

PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
581 Plains Road, Suite 3, Kingston, RI 02881 USA p: 401.874.2171 f: 401.874.2306 uri.edu/purchasing

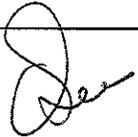


BID/PROPOSAL

COMMODITY: URI FY14 FACILITIES & ADMINISTRATIVE DATE: 10/24/2013
(F+A) RATE PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT
AND RATE NEGOTIATION CONSULTANT

FORMAL BID NO. _____ PUBLIC BID NO. _____ RFP NO. 7050

BIDS ARE TO BE RECEIVED IN URI PURCHASING DEPARTMENT BY: DATE: 11/14/2013 TIME: 3:00PM

BUYER: **DEBRA LEE/dz**  SURETY REQUIRED: YES: _____ NO: X

PRE-BID/PROPOSAL CONFERENCE: DATE: _____ TIME: _____
MANDATORY: YES: _____ NO: _____

LOCATION: _____

**BE SURE ALL INFORMATION SHOWN BELOW IS CORRECT.
FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MUST BE INCLUDED.**

COMPANY NAME: _____ FEIN: _____
STREET AND NUMBER: _____
CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE: _____
ORDERING E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

**No offer will be considered that is not accompanied by the attached
University of Rhode Island Bidder Certification Form/Contract Offer
completed and signed by the offeror.**

Print Name and Title Telephone Number/Facsimile Number

Signature Date Company F.E.I.N.

THIS BID WILL NOT BE HONORED UNLESS SIGNED
The University of Rhode Island is an equal opportunity employer committed to the principles of affirmative action.

University of Rhode Island Bidder Certification Form/Contract Offer

ALL OFFERS ARE SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS, PROVISIONS AND PROCEDURES CONTAINED IN THIS CERTIFICATION FORM/CONTRACT OFFER. Offerors are expected to read, sign and comply with all requirements. Failure to do so may be grounds for disqualification of the offer contained herein.

Rules for Submitting Offers

This Certification Form/Contract Offer must be attached in its entirety to the front of the offer and shall be considered an integral part of each offer made by a vendor to enter into a contract with the University of Rhode Island. As such, submittal of the entire Bidder Certification Form/Contract Offer, signed by a duly authorized representative of the offeror attesting that he/she (1) has read and agrees to comply with the requirements set forth herein and (2) to the accuracy of the information provided and the offer extended, is a mandatory part of any contract award.

To assure that offers are considered on time, each offer must be submitted with the specific Bid/RFP/LOI number, date and time of opening marked in the upper left hand corner of the envelope. Each bid/offer must be submitted in separate sealed envelopes.

A complete signed (in ink) offer package must be delivered to the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Office by the time and date specified for the opening of responses in a sealed envelope.

Bids must be submitted on the URI bid solicitation forms provided, indicating brand and part numbers of items offered, as appropriate. Bidders must submit detailed cuts and specs on items offered as equivalent to brands requested WITH THE OFFER. Bidders must be able to submit samples if requested.

Documents misdirected to other State locations or which are not present in the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Office at the time of opening for whatever cause will be deemed to be late and will not be considered. For the purposes of this requirement, the official time and date shall be that of the time clock in the reception area of the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Office. Postmarks shall not be considered proof of timely submission.

RIVIP SOLICITATIONS. To assure maximum access opportunities for users, public bid/RFP solicitations shall be posted on the RIVIP for a minimum of seven days and no amendments shall be made within the last five days before the date an offer is due. Except when access to the Web Site has been severely curtailed and it is determined by the Purchasing Agent that special circumstances preclude extending a solicitation due date, requests to mail or fax hard copies of solicitations will not be honored. When the result of an internet solicitation is unsuccessful, the University of Rhode Island will cancel the original solicitation and resolicit the original offer directly from vendors.

PRICING. Offers are irrevocable for sixty (60) days from the opening date (or such other extended period set forth in the solicitation), and may not be withdrawn, except with the express permission of the University Purchasing Agent. All pricing will be considered to be firm and fixed unless otherwise indicated. The University of Rhode Island is exempt from Federal excise taxes and State Sales and Use Taxes. Such taxes shall not be included in the bid price. PRICES QUOTED ARE FOB DESTINATION.

DELIVERY and PRODUCT QUALITY. All offers must define delivery dates for all items; if no delivery date is specified, it is assumed that immediate delivery from stock will be made. The contractor will be responsible for delivery of materials in first class condition. Rejected materials will be at the vendor's expense.

PREVAILING WAGE and OSHA SAFETY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS. The provisions of the State labor laws and OSHA Safety Training, including but not limited to Rhode Island General Laws §37-13-1 et seq. and §28-20-1 et seq. shall apply for all public works contracts. Prevailing wage rates are posted in the information section of the RIVIP. The RI Department of Labor and Training should be contacted for regulatory requirements.

Apprenticeship. Rhode Island General Laws §37-13-3.1 requires all general contractors and subcontractors who perform work on any public works contract awarded by the state/URI valued at One Million dollars (\$1,000,000) or more shall employ apprentices required for the performance of the awarded contract. The number of apprentices shall comply with the apprentice to journeyman ratio for each trade approved by the apprenticeship council of the department of labor and training.

In addition to executing this certification, the general contractor shall be responsible for requiring that all subcontractors on the awarded project certify their compliance with R.I. Gen. Laws §37-13-3.1 prior to allowing the subcontractor to commence work on the awarded project. The general contractor shall be responsible for submitting the subcontractors' compliance certification to the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Office after the contracts are finalized between the contractor and subcontractor.

PUBLIC RECORDS. Offerors are advised that all materials submitted to the University for consideration in response to this solicitation will be considered without exception to be Public Records pursuant to Title 38 Chapter 2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, and will be released for inspection immediately upon request once an award has been made. Offerors are encouraged to attend public bid/RFP openings to obtain information; however, bid/RFP response summaries may be reviewed after award(s) have been made by visiting the Rhode Island Vendor Information Program (RIVIP) at www.purchasing.ri.gov, Bidding Opportunities +, Other RI Bid Opportunities or appearing in person at the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Office Mondays through Fridays between 8:30 am – 3:30 pm. Telephone requests for results will not be honored. Written requests for results will only be honored if the information is not available on the RIVIP.

Award will be made to the responsive and responsible offeror quoting the lowest net price in accordance with specifications, for any individual item(s), for major groupings of items, or for all items listed, at the University's sole option.

BID SURETY. Where bid surety is required, bidder must furnish a bid bond or certified check for 5% of the bid total with the bid, or for such other amount as may be specified. Bids submitted without a required bid surety will not be considered.

SPECIFICATIONS. Unless specified "no substitute", product offerings equivalent in quality and performance will be considered (at the sole option of the University) on the condition that the offer is accompanied by detailed product specifications. Offers which fail to include alternate specifications may be deemed nonresponsive.

VENDOR AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED. When a purchase order, change order, contract/agreement or contract/agreement amendment is issued by the University of Rhode Island, no claim for payment for services rendered or goods delivered contrary to or in excess of the contract terms and scope shall be considered valid unless the vendor has obtained a written change order or contract amendment issued by the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Office PRIOR to delivery.

Any offer, whether in response to a solicitation for proposals or bids, or made without a solicitation, which is accepted in the form of an order OR pricing agreement made in writing by the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Office, shall be considered a binding contract.

REGULATIONS, GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS GOVERNING STATE AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION CONTRACTS. This solicitation and any contract or purchase order arising from it are issued in accordance with the specific requirements described herein, and the State's Purchasing Laws and Regulations and other applicable State Laws, including the Board of Governors for Higher Education General Terms and Conditions of Purchase. The regulations, General Terms and Conditions are incorporated into all University of Rhode Island contracts and can be viewed at: www.ribghe.org/procurementregs113006.pdf and www.purchasing.ri.gov.

ARRA SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Contracts and sub-awards funded in whole or in part by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Pub.L.No. 111-5 and any amendments thereto, such contracts and sub-awards shall be subject to the Supplemental Terms and Conditions for Contracts and Sub-awards funded in whole or in part by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Pub.L.No. 111-5 and any amendments thereto located on the Division of Purchases website at www.purchasing.ri.gov.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY. Compliance certificate and agreement procedures will apply to all awards for supplies or services valued at \$10,000 or more. Minority Business Enterprise policies and procedures, including subcontracting opportunities as described in Title 37 Chapter 14.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws also apply.

PERFORMANCE BONDS. Where indicated, successful bidder must furnish a 100% performance bond and labor and payment bond for contracts subject to Title 37 Chapters 12 and 13 of the Rhode Island General Laws. All bonds must be furnished by a surety company authorized to conduct business in the State of Rhode Island. Performance bonds must be submitted within 21 calendar days of the issuance of a tentative notice of award.

DEFAULT and NON-COMPLIANCE Default and/or non-compliance with the requirements and any other aspects of the award may result in withholding of payment(s), contract termination, debarment, suspension, or any other remedy necessary that is in the best interest of the state.

COMPLIANCE Vendor must comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances.

Effective January 1, 2013 all *public works project* related bids or proposals exceeding FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$500,000) DOLLARS are required to include a "public copy". All agency contract solicitations, requests for proposals, invitations for bids, etc., shall state that any bid or proposal that exceeds FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$500,000) DOLLARS must include a copy to be available for public inspection upon the opening of the bids. Any bid or proposal in excess of FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$500,000) DOLLARS which does not include a copy for public inspection shall be deemed to be non-responsive. For further information, please see R.I. Gen. Laws §37-2-18(j) and State of Rhode Island Procurement Regulations at <http://purchasing.ri.gov/rulesandregulations/rulesandregulations.aspx>.

ALL CONTRACT AWARDS ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING DISCLOSURES & CERTIFICATIONS

Offerors must respond to every disclosure statement. A person authorized to enter into contracts must sign the offer and attest to the accuracy of all statements. Incomplete certification forms are grounds for disqualification of offer.

You MUST answer 'Yes' or 'No' to the following questions:

___1 State whether your company, or any owner, stockholder, officer, director, member, partner, or principal thereof, or any subsidiary or affiliated company, has been subject to suspension or debarment by any federal, state, or municipal government agency, or the subject of criminal prosecution, or convicted of a criminal offense with the previous five (5) years. If so, then provide details below.

___2 State whether your company, or any owner, stockholder, officer, director, member, partner, or principal thereof, or any subsidiary or affiliated company, has had any contracts with a federal, state or municipal government agency terminated for any reason within the previous five (5) years. If so, then provide details below.

___3 State whether your company or any owner, stockholder, officer, director, member, partner, or principal thereof, or any subsidiary or affiliated company, has been fined more than \$5000 for violation(s) of Rhode Island environmental laws by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management within the previous five (5) years. If so, then provide details below.

___4 I/we certify that I/We will immediately disclose, in writing, to the University Purchasing Agent any potential conflict of interest which may occur during the course of the engagement authorized pursuant to this contract.

___5 I/we acknowledge that, in accordance with (1) Chapter §37-2-54(c) of the Rhode Island General Laws "no purchase or contract shall be binding on the state or any agency thereof unless approved by the Department [of Administration] or made under general regulations which the Chief Purchasing Officer may prescribe," and (2) RIGL section §37-2-7(16) which identifies the Board of Governors for Higher Education as a public agency and gives binding contractual authority to the University Purchasing Agent, including change orders and other types of contracts and under State Purchasing Regulation 8.2.1.1.2 any alleged oral agreement or arrangements made by a bidder or contractor with any agency or an employee of the University of Rhode Island may be disregarded and shall not be binding on the University of Rhode Island.

___6 I/we certify that I or my firm possesses all licenses required by Federal and State laws and regulations as they pertain to the requirements of the solicitation and offer made herein and shall maintain such required license(s) during the entire course of the contract resulting from the offer contained herein and, should my/our license lapse or be suspended, I/we shall immediately inform the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Agent in writing of such circumstance.

___7 I/we certify that I/we will maintain required insurance during the entire course of the contract resulting from the offer contained herein and, should my/our insurance lapse or be suspended, I/we shall immediately inform the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Agent in writing of such circumstance.

___8 I/we certify that I/we understand that falsification of any information herein or failure to notify the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Agent as certified herein may be grounds for suspension, debarment and/or prosecution for fraud.

___9 I/we acknowledge that the provisions and procedures set forth in this form apply to any contract arising from this offer.

___10 I/we acknowledge that I/we understand the State's Purchasing Laws (§37-2 of the General Laws of Rhode Island) and Purchasing Regulations and General Terms and Conditions available at the Rhode Island Division of Purchases Website (<http://www.purchasing.ri.gov>) and the Board of Governors Website (www.ribghe.org/procurementregs113006.pdf) apply as the governing conditions for any contract or purchase order I/we may receive from the University of Rhode Island, including the offer contained herein.

___11 NEW REVISED REQUIREMENT*-IMPORTANT!! I/we hereby acknowledge that I/we understand that effective January 1, 2013 all public works project related bids or proposals exceeding FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$500,000) dollars, inclusive of all proposed alternates, must include a "public copy" as required by R.I. Gen. Laws §37-2-18(j) and the State Procurement Regulations. It is further understood that any bid or proposal in excess of FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$500,000) dollars which does not include a copy for public inspection shall be deemed to be non-responsive.

___12 I/we certify that the above information is correct and complete.

IF YOU HAVE ANSWERED "YES" TO QUESTIONS #1 – 3 OR IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO CERTIFY YES TO QUESTIONS #4 – 12 OF THE FOREGOING, PROVIDE DETAILS/EXPLANATION IN AN ATTACHED STATEMENT. INCOMPLETE CERTIFICATION FORMS SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION OF OFFER.

Signature below commits vendor to the attached offer and certifies (1) that the offer reflects all solicitation amendments (2) that the above statements and information are accurate and that vendor understands and has complied with the requirements set forth herein.

Vendor's Signature: _____ Bid Number: _____ Date: _____
(Person Authorized to enter into contracts; signature must be in ink) (if applicable)

Print Name and Title of Company official signing offer Telephone Number

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND

Solicitation Information

RFP NO. 7050

TITLE: The University of Rhode Island Fiscal 2014 Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Rate Proposal Development and Rate Negotiation Consultant

OPENING DATE AND TIME: November 14, 2013

PRE-BID/ PROPOSAL CONFERENCE: No

Questions concerning this solicitation may be e-mailed to Debra Lee, URI Purchasing Department, at dlee1@uri.edu no later than October 31, 2013 @ 12:00 Noon (Eastern Time). Please reference RFP No. 7050 on all correspondence.

SURETY REQUIRED: No

BOND REQUIRED: No

Debra Lee
Assistant University Purchasing Agent

NOTE TO VENDORS:

Offers received without the entire completed University of Rhode Island Bidder Certification Form attached may result in disqualification.

THIS PAGE IS NOT A BIDDER CERTIFICATION FORM

SECTION 1 – INSTRUCTIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS TO OFFERERS:

The Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education/University of Rhode Island is soliciting proposals for **The University of Rhode Island Fiscal 2014 Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Rate Proposal Development and Rate Negotiation Consultant** from qualified OFFERORS, and in accordance with the terms of this Request for Proposal and the Board of Governors General Terms and Conditions of Purchase.

This is a Request for Proposals, not an Invitation for Bid: responses will be evaluated on the relative merits of the proposal, in addition to price; there will be no public opening and reading of responses received by the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Department pursuant to the request, other than to name those offerors who have submitted proposals.

The scope of work is described herein.

Potential offerors are advised to review all sections of this solicitation carefully and to follow instructions completely, as failure to make a complete submission as described elsewhere herein may result in rejection of the proposal.

Alternative approaches and/or methodologies to accomplish the desired or intended results of this procurement are solicited. However, proposals which depart from or materially alter the terms, requirements, or scope of work defined by this Request will be rejected as being non-responsive.

The University reserves the right to award to one or more offerer. The University also reserves the right to award this project based on pricing alone.

All costs associated with developing or submitting a proposal in response to this Request, or to provide oral or written clarification of its content shall be borne by the offerer. The University assumes no responsibility for these costs.

Proposals are considered to be irrevocable for a period of not less than sixty (60) days following the opening date, and may not be withdrawn, except with the express written permission of the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Agent.

All pricing submitted is to be considered fixed, unless otherwise indicated herein.

Proposals misdirected to other University locations or which are otherwise not present in the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Department at time of opening for any cause will be determined to be late and will not be considered.

It is intended that an award pursuant to this request will be made to a prime contractor, who will assume responsibility for all aspects of the work. Joint venture and cooperative proposals will not be considered, but subcontractors are permitted, provided that their use is clearly indicated in the OFFEROR's proposal, and that the subcontractor(s) proposed to be used are identified in the proposal.

In accordance with Title 7, Chapter 1.1 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, no foreign corporation, a corporation without a Rhode Island business address, shall have the right to transact

business in the state until it shall have procured a Certificate of Authority to do so from the Rhode Island Secretary of State (401-222-3040). *This is a requirement only of the selected vendor(s).*

Bidders are advised that all materials submitted to the University of Rhode Island for consideration in response to this RFP will be considered to be public records, as defined in Title 38 Chapter 2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, without exception, and will be released for inspection immediately upon request, once an award has been made.

SECTION 2 – SCOPE OF WORK

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

INTENT: URI seeks an independent assessment by a qualified outside consultant (“vendor”) to review, evaluate and advise on the development and calculation of the University’s Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Rate. URI will seek approval by the US Department of Health and Human Services - Division of Cost Allocation (DHHS-DCA), URI’s cognizant federal agency. The initial contract will be for two years .

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS: The F&A rate proposal is due to DHHS-DCA on December 31, 2014. It must be developed in compliance with OMB Circular A-21. This proposal will be based on data from Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2014 (Fiscal 2014) and research related infrastructure capital investments for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2018. In order to meet the stated objectives of this RFP, we have outlined a recommended approach below (see Project Key Components).

Additionally, the vendor will review, evaluate and advise on the development and calculation of the University’s pooled fringe benefit rate(s).

The selected vendor would need to be able to begin December 1, 2013.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Facilities and Administrative Rate

Phase 1- Planning and Documents to Review

Phase 2- Assist and Review of Draft F&A Rate Proposal

Phase 3- Negotiate or participate in the negotiation of the University’s F&A Rates with DHHS-DCA’s Northeastern Field Office.

Pooled Fringe Rate(s) – Vendor to review, evaluate and advise on the development and the calculation of the University’s pooled fringe benefit rate (s).

GENERAL SCOPE OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED:

Facilities and Administrative Rate

The vendor will provide an experienced functional and technical team to perform a technical assessment of the University’s draft F&A rate proposal. The technical assessment includes reviewing, evaluating and advising on the development of URI’s F&A rate. Such an evaluation will be conducted over the course of several months, and will include a collaboration in a planning session with key members of URI’s cost accounting staff, performing detailed reviews of the URI’s draft F&A rate proposal as well as participating and/or leading the negotiation of the proposed rate with the Department of Health and Human Services.

Pooled Fringe Rate(s)

The vendor will provide an experienced functional and technical team to review, evaluate and advise on the development of URI's pooled fringe rate(s). Such an evaluation will be conducted over the course of several months, and will include a review of the type(s) of pooled fringe benefit rates that are contemplated, an evaluation of the types of fringe benefits to be included and types of fringe benefit rates, and assistance with the negotiation of the pooled fringe rates with the Department of Health and Human Services.

PROJECT KEY COMPONENTS

Facilities and Administrative Rate

Phase 1 - Planning:

The project planning and strategy phase will involve a technical assessment of the practices URI followed in developing its most recent F&A rate and the practices it plans to follow in preparing the FY 2014 base year proposal. This assessment is needed to identify strengths and weaknesses in URI's current practices and to develop a plan for the proposal development to support the Federal review and negotiation.

The assessment would be conducted through discussions with URI staff, and desk reviews of available documentation. The assessment would cover the following main areas:

- The DHHS-DCA review of the last proposal and the issues raised during the review and negotiation of rates;
- The structure, composition, and allocation base(s) for each F&A cost pool (i.e., building and equipment depreciation, interest expense, operations and maintenance expenses, general administration, departmental administration, sponsored projects administration and library);
- The composition of the direct cost bases (i.e., organized research, other sponsored activities, instruction, other institutional activities, etc.);
- The procedures followed to develop the modified total direct cost ("MTDC") base of the URI direct functions, including the process used to classify sponsored projects as organized research, instruction/department research, other sponsored activities and sponsored training;
- The space study instructions, functional definitions and processes;
- The reconciliation of the financial statements to the F&A cost pools, including adjustments and reclassifications;
- Reviewing the main schedules from each of the three proposals for shortcomings and opportunities;
- The procedures used to capture cost sharing on sponsored projects;
- Procedures for determining depreciation costs;
- Procedures for updating the physical inventory of Equipment;
- Method used to allocate equipment depreciation;
- Procedures for determining and allocating operations and maintenance costs;
- Procedures for determining and allocating Interest expense;
- Procedures for developing and allocating the Library cost pool;
- The development of the projections package.

Documents for Review:

The Consultant will perform a desk review of the following documents:

- The most current F&A rate agreement and transmittal letter;
- List of DHHS-DCA negotiation issues from the last Federal review and negotiation;
- The current Cost Accounting Standards (CAS) Disclosure Statement
- The following schedules from the most recent rate proposals (where appropriate we have included the appropriate Comprehensive Rate Information System (CRIS) report number for convenience).
 - Summary rate schedules showing rates by components (**CRIS 3.8.9.D**)
 - Reconciliation schedules 2, 3, 4 and narrative explanations of exclusions, adjustments and reclassifications (**CRIS 4.2.2.A, 4.2.3.A, 4.2.4.A**)
 - Step-down schedule (**CRIS 4.2.5**)
 - Schedules showing allocations of each F&A pool and sub pool to functions (The sub pool allocations are in the CRIS schedules called “Cost Group Step-down Schedules.”) (**CRIS 4.2.6**)
 - All library schedules (**CRIS 4.2.6, 4.4.1, 4.5.4**)
 - CRIS “Salaries/Space Comparison by College/Dept Report” (**CRIS 3.5.5.B**)
 - Assignable Square Feet by Building
 - Assignable Square Feet by Department
 - Narrative descriptions of cost pools and allocation bases
 - Space study instructions, functional definitions and departmental training materials
 - If a rate projection was prepared a copy of the projection

Phase 2 - Assist and Review of Draft F&A Rate Proposal:

Assist the University during the preparation on the F&A rate proposal:

- Answer any questions that might arise during the preparation of the proposal;
- Periodic review of draft proposal;
- Make recommendations before submitting final version to the Government.

Phase 3 - Negotiate or participate in the negotiation of the University’s F&A Rates with DHHS - DCA’s Northeastern Field office:

Negotiate or provide technical and advisory assistance to URI in the negotiation of F&A rates for FY 2016 and beyond. This phase will consist of:

- Assistance in preparing responses to requests by the DHHS negotiators for additional information related to the F&A rate review and negotiation;
- Guidance in responding to DHHS requests, concerns, and positions during the on-site reviews;
- Evaluation and advise on proposed DHHS rate adjustments provided to the University prior to negotiations
- Assistance in developing data and counter arguments to proposed DHHS adjustments
- Negotiate the F&A rates or participate and provide negotiation counsel to URI in negotiations with the DHHS negotiation team.

PROJECT KEY COMPONENTS

Pooled Fringe Rate(s)

Vendor will review, evaluate, and advise on the development and calculation of the University's pooled fringe benefit rate(s). Areas the vendor will advise will include the following:

1. Review the types of pooled fringe benefit rates that are contemplated to be used.
2. Review the University's methodology used to estimate fringe benefit costs for proposal budgeting purposes for fringe benefits to sponsored awards.
3. Advise as to potential changes in accounting practices and /or procedures.
4. Advise as to the timeline during which the rate(s) should be developed, negotiated and ultimately implemented.
5. Review and advise to the following areas:
 - Fringe Benefits to be included
 - Appropriate number and best combination of benefit rates
 - Appropriate implementation of the benefit rates
6. Review drafts of the pooled fringe benefit rate calculation.
7. Advise and assist in the negotiation of the pooled fringe benefit rates with DHHS-DCA.
8. Advise on other matters regarding converting to a pooled fringe benefit rate as needed and requested by the University, such as amendment to the University's Disclosure Statement.

At this time the University will take the lead role in developing the pooled fringe benefit rates. The vendor's role to this task will be to review documents and be a high-level advisor to the project. If the University needs additional assistance beyond the high-level advisor role, the University will provide the vendor an appropriate scope-of-work and will request an estimate of cost to accomplish the additional work.

PROPOSAL QUESTIONS & SUBMISSION

Questions concerning this solicitation may be e-mailed to Debra Lee, Purchasing Department, at dlee1@uri.edu no later than the time and date indicated on page 1 of this solicitation. Please reference the RFP No. on all correspondence.

Responses to this solicitation to provide the required services must be received by the University of Rhode Island Purchasing Department **on or before the date & time indicated on page one of this document.**

Responses (a clearly marked original plus three (3) copies) should be mailed or hand-delivered in a sealed envelope marked on the exterior "RFP # -7050
to

MAIL TO:

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
PO BOX 1773
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
PLAINS ROAD
KINGSTON, RI 02881

COURIER:

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
581 PLAINS ROAD
KINGSTON, RI 02881-2010

NOTE: Proposals received after the above-referenced due date and time will not be considered. Proposals misdirected to other University locations or which are otherwise not presented in the URI Purchasing Department by the scheduled due date and time will be determined to be late and may not be considered. Proposals faxed, or emailed, to the URI Purchasing Department will not be considered. The "official" time clock is located in the reception area URI Purchasing Department. **(Please be advised that FedEx/UPS do not always arrive by 10:30 am, you would be smart to send your submission to arrive at least one day early)**

RESPONSE CONTENTS

Responses should include the following:

- A separate, signed and sealed, Cost Proposal reflecting the fee structure proposed for this scope of service. Please provide a separate quote for the work associated with the F&A Rate Proposal and the Fringe Benefit Rate Proposal. The sum of both quotes will be utilized to determine your cost for the evaluation portion of this RFQ.
- A completed and signed Bidder Certification Form
- A *separate* Technical Proposal describing the background, qualifications, and experience with and for similar programs, as well as the work plan or approach proposed for this requirement.
- In addition to the multiple hard copies of proposals required, Respondents are requested to provide their proposal in electronic format (CDRom or Diskette). Microsoft Word / Excel OR PDF format is preferable. Only 1 electronic copy is requested.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Responses will be evaluated in two parts. Part one will require the technical submission and will be evaluated on the following criteria:

The Technical Proposal must contain the following sections:

a. Executive Summary

The Executive Summary is intended to highlight the contents of the Technical Proposal and to provide State evaluators with a broad understanding of the offeror's technical approach and ability.

b. Offeror's Organization and Staffing

This section shall include identification of all staff and/or subcontractors proposed as members of the project team, and the duties, responsibilities, and concentration of effort which apply to each (as well as resumes, curricula vitae or statements of prior experience and qualification).

c. Work Plan/Approach Proposed

This section shall describe the offeror's understanding of the University's requirement, including the result(s) intended and desired, the approach and/or methodology to be employed and a work plan for accomplishing the results proposed. The description of approach shall discuss and justify the approach proposed to be taken for each task, and the technical issues that will or maybe confronted at each stage on the project. The work plan description shall include a detailed proposed project schedule (by task and subtask), a list of tasks, activities, and/or milestones that will be employed to administer the project, the assignment of staff members and concentration of effort for each, and the attributable deliverables for each and will identify and describe what type of tutor training methodology will be utilized in the program.

d. Previous Experience and Background, including the following information:

- i. A comprehensive listing of similar projects undertaken and/or similar clients served, including a brief description of the projects;
- ii. A description of the business background of the offeror (and all subcontractors proposed), including a description of their financial position.

SECTION 5 - EVALUATION AND SELECTION

The University will commission a Technical Review Committee, which will evaluate and score all proposals, using the following criteria:

Criteria	Possible Points
Experience of Service Provider with long form F&A rate proposal preparation with institutions of Higher Education	25 points
Experience of Service provider with F&A rate negotiations and in particular, with DHHS-DCA office in New York	25 points
Experience of technical functional team with costing and regulatory compliance issues as they relate to OMB Circular A-21	15 points
Experience of technical and functional team working with PeopleSoft financial systems/Current Research Information Systems (CRIS)	10 points
Experience of technical and functional team working with Universities in the Northeast region	10 points
Total Possible Technical Points	85 Points
Cost [calculated as (lowest responsive cost proposal) divided by (this cost proposal) times 15 points]	
Total Possible Points	100 Points

All OFFERORS must receive a minimum score of 72 points on the technical submission. Offers not scoring at least 72 points will not be considered further.

A Technical Review Sub-Committee will review all submissions. After review, one or more OFFERORS may be invited to present to the sub-committee and answer questions.

Proposals found to be technically or substantially non-responsive at any point in the evaluation process will be rejected and not considered further. The University reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted and to waive any informalities in any vendor's proposal. The University may, at its sole option, elect to require presentation(s) by offerors clearly in consideration for award.

The University of Rhode Island Technical Review Sub-Committee will present written findings including the results of the evaluations, to University's Purchasing Director, or designee who will make the final selection for this requirement.

INSURANCE

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG) FOR HIGHER EDUCATION GENERAL CONDITIONS OF PURCHASE, INSURANCE CERTIFICATES ARE REQUIRED FOR WORKERS COMPENSATION, GENERAL LIABILITY, PROPERTY DAMAGE AND AUTO INSURANCE. IN ADDITION, THE AWARDED VENDOR WILL ALSO NEED TO HAVE PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY (E&O) COVERAGE. UPON NOTICE OF THE TENTATIVE AWARD THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER(S) WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THE ABOVE NAMING THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION, , THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND, AND THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AS ADDITIONAL INSURED, BY A FIRM AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND.