

Request for Proposals

For

App for www.bridge.jobs website

Rhode Island Student Loan Authority

560 Jefferson Blvd., Suite 200

Warwick, RI 02886

401.468.1700

August 24th, 2015

Please note the following critical dates:

RFP Issued	August 24 th 2015
Due date for written questions	September 1 st 2015
Pre-bid conference call	September 8 th 2015
Due date for receipt of proposals	September 15 th 2015
Project deadline	December 31 st 2015

Agency Background

The Rhode Island Student Loan Authority (RISLA) was established in 1981 as a public agency of the State of Rhode Island (the “State”) and is a leading originator of non-federal education loans and the sponsor of the College Planning Center of Rhode Island and an internship website www.bridge.jobs

Project Development & Technical Requirements

RISLA operates an internship website www.bridge.jobs. The objective is to create a mobile app for students to download and use that will make it easier for students and recent grads to register and also search for internships.

The bridge web site has been developed using .Net and SQL (2012).

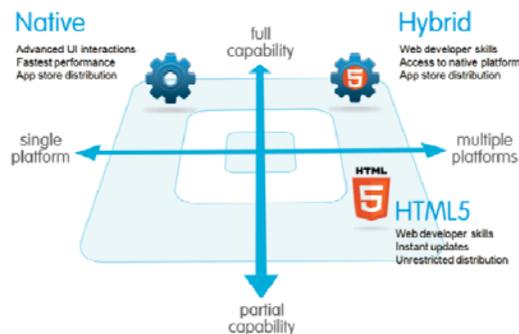
RISLA would have the sole and exclusive ownership of all the code base and software developed for this project with appropriate documentation. The firm developing this software would be required to execute an agreement stating that it would not resell, transfer, or license the program code or documentation.

Project Deadline

December 31st 2015

Project Specifications

RISLA has the options that either a ‘native’ or ‘hybrid’ app would be able to help the 4000+ students who have accounts on www.bridge.jobs, or potential students who directly download app from App Store/Play Store, finding the internship they need on mobile.



Source: https://developer.salesforce.com/page/Native,_HTML5,_or_Hybrid:_Understanding_Your_Mobile_Application_Development_Options

The app must have the following features:

- Push notifications of opportunities to students.
- Visually and aesthetically pleasing app design
- User-friendly UI that is easy to navigate
- Consistency of design across sections of the mobile app and between mobile app and bridge.jobs website
- Fully implementing functions/sections students have access to on bridge.jobs website
- Smooth and responsive UX for students accessing different functions/sections of the app

Information to Be Provided

Consulting & Project Development

1. Please state your firm name and supply contact information for RISLA's primary point of contact. Supply a brief history and background of your firm.
2. Describe your firm's experience in developing projects of a similar size and scope as described herein. What specific apps have your firm developed for other clients? Specify examples of the firm's prior work and provide details about the features developed and how these were used by clients.
3. Please specify who on your staff will be working on this project, what their role will be, and state their qualifications.
4. Will any of the work on this project be outsourced to another firm or contractor? If so, please specify who will do this work and where they are located.
5. Can your firm provide ongoing consulting for this project after project completion?
6. All code base and software developed for this project will be the sole and exclusive property of the Rhode Island Student Loan Authority. Do you agree with this statement?
7. Does your firm believe it will be able to meet all project specifications as outlined above by the specified project deadline?
8. To what extent will the firm test the app for compatibility with different devices and operating systems? Will the app be tested for usability at various connection speeds?
9. Please provide three references.

Timeline & Development Process

10. Please provide an outline of the development process for the project, including project deadlines. This outline should also include details about how related communications will be handled.

11. What do you project as the estimated completion date for the project?

Bid Price

12. Please specify the price at which you propose to perform the work specified herein, either as a fixed fee, an hourly basis, or on some other basis. Please describe any out of pocket expenses you propose that RISLA will reimburse you for and provide an estimate of such expenses.

Selection Process

All questions concerning this RFP must be submitted in writing by 4PM EST the close of business on Tuesday, September 1st 2015. Questions should be addressed to: Adrian van Alphen avanalphen@risla.com.

A pre-bid conference call will be scheduled for Tuesday, September 8th 2015 at 1:00 pm EST. At that time all questions pertaining to this RFP submitted in writing or via-email by close of business will be addressed for all to hear (the name of the firm submitting the question will not be revealed) as well as any questions raised by participants on this conference call.

Dial In Number Is: 1.800.704.9804

Participant Code Is: 355339#

Proposals must be received by RISLA by no later than 4PM EST Friday, Tuesday, September 15th 2015. Proposals may be mailed to RISLA to 560 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI, 02886 or emailed to Adrian van Alphen: avanalphen@risla.com

Any proposals received thereafter may, at the discretion of RISLA, be rejected.

Proposals will be evaluated by the Executive Director of RISLA and other RISLA staff. Selection will be made on the basis of LOWEST EVALUATED BID PRICE. The award will be subject to the execution of a contract with terms and conditions acceptable to RISLA.

RISLA reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals.

Restriction on Communication

From the issue date of this RFP until announcement of the successful Firm, responders to this RFP may contact only the individuals named herein regarding the RFP. Firms may be disqualified if they contact any State official or employee, or any employee or member of the board of directors of the Authority (other than the Issuing Officers) regarding this RFP prior to the award of a contract.

Access To Public Records Act

The Authority may treat all information submitted by a Firm as public information following the conclusion of the selection process unless the Authority deems such information as non-public information within the meaning of the State's Access To Public Records Act.

Restrictions on Gifts and Activities

State law restricts gifts which may be given or received by Authority employees and directors and requires certain individuals to disclose information concerning their activities with State government. Firms are responsible to determine the applicability of these laws to their activities and to comply with the requirements. In addition, it is a felony offense to bribe or attempt to bribe a public official.

Non-Discrimination

The Authority shall consider all proposals on the basis of their merit in accordance with the criteria specified herein and shall not exclude any person, firm, or other entity, from consideration on the grounds of sex, race, color, or national origin. Likewise, the Authority requires that all offerors have established non-discrimination policies, including policies which prohibit discrimination in the selection of subcontractors. The Firm shall represent and warrant in its response to this RFP that it does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, or national origin, including but not limited to its selection of subcontractors.

State Code of Ethics

The Authority and its board of directors and staff are committed to maintaining the highest standard of ethics in the awarding of contracts. In accordance therewith the Authority requires that the Chief Executive Officer of the Firm certify the following:

"Neither the Offeror nor any officer, employee, agent, representative or affiliate of the Offeror has given or offered or shall give or offer to any board member, employee, or representative of the Authority or to any family member of the foregoing, or to any business by which any of the foregoing persons are employed, or to any official of the State of Rhode Island who is subject to the State Code of Ethics, any gift, loan, political contribution, reward, or promise of future employment based on any understanding or expectation that the vote, official action, or judgment of the person would be influenced thereby, and, that no officer, employee, agent, representative, or affiliate of the Offeror shall have any direct or indirect nonincidental contact with any State officer or employee or with any member of the board of directors of the Authority during any period of time prior to the Authority's award of a contract, except at a public meeting of the board of directors of the Authority or at a meeting of a subcommittee of the board of directors."

Any violation of the foregoing shall result in immediate disqualification.

RHODE ISLAND STUDENT LOAN AUTHORITY

RISLA is an equal opportunity employer.