grant Contract Agreement if further performance under the agreement would not serve agency purposes or performance under the Grant Contract Agreement is not in the best interest of the State.

15.3 Termination for Insufficient Funding.

The State may immediately terminate this Grant Contract Agreement if it does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature, or other funding source; or if funding cannot be continued at a level sufficient to allow for the payment of the services addressed within this Grant Contract Agreement. Termination must be by written notice to the Grantee. The State is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after notice and effective date of termination. However, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed to the extent that dedicated funds are available.

In the event of temporary lack of federal funding or federal appropriation from the grantor, the State may pause its obligations under this Grant Contract Agreement without terminating it. This pause will be for the duration of the lack of funding or appropriation and shall not be considered a termination of the Grant Contract Agreement. The Grantee will be notified in writing of the temporary pause, and the Grantee's ability to provide services may be temporarily suspended during this period. The State will provide reasonable notice to the Grantee of the lack of funding or appropriation and shall notify the Grantee once funding is restored or appropriated, at which point the provision of services under the Grant Contract Agreement may resume.

The State will not be assessed any penalty if the Grant Contract Agreement is terminated due to insufficient funding. The State must provide the Grantee notice of the lack of funding within a reasonable time of the State's receiving notice.

16. Publicity and Endorsement

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16.1 Publicity. Any publicity pertaining to the services resulting from this Grant Contract Agreement shall identify the State as the sponsoring agency. Publicity includes, but is not limited to: websites, social media platforms, notices, informational pamphlets, press releases, research, reports, signs, and similar public notices prepared by or for the Grantee or its employees individually or jointly with others or any subrecipients. All projects primarily funded by state grant appropriations must publicly credit the State, including on the grantee's website, when practicable

16.2 Endorsement. The Grantee must not claim that the State endorses its products or services.

17. Data Disclosure

Under Minnesota Statutes § 270C.65, Subd. 3, and other applicable law, the Grantee consents to disclosure of its social security number, federal employer tax identification number, or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, to federal and state tax agencies and state personnel involved in the payment of state obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and state tax laws which could result in action requiring the Grantee to file state tax returns and pay delinquent state tax liabilities, if any.

Exhibits

The following Exhibits are attached and incorporated into this Grant Contract Agreement. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Grant Contract Agreement and its Exhibits, or between Exhibits, the order of precedence is first the Grant Contract Agreement, and then in the following order:

Exhibit A: Specifications, Duties, and Scope of Work Strike if not required

Exhibit B: Payment Schedule Strike if not required

Exhibit C: Other Provisions Strike if not required. Exhibit may be used for special funding requirements or other contract terms not already included in this Contract. **This includes any additional conditions as needed to mitigate any risks identified in the preaward risk assessment.**

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Grant Contract Agreement Signature Page

State Encumbrance Verification

Individual certifies that funds have been encumbered as required by Minnesota Statutes. §§ 16A.15

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

SWIFT Contract No. _____

State Agency

With delegated authority

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Grantee

With delegated authority

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

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