



## **Department of Information Resources**

**Request for Offer  
DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**End-User IT Outsourcing  
(formerly known as Managed Services)**

**Bid Package 1**

**Issued: May 16, 2016**

**Initial Responses Due: June 21, 2016**

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**Table of Contents**

<b>1.</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1.	<b>Purpose.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.2.	<b>Background .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.2.1	Information Technology Acquisition.....	1
1.2.2	Texas Government Code, Section 2157.068.....	2
1.2.3	Cost Avoidance Performance Measures .....	3
1.2.4	Cost Recovery.....	3
1.2.5	Historical Sales .....	3
1.2.6	Current Contract .....	3
<b>2.</b>	<b>SCOPE.....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1.	<b>Services .....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.2.	<b>Threshold and SOW Requirements.....</b>	<b>9</b>
2.3.	<b>Electronic and Information Resources (EIR) Accessibility .....</b>	<b>9</b>
2.4.	<b>Form of Contract .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>GENERAL INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>11</b>
3.1.	<b>Point of Contact.....</b>	<b>11</b>
3.2.	<b>Contact with DIR Staff.....</b>	<b>11</b>
3.3.	<b>Anticipated Schedule.....</b>	<b>11</b>
3.3.1	RFO Schedule.....	11
3.3.2	Vendor Conference .....	11
3.3.3	Written Questions and Official Answers.....	12
3.4.	<b>Historically Underutilized Businesses .....</b>	<b>13</b>
3.4.1	HUB Subcontracting Plan.....	13
3.4.2	HUB Continuing Performance .....	14
3.4.3	HUB Resources Available .....	14
3.5.	<b>Vendor Qualifications .....</b>	<b>14</b>
3.5.1	Authorized Vendors.....	14
3.5.2	Federal Requirements .....	14
3.5.3	Vendor Performance and Debarment .....	15

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

3.5.4	Required Vendor and Subcontractor Current and Former State Employee Disclosures .....	15
<b>3.6.</b>	<b>Response Deadline and Submission Requirements .....</b>	<b>15</b>
3.6.1	Official Timepiece .....	15
3.6.2	Hand Delivery of Responses .....	15
3.6.3	United States Postal Service Delivery of Responses .....	16
<b>3.7.</b>	<b>Response Format and Contents .....</b>	<b>16</b>
3.7.1	Submittal Address and External Packaging of Response.....	16
3.7.2	Number of Copies.....	16
3.7.3	Mandatory Response Contents.....	17
3.7.4	References.....	17
3.7.5	Accessibility of Electronic Response Documents.....	18
<b>3.8.</b>	<b>Rejection of Responses .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>3.9.</b>	<b>Right to Amend or Withdraw RFO .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>3.10.</b>	<b>Pre-agreement Costs .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>3.11.</b>	<b>Ownership of Responses.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>3.12.</b>	<b>Public Information .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>EVALUATION, NEGOTIATIONS, AND AWARD.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>4.1.</b>	<b>Evaluation of Responses .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>4.2.</b>	<b>Evaluation Criteria .....</b>	<b>19</b>
4.2.1	Pass/Fail Criteria.....	19
4.2.2	Weighted Evaluation Criteria .....	20
<b>4.3.</b>	<b>Oral Presentations, Best and Final Offer.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>4.4.</b>	<b>Negotiations .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>4.5.</b>	<b>Award of Contract.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>4.6.</b>	<b>Vendor Protest Procedures.....</b>	<b>21</b>

**Exhibit A - Vendor Information Form**

**Exhibit B – Contract Support Plan**

**Exhibit C – Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Subcontracting Plan**

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1. Purpose**

The purpose of this Request for Offer (RFO) is to solicit responses from potential Vendors to provide End-User IT Outsourcing Services (formerly known as Managed Services or Seat Management) to the State of Texas, acting by and through the Department of Information Resources (DIR).

As a result of this RFO, DIR expects to receive and evaluate responses and select one or more qualified Vendors with whom to enter into negotiations. Section 4 of this RFO contains more information regarding the response evaluation and Vendor selection process. DIR reserves the right to award more than one contract from this RFO. All contracts awarded shall be indefinite quantity contracts with no minimum guarantees of any purchases.

DIR expects to create a contract vehicle that satisfies statewide procurement requirements for End-User IT Outsourcing Services and improves the efficiency of the procurement process by shortening the time required to procure End-User IT Outsourcing Services.

**As part of DIR's initiatives to identify strategic sourcing opportunities, DIR reserves the right to make a single award or multiple awards as determined by DIR to achieve the highest overall value to the state.**

### **1.2. Background**

#### **1.2.1 Information Technology Acquisition**

Through its Cooperative Contracts Program, DIR assists state agencies and local governments (Customers) with cost-effective acquisition of their information resources by negotiating, managing, and administering contracts with information technology providers. Customers include any Texas state agency, unit of local government, or institution of higher education as defined in Texas Government Code, Section 2054.003; the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the Lower Colorado River Authority, a private school, as defined by Section 5.001, Education Code, a private or independent institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code, a volunteer fire department, as defined by Section 152.001, Tax Code; those state agencies purchasing from a DIR contract through an Interagency Agreement, as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 771; any local government as authorized through Texas Government Code, Chapter 791; the Interlocal Cooperation Act; the state agencies and political subdivisions of other states as authorized by Texas Government Code, Section 2054.0565; and for non-telecommunications IT Commodity products and services, "assistance organizations" defined in Texas Government Code, Section 2175.001.

DIR combines the buying power of authorized Customers to obtain volume-discounted pricing for selected technology products and services. In addition to offering volume-discounted pricing, DIR created the Cooperative Contracts (Co-op Contracts) Program to make it easier for Customers to acquire these products and

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

services. Customers place orders with and issue payments directly to the Vendors participating in the Co-op Contracts Program. Subject to DIR rights set forth in Sections 3.8 and 3.9 of this RFO, DIR will award and negotiate base contract documents with Vendors as a result of this RFO. Customers contact the Vendor for product and/or services and pricing information, negotiate their own service level agreements and additional terms and conditions, if any, and send their purchase orders (with the DIR contract number) and payments directly to the participating awarded Vendor, not to DIR. Information regarding the Co-op Contracts Program is located on DIR's Web site at <http://dir.texas.gov/View-About-DIR/Pages/Content.aspx?id=41>.

**1.2.2 Texas Government Code, Section 2157.068**

Texas Government Code, Section 2157.068, effective September 1, 2005, requires State agencies to buy commodity items, as detailed below, in accordance with contracts developed by DIR, unless the agency obtains an exemption from DIR.

Commodity items are commercially available software, hardware and technology services that are generally available to businesses or the public and for which DIR determines that a reasonable demand exists in two or more state agencies. Hardware is the physical technology used to process, manage, store, transmit, receive or deliver information. Software is a commercially available program that operates hardware and includes all supporting documentation, media on which the software may be contained or stored, related materials, modifications, versions, upgrades, enhancements, updates or replacements and may include Software provided as a service. Technology services are the services, functions and activities that facilitate the design, implementation, creation, or use of software or hardware. Technology services include seat management, staff augmentation, training, maintenance and subscription services. Seat management is a services through which a state agency transfers its responsibilities to a Vendor to manage its personal computing needs, including all necessary hardware, software and technology services.

Technology services do not include telecommunications services. Any service awarded under the TEX-AN Next Generation Procurement, RFO number DIR-TEX-AN-NG-001 is excluded. The following services were awarded under the TEX-AN Next Generation Procurement: Long Distance Services, Internet Services (including SOHO), Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), Local Voice Service, Wireless Service, Fixed Satellite and Access and Transport.

Institutions of higher education, K-12, and local governments are not required to purchase IT commodities from DIR, but may do so voluntarily. Information regarding Texas Government Code §2157.068, including processes and guidelines, is located on DIR's Web site at: <http://dir.texas.gov/View-Contracts-And-Services/Pages/Content.aspx?id=25>.

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**1.2.3 Cost Avoidance Performance Measures**

As part of its performance measures reported to state leadership, DIR must show the cost avoidance realized by the State for the products and services obtained under DIR contracts. Cost avoidance is the difference between the negotiated DIR contract price and the prevailing market price.

**1.2.4 Cost Recovery**

DIR recovers the costs of negotiating, executing, and administering the Co-op Contracts through an administrative fee. DIR is authorized to charge a reasonable administrative fee to all customers per Section 2157.068(d) of the Texas Government Code. The administrative fee must be included in the Vendor's price to the customer and paid to DIR by the Vendor. The fee has been set at a not-to-exceed level of 2.00% by the current appropriations act of the State Legislature. For the purposes of responding to this RFO, the administrative fee of 0.75% shall be used. DIR may change the administrative fee at any time during a contract term. DIR will notify Vendors of any change in the administrative fee.

**1.2.5 Historical Sales**

Contracts negotiated and managed through the Cooperative Contracts Program resulted in over \$5 billion in Customer purchases for the past three (3) fiscal years combined. Information contained within the table below shows the total purchases for the past three (3) fiscal years by Customer segment. These purchases represent contracts that are hardware, software, and services related. The State's fiscal year runs September 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Segment	Fiscal Year 2013	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015
State Agency	\$455,460,076	\$552,851,512	\$540,992,334
Local Government	\$375,975,089	\$440,057,047	\$435,281,746
Higher Education	\$323,669,370	\$347,972,211	\$392,983,106
K-12	\$627,118,706	\$702,166,977	\$677,234,650
Assistance Org	\$12,441,403	\$12,630,866	\$11,414,524
Out of State	\$1,382,907	\$1,968,304	\$11,571,065
Total FY	\$1,796,047,551	\$2,057,646,918	\$2,069,477,425

**1.2.6 Current Contract**

DIR currently has multiple contracts with the vendors to provide End-User IT Outsourcing services. The volume of the services sold through these contracts are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Eligible Sales
2014	\$33,057,246.64
2015	\$26,036,894.75

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

2016 to date	\$12,758,030.82
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## 2. Scope

### 2.1. Services

**This RFO is for services only. No hardware or software products may be sold through a contract resulting from this RFO. Any products needed to deliver final services must be procured through another contract vehicle.**

DIR intends to contract to provide End-User IT Outsourcing services. Customers may order the Services by execution of a Statements of Work (SOWs). Each vendor will demonstrate its qualifications and experience for each engagement for which it intends to respond.

The value of any one SOW may not exceed \$1 million. At a minimum, each SOW will describe the service levels. The Sample SOW format and service level examples are shown in Attachment 1.

For the purposes of this solicitation, End-User IT Outsourcing services include, but are not limited to the following categories.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
<b>Management Services</b>	<b>The management of customer owned equipment or vendor provided equipment.</b>
Provisioning of Equipment	This category includes any information technology equipment that may be made commercially available within the current and future technology marketplace that addresses a business need of a Customer. Equipment includes, but is not limited to: desktops/workstations, notebooks/portables, mobility devices, end-user support servers, storage area networks, networking, software, and peripherals. Services shall include, but not be limited to: management of equipment procurement, equipment configuration management, and provisioning of equipment. Vendor must be capable of provisioning equipment using standard configurations developed by Customer. Vendor shall be responsible for bearing the cost of acquisition or lease costs that may be applicable in the procurement process and for IT

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

	equipment that may be required by a Customer.
Desktop Outsourcing Services	<p>This category includes services related to desktop computers (or laptops acting in the role of desktops), desktop hosting servers, the underlying network infrastructure, the processes and the organization.</p> <p>Desktop support services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Deskside dispatch</li> <li>&gt; Hardware break/fix</li> <li>&gt; Installations, moves, adds and changes (IMAC)</li> <li>&gt; Remote server</li> <li>&gt; LAN/WAN (where applicable)</li> <li>&gt; Shrink-wrapped software (dispatched efforts)</li> <li>&gt; First-level application (dispatched efforts)</li> <li>&gt; Enterprise-specific (where required)</li> <li>&gt; IT asset inventory maintenance and process controls</li> <li>&gt; Backup and recovery processes</li> <li>&gt; Patch management</li> <li>&gt; Output management</li> <li>&gt; Hardware standards establishment</li> <li>&gt; Service desk (often included)</li> </ul>
Asset Tracking Services	<p>Maintain a central asset management system to maintain tracking of Vendor owned equipment to include, but not be limited to: physical location, user, software licenses, maintenance records, and end of Agreement term dates. Information should be updated as necessary to account for IMAC, maintenance, and deskside support. The system should also be used for tracking any services that are provided on Customer owned equipment that may be applicable to a Supplemental Agreement.</p>
<b>Support Services</b>	<b>Services provided in the course of providing Management Services.</b>
Service Desk	<p>Manage and supply a toll-free telephone number, email address, or web-based application for a Customer to report maintenance issues, trouble-tickets, and</p>

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

	<p>request other how-to assistance as necessary. Process must include a timely confirmation of receipt of all Customer reports and a resolution status of all service requests submitted.</p> <p>IT service desk is defined as the provision of internal end-user support for all IT services and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Labor, facilities, systems, processes, management and connectivity for service desk support</li> <li>&gt; First-level and second-level support</li> <li>&gt; Problem categorization and logging</li> <li>&gt; Problem tracking and escalation</li> <li>&gt; Problem resolution</li> <li>&gt; Remote access and resolution</li> </ul>
<p>On Site Support &amp; Moves/Add/Changes (MACs) Services</p>	<p>Provide day-to-day technical on-site support services, to include, but not be limited to: option of Vendor staff residing at a Customer location, assisting with complex problem identification, resolving complex issues which cannot be resolved by assistance of the help desk, installation of emergency hardware/software fixes, troubleshooting, physical relocation of equipment, continuing equipment modifications or upgrades, installation/de-installation, packing/unpacking of equipment, and swaps/replacement of equipment. Vendor should be capable of providing the services described for volume-based projects that affect several end-users as may be necessary throughout the term of a Customer's Supplemental Agreement.</p>
<p>Remote Support Services</p>	<p>Manage and provide Vendor remote support to "take over" and support a piece of equipment from a centralized location by Vendor personnel. Vendor shall provide phone support to assist in resolution of problems from a location that is remote to the end-user Customer.</p>
<p>Standard and Ad Hoc Reporting and Documentation</p>	<p>Produce various types of reports via online or hard copy as may be required by a Customer. These may include, but not be limited to: number of problems/calls logged, number of dispatch calls, and resolution time frames. Vendor shall allow a Customer's authorized end-user to have</p>

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

	electronic access to view and query Vendor's standard reports.
Break/Fix/Maintenance Services	Manage support services, including bearing any cost, for all equipment owned and provided by the Vendor. This would include, but not be limited to: time and materials maintenance, troubleshooting, on-site support function, and upgrading of equipment as needed to provide any new technology features.
Unwind/End of Engagement Services	Manage the de-installation and packaging of Vendor provided equipment, to include but not be limited to: providing a plan to manage the unwind of the services, and removal of hard drives to be left with a Customer for destruction
<b>Technology Services</b>	<b>Specific applications or technology centered processes.</b>
Mobility	This category defines mobility as the provision of internal end-user support for all mobile functionality. The mobile services include: > Labor, facilities, systems, processes, management and connectivity > Managing mobile devices, including bring your own device (BYOD) to securely work with the customer's network and base systems > Managing mobile device connectivity service > Problem categorization and logging > Problem tracking and escalation > Problem resolution
Hosted Virtual Desktop (HVD) Services	HVD service that can access applications from a centralized server, combined with a lower-cost desktop solution as the thin client.
Network Management Services	Manage and provide services for network related issues, to include, but not be limited to: connectivity troubleshooting, eliminating bottlenecks, and monitoring. For DIR eligible telecom Customers, telecommunications connectivity services will be achieved through the DIR consolidated telecommunications system, TEX-AN.
Software Services	Manage services for software to include, but not be limited to: software

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

	configuration management, patches, automated distribution, imaging creation, and imaging implementations
Security Services	Manage security services as applicable to the equipment as described within Item 1, Provisioning of Equipment and Procurement Services, that may be provided. To include, but not be limited to: firewalls, passwords, and data protection, equipment shipped in a default secure configuration, and option to keep a hard drive is required within the applicable equipment configuration. DIR reserves the right to promulgate standards in relation to security services and such standards will be discussed with vendors selected for negotiation.

**Some of the functions listed in each of the categories can be overlapping meaning it could fit in another category but for evaluation purposes they are being listed as shown.**

The requested engagement experience should be listed in the spreadsheet attached as “Bid Package 2” to the posting for this RFO, requisition number DIR-TSO-TMP-248 on the Electronic State Business Daily, <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>. Vendor shall provide information for the End-User IT Outsourced engagements applicable to their response. Failure to respond as instructed may result in Vendor’s offer being disqualified from further evaluation. DIR reserves the right to determine, in its discretion, if services offered as a part of vendor’s proposal fall within the scope of End-User IT Outsourcing services. DIR reserves the right to include or exclude in a resulting Contract any services offered in a vendor’s response.

DIR and any Vendor awarded a Contract as a result of this RFO may agree to provisions that allow leasing of services offered under the resulting Contract. The MOLA and MLA have been included as Bid Packages to this RFO.

DIR is not soliciting End-User IT Outsourcing services for the agency. DIR establishes statewide master contracts for use by DIR eligible customers (state agencies, higher education, K-12 independent school districts, and local governments). DIR competitively bids for information technology products and services.

DIR Customers acquiring End-User IT Outsourcing services under a contract will be required to execute a Statement of Work directly with a Vendor. The Customer will be required to negotiate additional terms and conditions and specific requirements as needed directly with a Vendor. Terms and Conditions stated in an SOW shall not weaken a term or condition as stated within a DIR services contract. The Customer makes the best value determination and issues a purchase order directly to the Vendor.

This RFO is **not** a solicitation for professional or consulting services as defined in Chapter

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

2254, Texas Government Code.

**2.2. Threshold and SOW Requirements**

State Agency Customers (not including institutions of higher education), must adhere to the requirements of Senate Bill 20 (84R) relating to DIR Cooperative Contracts. Senate Bill 20 (SB20) requires state agencies to adhere to the following purchasing thresholds:

Threshold Requirements for IT Commodities (Hardware, Software and Services)

<b>Contract Value</b>	<b>Number of DIR Vendors</b>
\$50,000 or less	May award directly to DIR Vendor of choice
More than \$50,000 but not more than \$150,000	Three (or all DIR Vendors in a category with less than three vendors)
More than \$150,000 but less than \$1 million	Six (or all DIR Vendors in a category with less than six vendors)
More than \$1,000,000	Agencies must conduct an independent procurement and cannot use DIR Cooperative Contracts

In addition, state agencies procuring more than \$50,000 worth of services from DIR Contracts must submit their draft and final Statements of Work to DIR for review and approval prior to making payment to a Vendor.

Threshold and SOW review and signature processes do not apply to Institutions of higher education, K-12, local governments, assistance organizations, or out-of-state customers.

**2.3. Electronic and Information Resources (EIR) Accessibility**

Under Texas Government Code, Chapter 2054, Subchapter M, and DIR implementing rules, DIR state agency Customers must procure EIR that complies with the Accessibility Standards defined in the Texas Administrative Codes [1 TAC 206](#), [1 TAC 213](#), and [WCAG 2.0 AA](#) as applicable, and when such products are available in the commercial marketplace or when such products are developed in response to a procurement solicitation.

Accordingly, **all Vendors must submit completed VPAT form (Bid Package 7) or links to completed VPATs located on manufacturer websites for each proposed product or product family prior to an award for the proposed product or product family.** Instructions on how to complete a VPAT® can be found on [DIR's website](#).

Vendors claiming that a proposed product or family of products is exempt from accessibility requirements must use the VPAT form to: (1) specify each exempt product or product family and indicate "Not Applicable" in the "Supporting Features" column of the Summary Table; (2) provide an explanation in the "Remarks" column of Summary Table. Documentation for EIR Accessibility includes all that apply:

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

- For Consumer Off the Shelf (COTS) products, including Software as a Service (SAAS), a completed, accurate Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) for each product or service included in the submitted pricelist.

Vendors who do not already have accessibility documentation should complete the form located here: <http://www.itic.org/public-policy/accessibility>. Vendors that claim their products are exempt from accessibility requirements must present that position to DIR as a question during the question and answer period of the solicitation.

For non-COTS offerings (such as IT related development services, services that include user accessed, online components, etc.): credible evidence of the Vendor's capability or ability to produce accessible electronic and information resources. Such evidence may include, but is not limited to, a vendor's internal accessibility policy documents, contractual warranties for accessibility, accessibility testing documents, and examples of prior work results.

**In addition to the VPAT requirement, vendors must complete the Policy Driven Adoption for Accessibility (PDAA) for Vendor Self-Assessment (Bid Package 8) and it must be submitted with the Vendor response to this RFO.**

## **2.4. Form of Contract**

### **2.3.1 Sample Contract and Terms; Negotiation**

The final terms and conditions of any contract awarded as a result of this RFO shall be agreed upon during negotiation. However, the minimum standard terms and conditions that shall be included in any awarded contract are contained in the sample *Contract for Services* attached as "Bid Package 3" and the *Standard Terms and Conditions for Services Contracts* attached as "Bid Package 4" to the posting for this RFO, requisition number DIR-TSO-TMP-248, on the Electronic State Business Daily, <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>.

### **2.3.2 Proposed Changes and Exceptions**

**[Caution: Vendors' Responses may be disqualified if their exceptions are excessive, or if they except to non-negotiable terms, as described below.]** Item 22 of Exhibit A contains the format for Vendor to note any exception to any provision, term, or condition specified in the Contract for Services and Standard Terms and Conditions for Services Contracts. Vendor should provide any proposed changes to contract language in redline in the "Proposed Language (redline)" column of the chart in Item 22 of Exhibit A. **Vendors may request exceptions to standard contract terms and conditions; however (1) where noted, exceptions to certain terms and conditions will not be allowed. If Vendor is unable to comply with these provisions, the Vendor's response may be subject to disqualification from further consideration for this solicitation. (2) the number and significance of exceptions taken may negatively impact the Vendor's score at evaluation (See Section 4.2 for evaluation criteria) and (3) DIR in its discretion may or may not accept the Vendor's requested exceptions, and (4) material deviations (including excessive, additional, inconsistent, conflicting or alternative terms) may render the Offer non-responsive and may result in rejection of the bid.** An explanation as to why the Vendor cannot comply with the provision, term, or condition and proposed alternative language **must** be included in

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

the response. If Vendor fails to note any exception, Vendor will not be allowed to request an exception upon award or at some later date.

DIR anticipates a contract term of two (2) years with two (2), one-year optional extensions to be exercised by DIR at its discretion. In the event of prolonged contract negotiations due to the number and/or significance of exceptions taken, lack of Vendor responsiveness or other failure to close contract negotiations that are not due to a failure on the part of DIR, DIR may in its discretion offer Vendor a shorter contract term.

DIR reserves the right to make changes to the *Contract for Services* or the *Standard Terms and Conditions for Services Contracts* if it is in the best interest of the State to do so. Should this occur prior to the award of any contracts as a result of this RFO, any Vendors selected for negotiations will be notified.

### 3. General Information

#### 3.1. Point of Contact

All communications regarding this RFO must be addressed in writing to:

Carrie Cooper  
Department of Information Resources  
300 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1300  
Austin, Texas 78701  
Phone: 512-936-2353  
Fax: 512-936-6896  
Internet: [carrie.cooper@dir.texas.gov](mailto:carrie.cooper@dir.texas.gov)

#### 3.2. Contact with DIR Staff

Upon issuance of this RFO, employees and representatives of DIR other than the Point of Contact identified in Section 3.1 will not discuss the contents of this RFO with any Vendor or their representatives. **Failure of a Vendor and any of its representatives to observe this restriction may result in disqualification of any related response.** This restriction does not preclude discussions between affected parties for the purpose of conducting business unrelated to this procurement.

#### 3.3. Anticipated Schedule

##### 3.3.1 RFO Schedule

It is DIR's intention to comply with the following schedule for this RFO. These dates represent a tentative schedule of events. DIR reserves the right to modify these dates at any time. Prospective Vendors will be notified of modifications to the schedule via the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD) web site.

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
May 16, 2016	Publish RFO on Electronic State Business Daily
June 1, 2016 1:30 pm (CT)	Vendor Conference

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

June 3, 2016 2:00 pm (CT)	Deadline for submitting questions
June 10, 2016 5:00 pm (CT)	Deadline for posting answers to questions on the ESBD
June 21, 2016 2:00 pm (CT)	<i>Deadline for DIR to receive Vendor references</i>
<b>June 21, 2016 2:00 pm (CT)</b>	<b>Deadline for submitting Responses to RFO</b>
June 22, 2016 - until completed	Evaluation of responses, negotiation and contract execution

**3.3.2 Vendor Conference**

An optional Vendor Conference will be held on the date and time specified in RFO Section 3.3.1 above at the location listed below. Please bring a copy of the RFO to the Vendor Conference, as DIR will only supply a limited amount of copies.

William P. Clements State Building  
300 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Room Number 103  
Austin, Texas 78701

A webinar will be held on the date and time specified in RFO Section 3.3.1 above. To reserve a webinar seat, register at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5318975834933658884>

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

DIR will also provide Vendors the opportunity to submit written questions at the conference. All questions submitted at the conference must reference the appropriate RFO page and section number. Although DIR may provide tentative responses to questions at the conference, responses are not official until they are posted as an addendum to this RFO on the Electronic State Business Daily, <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>. DIR reserves the right to amend answers prior to the offer submission deadline.

**3.3.3 Written Questions and Official Answers**

Vendors shall submit all questions regarding this RFO by fax, e-mail, or in writing to the Point of Contact listed in Section 3.1. **Questions regarding this RFO will be accepted until the date and time specified above in Section 3.3.1, RFO Schedule.** Note: Texas observes Daylight Savings Time. Official answers will be posted as an addendum to this RFO, requisition number DIR-TSO-TMP-248 on the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD), <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>. DIR reserves the right to amend answers prior to the offer submission deadline.

Any addenda and/or amendment to this procurement solicitation will be posted as an addendum on the Electronic State Business Daily. It is the responsibility of interested parties to periodically check the ESBD for updates to the procurement prior to submitting a bid. Respondent's failure to periodically check the ESBD will

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

in no way release the selected Vendor from “addenda or additional information” resulting in additional costs to meet the requirements of the RFO.

### **3.4. Historically Underutilized Businesses**

The purpose of the Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Program is to promote full and equal business opportunities for all businesses in State contracting in accordance with the goals specified in the State of Texas Disparity Study. Each state agency must make a good faith effort to meet or exceed the goals identified below and assist HUBs in receiving a portion of the total contract value of all contracts that the agency expects to award in a fiscal year in accordance with the following procurement goals/percentages:

1. 11.2% for heavy construction other than building contracts;
2. 21.1% for all building construction, including general contractors and operative builders’ contracts;
3. 32.9% for all special trade construction contracts;
4. 23.7% for professional services contracts;
5. 26.0% for all other services contracts;
6. 21.1% for commodities contracts.

It is the policy of DIR to make a good faith effort to achieve the annual program goals by contracting directly with HUBs or indirectly through subcontracting opportunities in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Chapter 2161, Subchapter F, and HUB Rules promulgated by the Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA), 34 TAC, Chapter 20.

HUBs are strongly urged to respond to this RFO. Under Texas law, state agencies are required to make a good faith effort to assist HUBs in receiving certain percentages of the total value of contract awards. Vendors who meet the qualifications are strongly encouraged to apply for certification as HUBs.

#### **3.4.1 HUB Subcontracting Plan**

DIR has determined that subcontracting is probable under any contract awarded as a result of this RFO. **The HUB Goal for this RFO is 26%. ALL VENDORS RESPONDING TO THIS RFO, INCLUDING THOSE THAT ARE HUB CERTIFIED OR THOSE WHO DO NOT PLAN TO SUBCONTRACT, MUST COMPLETE A HUB SUBCONTRACTING PLAN (HSP) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE’S POLICY ON UTILIZATION OF HUBs. THE HSP MUST BE INCLUDED AS PART OF THE RESPONSE TO THIS RFO. FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE HSP AS INSTRUCTED MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION OF THE RESPONSE FROM CONSIDERATION.** The State’s Policy on Utilization of Historically Underutilized Businesses and HSP forms are attached to this RFO as Exhibit C. Please review the HSP forms carefully and allow sufficient time to identify and contact HUBs and allow them to respond. Note that Vendors must demonstrate a good faith effort to contract with new HUBs if currently proposed HUBs have performed as subcontractors to the Vendor for more than five years. If the Vendor does not plan to subcontract, Vendor must state that fact in their plan. An original, signed paper copy of the HSP must be submitted in an envelope that is separate from the rest of the proposal. The completed plan shall become a part of the contract that may be awarded as a result of this RFO.

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**3.4.2 HUB Continuing Performance**

Any contracts awarded as a result of this RFO shall include reporting responsibilities related to HUB subcontracting. Awarded Vendors may not change any subcontractor without submitting a revised HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP). Any change to a subcontractor and revised HSP must be approved in writing by DIR prior to implementation.

**3.4.3 HUB Resources Available**

A list of certified HUBs is available on the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA) Web site at: <http://comptroller.texas.gov/procurement/cmb/hubonly.html>. For additional information, contact the CPA's HUB program office at [cpa.hub@cpa.texas.gov](mailto:cpa.hub@cpa.texas.gov). If Vendors know of any businesses that may qualify for certification as a HUB, they should encourage those businesses to contact the CPA HUB program office.

**3.5. Vendor Qualifications**

**3.5.1 Authorized Vendors**

Vendors who respond to this RFO must be one of the following:

- 1) Vendor who will sell directly to Customers through a Co-op Contract.
- 2) Vendor who will execute a Co-op Contract with DIR and designate one or more qualified dealers or resellers (Order Fulfillers) to sell directly to Customers on its behalf. The Vendor may also sell directly to Customers.

**3.5.2 Federal Requirements**

- 1) State agencies are prohibited from doing business with terrorists and terrorist organizations. Any Vendor listed in the prohibited Vendors list authorized by Executive Order #13224, "*Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism*", published by the United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (Terrorism List) shall not be awarded a Contract as a result of this RFO. Any Vendor awarded a Contract as a result of this RFO must agree that if at any time during the term of the contract the Vendor is listed on the Terrorism List, the Vendor shall promptly notify DIR. As part of DIR's contract management, periodic checks will be performed to ensure any Vendor awarded a contract as a result of the RFO remains in compliance with these Federal Requirements. DIR shall have the absolute right to terminate the contract without recourse in the event Vendor becomes listed on the Terrorism List.
- 2) Should any Vendor or its principals awarded a Contract as a result of this RFO become suspended or debarred from doing business with the federal government as listed in the *System for Award Management (SAM)* maintained by the General Services Administration, the Vendor's contract will be terminated without recourse.
- 3) Vendor shall comply with the requirements of the Immigration and Reform Act of 1986, the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 ("IIRIRA"), and the Immigration Act of 1990 (8 U.S.C.1101, et seq.) regarding employment verification and retention of verification forms for any

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

individual(s) hired on or after the effective date of the 1996 Act who will perform any labor or services under this Contract.

**3.5.3 Vendor Performance and Debarment**

In accordance with 34 TAC, Chapter 20, Subchapter C, any Vendor that is debarred from doing business with the State of Texas will not be awarded a contract under this solicitation. The list of debarred Vendors is located on the CPA Web site at:

[http://comptroller.texas.gov/procurement/prog/vendor\\_performance/debarred/](http://comptroller.texas.gov/procurement/prog/vendor_performance/debarred/)

**3.5.4 Required Vendor and Subcontractor Current and Former State Employee Disclosures**

Vendor shall disclose, for itself and on behalf of all of its Subcontractors, in its response to Section 17 of Exhibit A to the RFO, all of the following:

- 1) Any current or former employees of Vendor who will spend 20% or more of their time on a contract resulting from this RFO and are current or former employees of the State of Texas within the past five (5) years;
- 2) Any proposed Vendor personnel assigned to work directly on any Contract to arise from this RFO 20% or more of their time who are related within two degrees of consanguinity of any current or former employees of the State of Texas. Disclosure of former state employees may be limited to the last five (5) years; and
- 3) Vendor will certify that they are in compliance with Texas Government Code, Title 6, Subtitle B, Section 669.003, relating to contracting with the executive head of a state agency. If Section 669.003 applies, Vendor will complete the following information in order for the response to be evaluated: Name of Former Executive, Name of State Agency, Date of Separation for State Agency, Position with Vendor, and Date of Employment with Vendor.

**3.6. Response Deadline and Submission Requirements**

Vendors are invited to submit responses in accordance with the requirements outlined in this document. Responses must be received by DIR on or before the date and time specified in Section 3.3.1 of this RFO. **No late responses will be reviewed.** Responses must be hand-delivered or mailed to the submittal address listed in Section 3.7.1. No facsimile or e-mail responses shall be accepted.

**3.6.1 Official Timepiece**

The clock in the DIR Purchasing Office at 300 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 1335, is the official timepiece for determining compliance with the deadline. All responses will be date and time stamped when received by the Purchasing Office on the 13<sup>th</sup> floor.

**3.6.2 Hand Delivery of Responses**

All Vendors and courier delivery service personnel will be required to check in at the security desk on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor at 300 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street. Therefore, it is advised that Vendors allow extra time for building security check-in if hand-delivering responses or using a courier delivery service. DIR will not be responsible for delays associated with building security compliance.

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**3.6.3 United States Postal Service Delivery of Responses**

Delivery of responses via United States Postal Service is acceptable. However, responses must be received, not post-marked, by the response deadline and, due to the State's mail processing procedures, this method may cause a delay in delivery to the DIR Purchasing Office. DIR will not be responsible for any delays associated with this method of delivery.

**3.7. Response Format and Contents**

**3.7.1 Submittal Address and External Packaging of Response**

Responses should be addressed to:

Department of Information Resources  
300 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1300  
Austin, Texas 78701  
Attn: Carrie Cooper

The external packaging of the response must reference "RFO DIR-TSO-TMP- and must include the name and address of the Vendor submitting the response.

**3.7.2 Number of Copies**

Each Vendor must submit the complete response as follows:

1. One (1) signed original (clearly marked) of the complete response, including one (1) signed original of the HUB Subcontracting Plan;
2. One (1) signed original of the HUB Subcontracting Plan in a separate envelope;
3. Two (2) thumb drives (**clearly marked with Vendor name**) containing the following;
  - a) One (1) thumb drive containing an electronic folder labeled "Complete Vendor Response" that shall contain the entire Vendor's response.
  - b) One (1) thumb drive containing a labeled electronic folder with any and all response materials, which Vendor asserts are confidential or proprietary\*; and a labeled electronic folder containing all non-proprietary/confidential and non-copyrighted materials in the Vendor's response\* (redacted copy for public release).

\* If Vendor's response does not contain such materials, then thumb drive for these items are not required. DIR will release the non-proprietary/confidential and non-copyrighted version if DIR receives a Public Information Request. Unless Vendor specifically identifies proprietary, confidential or copyrighted material as required, DIR will assume all information is available for public disclosure.

Paper responses must be bound in a 3-ring binder and the cover of the binders must reference "DIR-TSO-TMP-248" and include the name and address of the responding Vendor.

Each thumb drive must be clearly marked as to its contents. **The response materials on each thumb drive must be compatible with Microsoft Office.** All

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

materials must be submitted in an editable format (e.g., Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel). Do not submit electronic materials in PDF format. If there are any disparities between the contents of the printed response and any of the response materials on thumb drives, the contents of the signed original printed response will take precedence.

NOTE: Thumb drive(s) must be securely fastened to the 3-ring binder.

**3.7.3 Mandatory Response Contents**

**VENDOR MUST PROVIDE THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW OR THE RESPONSE WILL BE REJECTED.**

**1) Vendor Information – Exhibit A of this RFO**

This form must be filled out in its entirety and signed by an officer or agent empowered to contractually bind the Vendor.

**2) Contract Support Plan - Exhibit B of this RFO**

Vendor must provide a plan that describes the Vendor's ability and strategy for promoting and supporting the contract, if awarded.

**3) HUB Subcontracting Plan Forms – Exhibit C of this RFO**

All Vendors, **INCLUDING THOSE WITH HUB DESIGNATION AND THOSE THAT DO NOT PLAN TO USE SUBCONTRACTORS**, must submit a HUB Subcontracting Plan. HUB Subcontracting Plan Forms are provided in Exhibit C. Refer to Section 3.4 for more information regarding HUB subcontracting.

**Note: For the purposes of the HUB Subcontracting Plan, Order Fulfillers designated by a manufacturer or publisher to sell directly to Customers on its behalf are considered subcontractors. The paper copy of the HSP must be submitted in a separate envelope.**

**4) Vendor Experience – Bid Package 2**

The requested engagement information should be listed in the spreadsheet attached as "Bid Package 2" to the posting for this RFO, requisitions number DIR-TSO-TMP-248 on the Electronic State Business Daily, <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>. Vendor shall provide information for the End-User IT Outsourced engagements applicable to their response.

**5) Service Agreements**

Vendor shall provide any Service Agreements that are applicable to the services Vendor is proposing. These Agreements must, at a minimum, allow and provide for inclusion of the terms and conditions of the *Contract for Products and Related Services* (Bid Package 3) and the *Standard Terms and Conditions for Products and Related Services Contracts* (Bid Package 4).

**6) Policy Driven Adoption Assessment – Bid Package 8**

**3.7.4 References**

Vendor must send the Vendor Reference Questionnaire (See Bid Package 6) to three (3) companies or government agencies. Instructions are included in Bid Package 6. DIR is not responsible for undeliverable e-mails or for non-responsive references. If DIR does not receive a vendor reference, Vendor will receive a score of "0" for that reference. Include all requested information. References must respond to DIR on the form provided by the due date in order to be considered in proposal evaluation. The Vendor Reference Questionnaire form must be submitted

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

directly from the reference to DIR. The Vendor may not submit the reference form to DIR. Should this occur, the reference will be scored with a zero (0).

**3.7.5 Accessibility of Electronic Response Documents**

Vendor response documents should be submitted in a format that is accessible to people with disabilities. This can include, but is not limited to accessible Office or other productivity document suite. The submission of scanned documents is discouraged.

**3.8. Rejection of Responses**

DIR has sole discretionary authority and reserves the right to reject any and all responses received as a result of this RFO. Responses that do not comply with the mandatory submission requirements shall be rejected. In addition, DIR reserves the right to accept or reject, in whole or in part, any responses submitted, and to waive minor technicalities when in the best interest of the State.

**3.9. Right to Amend or Withdraw RFO**

DIR reserves the right to alter, amend or modify any provision of this RFO, or to withdraw this RFO, in whole or in part, at any time prior to the award of a contract if to do so is in the best interest of the State. DIR reserves the right to re-solicit for like or similar products and services whenever it determines re-solicitation to be in the best interest of the State.

Any changes or additional information regarding this RFO will be posted as an addendum to requisition number DIR-TSO-TMP-248 on the Electronic State Business Daily, <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>. It is the responsibility of Vendors to monitor the web site for addenda. Vendor's failure to periodically check the ESBD will in no way release the vendor from "addenda or additional information" resulting in additional costs to meet the requirements of the RFP.

**3.10. Pre-agreement Costs**

DIR shall not be responsible or liable for any cost incurred by any Vendor in the preparation and submission of its response to this RFO or for other costs incurred by participating in this procurement process.

**3.11. Ownership of Responses**

All responses become the property of DIR. DIR reserves the right to use any and all information or materials presented in response to this RFO. Disqualification of a Vendor's response does not eliminate this right.

**3.12. Public Information**

DIR is a government agency subject to the Texas Public Information Act. Responses submitted to DIR as a result of this RFO are subject to release as public information after contracts are executed or if the procurement is terminated. Vendor may not mark its complete proposal "copyrighted" or mark every page as proprietary or confidential but if a

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

Vendor believes that its response, or parts of its response, may be exempted from disclosure under Texas law, the Vendor must specify page-by-page and line-by-line the parts of the response that it believes are exempt. In addition, the Vendor must specify which exception(s) are applicable and provide detailed reasons substantiating the exception(s).

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has the sole authority to determine whether information is confidential and not subject to disclosure under the Public Information Act DIR shall comply with all decisions of the OAG.

DIR assumes no responsibility for asserting legal arguments on behalf of any Vendor. Vendors are advised to consult with their legal counsel concerning disclosure issues resulting from this procurement process and to take precautions to safeguard trade secrets and other proprietary information.

## **4. Evaluation, Negotiations, and Award**

### **4.1. Evaluation of Responses**

DIR will review proposals to determine responsiveness to this RFO. All determinations about responsiveness to this RFO are final. All proposals determined to be responsive will go through a financial review overseen by the Chief Financial Officer's (CFO's) office. **The financial review is a pass/fail determination that is final.** Only proposals that receive a passing grade will proceed to the Evaluation Committee. DIR will establish an Evaluation Committee to review all responses that have not been rejected. At any time during the evaluation process, DIR may ask any or all Vendors to elaborate on or clarify specific points or portions of their response. DIR's request and Vendor's response shall be in writing. Once initial evaluation of responses has been completed, the Evaluation Committee shall turnover the tabulated scores to the DIR purchasing office and shall conclude their duties.

### **4.2. Evaluation Criteria**

#### **4.2.1 Pass/Fail Criteria**

In addition to the weighted criteria listed below DIR also reviews additional Pass/Fail criteria as follows:

1. DUNS Number and report is a Pass/Fail review conducted by the Finance Group (Exhibit A, Item 11)
2. Compliance with applicable provisions of §§2155.074, 2155.075, 2156.007, 2157.003, and 2157.125, Gov't Code. Respondents may fail this selection criterion for any of the following conditions:
  - a. A score of less than 90% in the Vendor Performance System;
  - b. Currently under a Corrective Action Plan through the CPA, Having repeated negative Vendor Performance Reports,
  - c. Having purchase orders that have been cancelled in the previous 12 months for non-performance (including but not limited to late delivery, etc.).
3. Completion of HUB Subcontract Plan (Exhibit C).

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**4.2.2 Weighted Evaluation Criteria**

The criteria and weight to be used in determining the best value for the State are as follows

**4.2.1 Past Engagement Experience – 50%**

DIR will evaluate the Vendor's performance on three (3) engagements, provided by the Vendor, that fall within the scope for each Engagement Category (Management Services, Support Services and Technology Services) as defined in Section 2.1, Scope. Engagement descriptions provided will be used to verify Vendor experience and demonstrated success of the referenced engagements. Specifically, DIR will score Vendor's response to the following:

- Bid Package 2, Vendor Experience

**4.2.2 Vendor Information – 5%**

DIR will score Vendor's specific responses to the following:

- Exhibit A, Vendor Information

**4.2.3 Contract Marketing Plan– 20%**

Vendor's plan for supporting the Contract, if awarded. DIR will score Vendor's specific responses to the following:

- Exhibit B, Contract Marketing and Support Plan

**4.2.4 Conformity with End-User IT Outsourcing Services Terms and Conditions – 15%**

- Bid Package 3 and Bid Package 4

**4.2.5 Vendor References – 10%**

Bid Package 6 will be submitted directly to DIR by each Vendors' reference. Vendors will be evaluated on performance under existing and prior contracts for similar products or services and the evaluation may include consideration of Vendor performance as recorded in the CPA Vendor Performance Tracking System as described in the Texas Administrative Code, 34 TAC 20.108(b).

**4.3. Oral Presentations, Best and Final Offer**

DIR in its discretion shall make the determination whether to request oral presentations and/or engage in the Best and Final Offer process. Both oral presentations and the he Best and Final Offer process, if held, will also be scored.

DIR reserves the right to continue to evaluate responses until such point as the best value, as defined by Texas Government Code, Section 2157.003, is obtained for the State.

**4.4. Negotiations**

At the conclusion of the evaluation, as described within Sections 4.1 and 4.3 above, DIR staff shall determine the number of Vendors with which it will start contract negotiations. In its discretion, DIR shall terminate contract negotiations when DIR determines that the best value for the State has been obtained. Then the staff will recommend award of one

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

or more contracts to DIR Executive Management.

**4.5. Award of Contract**

DIR Executive Management shall make the decision to award any contracts, if in the best interest of DIR and the State to do so. The decision of Executive Management on any award is final. Any award for this RFO shall be posted under requisition number DIR-TSO-TMP-248 on the Electronic State Business Daily, <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>, upon execution of a contract with one or more Vendors. All responses and working papers pursuant to this RFO are not subject to disclosure under the Public Information Act until all contracts resulting from this RFO have been executed.

Any Contract resulting from this solicitation is contingent upon the continued availability of lawful appropriations by the Texas Legislature.

**4.6. Vendor Protest Procedures**

Any Vendor who is aggrieved in connection with this RFO, evaluation, or award of a contract may formally protest to DIR in accordance with the Vendor protest procedures posted on the DIR Web site at: <http://dir.texas.gov/View-Information-For-Vendors/Pages/Content.aspx?id=21>.

**END OF RFO**

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**Sample Statement of Work**

**ATTACHMENT 1**  
**STATEMENT OF WORK (SOW)**  
**FOR**  
**END-USER IT OUTSOURCING**

***Engagement Name***

***DIR Customer Name***

***DATE***

## **1. Introduction**

Describe the managed service to be delivered and the characteristics of the services at a summary level. The statement of work (SOW) is unique and distinct for each engagement.

## **2. Background**

Explain why the Customer is contracting for this managed service. Provide useful information regarding the Customer organization, engagement history, future plans or any other relevant information regarding the work to be performed.

## **3. Scope**

### **Sample Content**

#### **3.1 Engagement-Based Services**

- Scope of work
- Engagement risks, assumptions and constraints
- Roles and responsibilities
- Detailed description of managed service
- Acceptance criteria
- Engagement completion criteria
- Engagement schedules to be achieved by vendor
- Relevant quality processes that will apply, such as change management, acceptance, and risk and issue management

#### **3.2 Outsourced Services**

- Scope of services to be delivered
- Acceptance criteria
- Service-level objectives
- Key performance indicators
- Service-level agreements (SLAs)
- Service-level management

## **4. Services**

### **4.1 Sample Content**

**(Example – at a minimum, Customers should consider the following items when developing their SOW)**

- Managed Services must be provided on the dates specified. Any changes to the delivery date must have prior approval (in writing) by the Customer contract manager or designate.
- All managed services must be submitted in a format approved by the Customer contract manager.
- If the managed service cannot be provided within the scheduled time frame, the Vendor is required to contact the Customer contract manager in writing with a reason for the delay and the proposed revised schedule. The request for a revised schedule must include the impact on related tasks and the overall project.
- A request for a revised schedule must be reviewed and approved by the Customer contract manager before placed in effect. Contract Terms and Conditions may dictate remedies, costs, and other actions based on the facts related to the request for a revised schedule.

- The Customer will complete a review of each submitted managed service within specified working days for the date of receipt
- A kickoff meeting will be held at a location and time selected by the Customer where the Vendor and its staff will be introduced to the Customer.

#### 4.2 Sample Delivery Schedule

No.	Item	SOW Paragraph	Due Date	Recipient
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				

#### 5. Reports and Meetings

**Sample Content (Example – at a minimum, Customers should consider the following items when developing their SOW)**

- The Vendor is required to provide the Customer contract manager with weekly written progress reports of this engagement. These are due to the Customer contract manager by the close of business on the *specify day* each week throughout the life of the project
- The progress reports shall cover all work performed and completed during the week for which the progress report is provided and shall present the work to be performed during the subsequent week.
- The progress report shall identify any problems encountered or still outstanding with an explanation of the cause and resolution of the problem or how the problem will be resolved.
- The Vendor will be responsible for conducting weekly status meetings with the Customer contract manager. The meetings will be held on *specify day* of each week - at a time and place so designated by the Customer contract manager - unless revised by the Customer contract manager. The meetings can be in person or over the phone at the discretion of the Customer contract manager.

#### 6. Service Level Agreement

The items listed below are suggestions for areas to be considered for service levels and incorporated into the SOW service level agreement.

- Security (as defined by customer)
- Quality (as defined by customer)
- Availability (data, system, and components)
- Performance (transmission, response, or completion times)
- Meantime to Resolution (MTR)
- Business Continuity

- Required communications (meetings, reports, calls, emails)
- Required documents (plans, estimates, schedules, analyses)
- Degree of accuracy of estimates (schedule, budget, resources, total)
- Effective risk management and response (adherence to plans)
- Effective scope management and change control (adherence to plans)
- Data quality (fitness for use, accuracy, precision, completeness)
- Ad hoc query response (usually written in terms of averages)
- Reliability (queries generate same valid results)
- Consistency (calculations and definitions are consistent regardless of source or function)
- Acceptable usage (query controls)
- Correct mapping of old to new (no functions or data lost that were not planned to retire)
- Previous software, system, or service retired on time

## **7. Period of Performance**

Specify the period of performance in which the Vendor will conduct and complete the work associated with the SOW.

## **8. Invoices**

Describe the Vendor's responsibilities for invoicing Customer including invoice content, frequency/schedule and instructions for submitting invoices. Payments will be made in accordance with Exhibit A of the DIR-TSO-TMP-248 Contract.

## **9. Customer/Vendor-Furnished Equipment and Work Space**

Specify what equipment and/or work space the Customer will provide or the expectations of what the Vendor will provide.

## **10. Additional Customer Terms and Conditions**

List any additional terms and conditions required by the Customer. Customers may negotiate the terms and conditions of a SOW to suit their business needs so long as the SOW terms and conditions do not conflict or weaken the DIR master contract.

## **11. Vendor Response**

**Sample Content (Example – at a minimum, Customers should consider the following items when developing their SOW)**

- All written managed services proposed must be phrased in terms and language that can be easily understood by non-technical personnel (e.g., laypersons without subject matter expertise)
- All document managed services proposed must be in formats (hard copy and electronic) as specified by the Customer - at a minimum, the formats must be in industry accepted standards (e.g., MS Word, MS PowerPoint, MS Project)
- The Vendor must demonstrate its knowledge and expertise of the environment (e.g., platforms, software, applications, network, tools, etc.) for which work is to be performed
- All items of this agreement shall be done in accordance with the Service Level Agreement.

## **Sample Content**

- Agreement to confidentiality and legal statements

- Vendor staff capabilities specific to this SOW:
  - Organization chart
  - Management team resumes
  - Key personnel resumes
- Vendor's services capabilities:
  - Outline of capability to deliver the required services, including process, functional and technical expertise
  - Agreed-on SOW for managed services
  - Engagement plans for project services or transition
- Project management plan addressing the tasks specified in the SOW

**12. Pricing**

The main purpose of this section is to detail the pricing for the deliverables-based services. Vendors should also provide a summary of any assumptions and exclusions.

**Sample Pricing Sheet**

Engagement No.	Engagement Name	Price

**13. Response Submission Requirements**

**Sample Content**

- SOW schedule of events: deadline for questions, deadline for answering questions, response due date
- Address for response submission
- Number of copies
- Mandatory response contents

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**Exhibit A  
Vendor Information Form**

**This form must be filled out in its entirety and signed by an officer or agent empowered to contractually bind the Vendor.**

1) Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Comptroller of Public Accounts Vendor Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_

3) Principal place of business

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

4) Facility responsible for servicing the contract

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

5) Contact Person regarding Vendor's response to the RFO

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone Number:

Fax:

Email:

6) Contact Person responsible for contract negotiation

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone Number:

Fax:

Email:

7) Indicate whether or not your company is a certified Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) with the State of Texas by the CPA.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes                      \_\_\_\_\_ No

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

- 8) Provide the year in which your company was created/incorporated.
- 9) Provide a history of your company.
- 10) Provide the number of years your company has sold the products/services requested in this RFO.
- 11) Provide the number of years your company has sold the products/services requested in this RFO to Texas state agencies, local governments, independent school districts, and institutions of higher education.
- 12) Proof of Financial Stability.

All Vendors responding to this RFO and all Vendors that will enter into a contract with DIR must be and remain current in payment of all taxes, including Sales and Franchise Taxes. In general, the Comptroller of Public Accounts must identify the Vendor to be “in good standing” and a Vendor with which the state is authorized to do business.

Vendors must provide a Dun and Bradstreet D-U-N-S number. The D-U-N-S number MUST be included in the Vendor’s response. Failure to include the D-U-N-S number listed for the company shall cause automatic rejection of the response.

- 13) Demonstrate that your company has the experience in supporting various sizes of organizations and is able to provide complete solutions for the Services proposed that will meet Customer needs. Customer organizations could be from ten (10) to several thousand employees. Experience should be documented in terms of Services offered (including applicable equipment), number of customers served, successful performance of the tasks and operations requested in this RFO, and documented customer benefits and satisfaction that resulted from each. Documentation should specifically include and identify public sector experience.
- 14) For services being proposed, indicate your company’s ability to provide the Services described in Section 2.1 of this RFO. Provide attachments as necessary and include other service categories that may be appropriate to the Services requested in the RFO.
- 15) Provide a detailed explanation of the procedures, policy, methods, standards, and quality assurance measures for reviewing SOW performance; preparing, inspecting and services; and acceptance of services.
  1. Describe manual and automated tools used.
  2. Describe implementation and enforcement of quality assurance and quality control management measures for resources, scheduling and managed services
  3. Describe implementation and enforcement of quality assurance and quality control management measures for resources, scheduling and managed services for subcontractors.
  4. Explain what happens when a inspection fails or on-going service is unacceptable.
  5. Describe how your company proposes to implement and enforce quality assurance

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

measures with any subcontractors that are proposed.

- 16) As appropriate, for each of the Service Categories in 15) above proposed, provide your company's Service Levels and the Service the Customer may expect to receive within each level (Example: 24x7, 4-hour response, etc.) Service level descriptions must be detailed and must include, as appropriate, a minimum of three (3) levels of service (Example: Gold, Silver, Bronze with Bronze being the equivalent to the Vendor's basic service offered). Vendor must anticipate that a Customer may require different levels of services for different end-user or equipment supported.
- 17) If Applicable to the Service category proposed, answer the following questions related to Vendor Services Support:
- A) Does your company place any geographic limits on your ability to provide or support the Services being requested?
- B) If a customer has twenty (20) locations of various sizes scattered throughout the State, what is your company's strategy for providing customer service, support, and response time to all Customer locations?
- C) If determined by a Customer that they will require a dedicated full-time Vendor technician to be on-site at their location to provide the Services they require, will your company be able to comply with such a request? If yes, are there any restrictions or requirements in relation to the number of end-users a Customer must have in order to obtain a dedicated on-site technician.
- D) What are your company's provisions for notifying customers when equipment is either replaced, upgraded, or down for maintenance?
- E) If a piece of equipment is deemed out of service, what is your company's average repair time? Also, if the piece of equipment is out of service for more than 8 business hours, or exceeds the service level agreed between the parties, will your company provide a replacement unit at no additional cost until the equipment is repaired and put back into production? If not, please describe how your company compensates its Customers when a service level is breached.
- F) Describe how the Vendor Services support will provide minimal downtime and onsite support as needed.
- G) If trouble-tickets are experienced at the same time for several different end-users in separate locations, what is your company's strategy for addressing the trouble tickets?
- H) What is your company's methodology for determining when the "clock" on a trouble-ticket starts and closes?
- I) Describe the various standard reports that a Customer may obtain from your company.
- J) Can your company comply with a Customer's request to allow a Customer's authorized



**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

Package 6. DIR is not responsible for undeliverable e-mails or for non-responsive references. If DIR does not receive a vendor reference, Vendor will receive a score of "0" for that reference. Include all requested information. References must respond to DIR on the form provided by the due date in order to be considered in proposal evaluation. The Vendor Reference Questionnaire form must be submitted directly from the reference to DIR. The Vendor may not submit the reference form to DIR. Should this occur the reference will be scored with a zero (0).

23) Vendor and Subcontractor Conflict of Interest Disclosure

List below all current or former employees of Vendor and/or proposed Vendor personnel with conflict of interests as follows:

1) Any current or former employees of Vendor who will spend 20% or more of their time on a contract resulting from this RFO and are current or former employees of the State of Texas within the past five (5) years; and

2) Any proposed Vendor personnel assigned to work directly on any Contract to arise from this RFO 20% or more of their time who are related within two degrees of consanguinity of any current or former employees of the State of Texas. Disclosure of former state employees may be limited to the last five (5) years.

Vendor Personnel:

<u>Current or Former Employees who are current or former State employees (see Note 1 above)</u>	<u>Vendor Personnel related to State of Texas Employees (see Note 2 above)</u>

Subcontractor personnel:

<u>Current or Former Employees of Subcontractor(s) who are current or former State employees (see Note 1 above)</u>	<u>Subcontractor Personnel related to State of Texas Employees (see Note 2 above)</u>

24) Officer or Agent empowered to contractually bind the Vendor:

Name:

Title:

Address:

Phone Number:

Fax:

Email:

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

25) **Statement of Compliance**

A. Checklist for the RFO

The following checklist is provided for the convenience of Vendors in their response preparation process. It is not intended to represent an exhaustive list of the mandatory requirements for this RFO. Vendors must ensure that all mandatory requirements for this RFO are met, even if they are not included in this checklist. The mandatory documentation must be submitted with the original and each copy of the response.

A completed checklist shall not be binding on DIR’s administrative review for compliance with the mandatory response contents specified in this RFO. As step one of the evaluation process, DIR will review all responses to ensure compliance with the mandatory response contents as specified in Section 3.7.3. of the RFO and reject any response that does not comply.

**All responses must be received by DIR on or before the date and time indicated in Section 3.3.1 of the RFO. No late responses will be reviewed.**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Check</b>
Response addressed to: Department of Information Resources 300 W. 15th Street, Suite 1300 Austin, Texas 78701 Attn: Carrie Cooper	
External packaging references “RFO DIR-TSO-TMP-248”	
One (1) signed original (clearly marked) of the complete response, including one (1) signed original of the HUB Subcontracting Plan;	
One (1) additional signed original HUB Subcontracting Plan in a separate envelope	
Two (2) thumb drives (clearly marked with Vendor name) containing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One (1) thumb drive containing an electronic folder labeled “Complete Vendor Response” that shall contain the entire Vendor’s response.</li> <li>• One (1) thumb drive containing a labeled electronic folder with any and all response materials, which Vendor asserts are confidential or proprietary*; and a labeled electronic folder containing all non-proprietary/confidential and non-copyrighted materials in the Vendor’s response* (redacted copy for public release).</li> </ul>	
Paper responses are bound and the cover of the binders reference “DIR-TSO-TMP-248” and include the name and address of the responding Vendor	
<b>Mandatory Response Contents</b>	
Vendor Information - Exhibit A	
Contract Support Plan – Exhibit B	

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

HUB Subcontracting Plan Forms – Exhibit C – in a separate envelope	
Vendor Experience – Bid Package 2	
Service Agreement(s) (if applicable)	
Policy Driven Adoption Assessment (Bid Package 8)	
<p><b>* If Vendor’s response does not contain such materials, then thumb drive for these items are not required. DIR will release the non-proprietary/confidential and non-copyrighted version if DIR receives a Public Information Request. Unless Vendor specifically identifies proprietary, confidential or copyrighted material as required, DIR will assume all information is available for public disclosure.</b></p>	

**B. Certification Statement**

The undersigned hereby certifies on behalf of insert company name here that RFO DIR-TSO-TMP-248 has been read and understood. In submitting its response, insert company name here represents to DIR that: i) it is capable of providing the products and services as described in the RFO; ii) the pricing and discounts being offered by the Vendor for the products and services are true and correct; iii) agrees, if awarded a contract, to abide by the terms and conditions of the resulting contract; iv) as of the date of signature below, it is not listed in the prohibited vendors list authorized by Executive Order #13224, "Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism", published by the United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control; v) is not suspended or debarred from doing business with the federal government as listed in the *Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)* maintained by the General Services Administration; vi) under Section 2155.004 and 2155.006, Texas Government Code, the Vendor certifies that the individual or business entity named in this bid or contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate; (vii) to the extent applicable to this scope of this RFO, Vendor hereby certifies that it is in compliance with Subchapter Y, Chapter 361, Health and Safety Code related to the Computer Equipment Recycling Program and its rules, 30 TAC Chapter 328; (viii) has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the submitted response; (ix) under Section 2155.004(a), Texas Government Code, the Vendor has not received compensation for participation in the preparation of specifications for this solicitation; (x) neither they, nor anyone acting for them, have violated the antitrust laws of the United States or the State of Texas, nor communicated directly or indirectly to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business for the purpose of obtaining an unfair price advantage; (xi) is not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise tax owed the State of Texas and is not ineligible to receive payment under §231.006 of the Texas Family Code and acknowledge the Contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate, and any Vendor subject to Section 231.006 must include names and social security numbers of each person with at least 25% ownership of the business entity submitting the response, prior to award; (xii) Vendor agrees that any payments due under this Contract will be applied towards any debt, including but not limited to delinquent taxes and child support that is owed to the State of Texas; (xiii) under Section 2155.4441, Texas Government Code, Vendor agrees to comply

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

relating to use of service contracts for products produced in the State of Texas; (xiv) Vendor certifies they are in compliance with Section 669.003, Texas Government Code, relating to contracting with executive head of a state agency; (xv) Vendor certifies for itself and its subcontractors that it has identified all current or former, within the last five years, employees of the State of Texas assigned to work on the DIR Contract 20% or more of their time and has disclosed them to DIR and has disclosed or does not employ any relative of a current or former state employee within two degrees of consanguinity, and, if these facts change during the course of the Contract, Vendor certifies it shall disclose for itself and on behalf of subcontractors the name and other pertinent information about the employment of current and former employees and their relatives within two degrees of consanguinity; (xvi) Vendor represents and warrants that the provision of goods and services or other performance under the Contract will not constitute an actual or potential conflict of interest and certifies that it will not reasonably create the appearance of impropriety; (xvii) Vendor certifies that if a Texas address is shown as the Principle Place of Business in Exhibit A, Vendor Information Form, Vendor qualifies as a Texas Resident Bidder as defined in Texas Administrative Code, Title 34, Part I, Chapter 20; and (xviii) Vendor certifies that it has complied with the Section 556.0055, Texas Government Code, restriction on lobbying expenditures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Officer or Agent empowered to contractually bind the Vendor

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**Exhibit B  
Contract Support Plan**

**Vendor must provide a plan that describes the Vendor's ability and strategy for promoting and supporting the contract, if awarded. The plan must include the information listed below.**

- 1) Describe your company's strategy for marketing and selling the services listed in this RFO to eligible DIR Customers.
- 2) Describe your company's strategy for providing sales, order processing, and support of eligible DIR Customers throughout the State of Texas.
- 3) Provide the projected total sales of the services listed in this RFO that your company anticipates making to eligible DIR Customers within the next 12 months. If available, show the projected sales breakdown between the following segments: State and Local Governments, Higher Education, and K-12.
- 4) Do you have existing DIR Contracts? If yes, how will this contract impact the marketing and support of your other contracts? How will your other contracts impact the marketing of this contract, should you receive an award?
- 5) Provide an overview of the management and customer relationship team that will be responsible for managing the State's relationship in the event of being awarded a contract. Address the following:
  - a. Describe the geographical reach of the Vendor, teaming partners and subcontractors (if any), to include, at a minimum, locations of corporate and branch offices as well as locations where work is currently taking place. Explain how these locations and any proposed new locations will be used in the performance of this contract.
  - b. Provide names, titles, prior account management experience for accounts of the State's size and type.
  - c. Provide an organization chart identifying the chain of command for managing this contract, including resource sourcing responsibility, and organization components that support this contract. In a narrative, describe how the Vendor will manage the contract to ensure uninterrupted, high quality performance and overall contract effectiveness.



## **Bid Package 2**

**Department of Information Resources**

**End-User IT Outsourcing Services**

**Vendor Experience**

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248  
Bid Package 2: Vendor Experience**

**1. Vendor Experience Response Instructions**

In Section A below Vendors shall describe their approach to general business management by responding to each overall requirement. **There is a ten-page limit for Section A.**

In Section B below Vendor shall provide detailed End-User IT Outsourcing Services s submitted in their proposal.

- A. Management Services is the management of customer owned equipment or vendor provided equipment;
- B. Support Services;
- C. Technology Services.

Vendors are to provide three (3) End-User IT Outsourcing engagements initiated within the last three (3) years. If Vendor has less than three (3), leave the remaining engagements blank. All blank engagements will be scored as a zero (0). **The information must be provided for three (3) separate engagements which were initiated within the last three (3) years (i.e., when the engagement work commenced, not the contract execution date).**

Vendors should use engagements reflecting the markets in which they generally work (for example: state agency, institutions of higher education, local governments and independent school districts).

Vendors must describe and/or demonstrate how their experience supports their qualifications. The Vendor's response may include applicable engagements that specifically address the experience requested in Section B of Bid Package 2. Additional descriptive materials should be clear, concise, and specific to the engagement experience being described.

Vendors shall respond to each element in the corresponding description column. Vendors may use the comments column to indicate if a listed role was not part of the scope for the engagement referenced.

DIR reserves the right to contact any provided engagement contact named for further information/clarification.

## Section A: Vendor's Business Management General Approach

Vendor Approach for End-User IT Outsourcing Services:	Description :	Comments:
	Vendors must fully respond to the elements, as requested, for each engagement.	Vendors may use this column to indicate that the listed role was not a part of the scope for the engagement submitted
1.1. Provide information about the Vendor's business management strategy. Include the applicable certifications and percentages of employees that carry that certification. Response should describe how the Vendor assures that the user's business needs are met.		
1.2. Describe the Vendor's methodologies used to gather requirements, including application, techniques, and processes.		
1.3. Provide a completed Business Requirements Document and a System Requirements Specification/ Document .from a previous project that typically use in business practices. This sample document will not count against the established page limit.		
1.4. Describe the Vendor's expertise in document control including creating, maintaining and versioning technical documents. Response should demonstrate how the Vendor ensures traceability and consistency throughout the engagement.		
1.5. Describe the Vendor's approach to quality assurance including verification, validation, and testing. Response should demonstrate how the Vendor has successfully applied this approach in the past.		
1.6. Describe the Vendor's methodology for managing warranty issues related to vendor's work performed. Include an example of how the Vendor achieved customer satisfaction using this approach.		

<b>Vendor Approach for End-User IT Outsourcing</b>	<b>Description :</b> Vendors must fully respond to the elements, as requested, for each engagement.	<b>Comments:</b> Vendors may use this column to indicate that the listed role was not a part of the scope for the engagement submitted
<p>1.7. Describe the Vendor's strategy for ensuring quality customer service, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-How Vendor will scale resources to meet user's business needs</li> <li>-How issues will be identified and resolved in partnership with the Customer</li> <li>- How the Vendor will involve the Customer in the engagement development process and review.</li> <li>- How the Vendor transitions to the customer at completion of project</li> </ul>		

**Section B: Detailed Experience Spreadsheet**

Project Experience		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Management Services (See 2.1 of RFO for more detail information)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Provisioning of Equipment</li> <li>b. Desktop Outsourcing Services</li> <li>c. Asset Tracking Services</li> </ul> </li>   <li>B. Support Services               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Service Desk</li> <li>b. Move, Add, Changes (MACs)</li> <li>c. Remote Support Services</li> <li>d. Standard and Ad Hoc Reporting and Documentation</li> <li>e. Break/Fix and Maintenance</li> <li>f. Unwind/End of Engagement Services</li> </ul> </li>   <li>C. Technology Services               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Mobility</li> <li>b. Hosted Virtual Desktop (HVD) Services</li> <li>c. Network Management Services</li> <li>d. Software Services</li> <li>f. Security Services</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Description :</b>            Vendors must fully respond to the elements, as requested, for each engagement.</p>	<p><b>Comments:</b>            Vendors may use this column to indicate that the listed role was not a part of the scope for the engagement submitted</p>

\*Services may need to be available 24/7 or on an on-call basis.

1. Engagement 1 Experience (Describe in detail for each element):	DIR reserves the right to contact any provided engagement contact names for further information/clarification	
1.1. Project Information 1.1.1. Client Name 1.1.2. Contact Name 1.1.3. Contact Phone Number 1.1.4. Contact E-mail 1.1.5. Engagement Name and Scope 1.1.6. Engagement Schedule (start date and end date- (mm/yyyy) ) 1.1.7. Engagement Budget (original and final - for this specific referenced engagement) Describe any variance, if applicable 1.1.8. Total number of vendor FTEs on this engagement on this project 1.1.9. Total number of subcontractor FTEs on this engagement on this project 1.1.10. Describe, in general terms, the goals and objectives of the engagement and your opinion of your performance 1.1.11. Describe your procedures for change management throughout the engagement. 1.1.12. Provide Communication Plan (what, who, and when)		
1.2. Lessons learned during engagement		
1.3. Performance measures/service levels contractually required for this engagement reported to the customer. Include your performance against those service levels and performance measures.		
1.4. Security and authentication responsibilities and activities, if applicable		
1.5. Disaster Recovery responsibilities and activities, if applicable		

<b>2. Project 2 Experience (Describe in detail for each element):</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1. Project Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1.1. Client Name</li> <li>2.1.2. Contact Name</li> <li>2.1.3. Contact Phone Number</li> <li>2.1.4. Contact E-mail</li> <li>2.1.5. Engagement Name and Scope</li> <li>2.1.6. Engagement Schedule (start date and end date- (mm/yyyy) )</li> <li>2.1.7. Engagement Budget (original and final - for this specific referenced engagement) Describe any variance, if applicable</li> <li>2.1.8. Total number of vendor FTEs on this engagement on this project</li> <li>2.1.9. Total number of subcontractor FTEs on this engagement on this project</li> <li>2.1.10. Describe, in general terms, the goals and objectives of the engagement and your opinion of your performance</li> <li>2.1.11. Describe your procedures for change management throughout the engagement.</li> <li>2.1.12. Provide Communication Plan (what, who, and when)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
2.2. Lessons learned during engagement		
2.3. Performance measures/service levels contractually required for this engagement reported to the customer. Include your performance against those service levels and performance measures.		
2.4. Security and authentication responsibilities and activities, if applicable		
2.5. Disaster Recovery responsibilities and activities, if applicable		

<b>3. Project 3 Experience (Describe in detail for each element):</b>		
<p>3.1. Project Information</p> <p>3.1.1. Client Name</p> <p>3.1.2. Contact Name</p> <p>3.1.3. Contact Phone Number</p> <p>3.1.4. Contact E-mail</p> <p>3.1.5. Engagement Name and Scope</p> <p>3.1.6. Engagement Schedule (start date and end date- (mm/yyyy) )</p> <p>3.1.7. Engagement Budget (original and final - for this specific referenced engagement) Describe any variance, if applicable</p> <p>3.1.8. Total number of vendor FTEs on this engagement on this project</p> <p>3.1.9. Total number of subcontractor FTEs on this engagement on this project</p> <p>3.1.10. Describe, in general terms, the goals and objectives of the engagement and your opinion of your performance</p> <p>3.1.11. Describe your procedures for change management throughout the engagement.</p> <p>3.1.12. Provide Communication Plan (what, who, and when)</p>		
3.2. Lessons learned during engagement		
3.3. Performance measures/service levels contractually required for this engagement reported to the customer. Include your performance against those service levels and performance measures.		
3.4. Security and authentication responsibilities and activities, if applicable		
3.5. Disaster Recovery responsibilities and activities, if applicable		

STATE OF TEXAS  
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES

CONTRACT FOR SERVICES

*VENDOR LEGAL ENTITY NAME*

**1. Introduction**

**A. Parties**

This Contract for Services (“Contract”) is entered into between the State of Texas (“State”), acting by and through the Department of Information Resources (“DIR”) with its principal place of business at 300 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1300, Austin, Texas 78701, and *VENDOR LEGAL ENTITY NAME* (“Vendor”), with its principal place of business at *VENDOR ADDRESS*.

**B. Compliance with Procurement Laws**

This Contract is the result of compliance with applicable procurement laws of the State. DIR issued a solicitation on the Comptroller of Public Accounts’ Electronic State Business Daily, Request for Offer (RFO) DIR-TSO-TMP-XXX, on *POSTING DATE*, for *NAME OF RFO*. DIR subsequently issued a BAFO opportunity on *BAFO DATE*. Upon execution of this Contract, a notice of award for RFO DIR-TSO-TMP-XXX shall be posted by DIR on the Electronic State Business Daily.

**C. Order of Precedence**

This Contract; Appendix A, Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts; Appendix B, Vendor’s Historically Underutilized Businesses Subcontracting Plan; Appendix C, Pricing Index; Appendix D, Service Agreement; *Exhibit 1, Vendor’s Response to BAFO, including all addenda; Exhibit 2, the BAFO, including all addenda; Exhibit [3] 2, Vendor’s Response to RFO DIR-TSO-TMP-XXX, including all addenda; and Exhibit [4] 3, RFO DIR-TSO-TMP-XXX, including all addenda;* are incorporated by reference and constitute the entire agreement between DIR and Vendor. In the event of a conflict between the documents listed in this paragraph, the controlling document shall be this Contract, then Appendix A, then Appendix B, then Appendix C, then Appendix D, then *Exhibit 1, then Exhibit 2, then Exhibit 3, and finally Exhibit 4*. In the event and to the extent any provisions contained in multiple documents address the same or substantially the same subject matter but do not actually conflict, the more recent provisions shall be deemed to have superseded earlier provisions.

**2. Term of Contract**

The term of this Contract shall be two (2) years commencing on the last date of approval by DIR and Vendor. Prior to expiration of the original term, DIR may extend this Contract, by amendment, for up to two (2) optional one-year terms. Additionally, the parties by mutual agreement may extend the term for up to ninety (90) additional calendar days.

**3. Service Offerings**

Services available under this Contract are limited to *insert SPECIFIC services here* as specified in Appendix C, Pricing Index. Vendor may incorporate changes to their services offering; however, any changes must be within the scope of the RFO and services awarded based on the posting described in Section 1.B above. Vendor may not add services which were not included in the Vendor's response to the solicitation described in Section 1.B above.

**4. Pricing**

Pricing to the DIR Customer shall be as set forth in Appendix A, Section 7, Pricing, Purchase Orders, Invoices and Payment, and as set forth in Appendix C, Pricing Index and shall include the DIR Administrative Fee.

**5. DIR Administrative Fee**

A) The administrative fee to be paid by the Vendor to DIR based on the dollar value of all sales to Customers pursuant to this Contract is *insert number* percent (*insert number%*). Payment will be calculated for all sales, net of returns and credits. For example, the administrative fee for sales totaling \$100,000 shall be \$*insert dollars*.

B) All prices quoted to Customers shall include the administrative fee. DIR reserves the right to change this fee upwards or downwards during the term of this Contract, upon written notice to Vendor without further requirement for a formal contract amendment. Any change in the administrative fee shall be incorporated by Vendor in the price to the Customer.

**6. Notification**

All notices under this Contract shall be sent to a party at the respective address indicated below.

If sent to the State:

Dana L. Collins, CTPM, CTCM  
Manager, Contract and Vendor Management  
Department of Information Resources  
300 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 1300  
Austin, Texas 78701  
Phone: (512) 475-4000  
Facsimile: (512) 475-4759  
Email: [dana.collins@dir.texas.gov](mailto:dana.collins@dir.texas.gov)

If sent to the Vendor:

*Vendor Representative*  
*Company Name*  
*Address*  
*City, State Zip*

Phone: ( ) -  
Facsimile: ( ) -  
Email:

**7. Service Agreement**

A) Services provided under this Contract shall be in accordance with the Service Agreement as set forth in Appendix D of this Contract. No changes to the Service Agreement terms and conditions may be made unless previously agreed to by Vendor and DIR.

**B) Conflicting or Additional Terms**

In the event that conflicting or additional terms in Service Agreements or linked or supplemental documents amend or diminish the rights of DIR Customers or the State, such conflicting or additional terms shall not take precedence over the terms of this Contract.

In the event of a conflict, any linked documents may not take precedence over the printed or referenced documents comprising this contract; provided further that any update to such linked documents shall only apply to purchases or leases of the associated Vendor product or service offering after the effective date of the update; and, provided further, that, if Vendor has responded to a solicitation or request for pricing, no update of such linked documents on or after the initial date of Vendor's initial response shall apply to that purchase unless Vendor directly informs Customer of the update before the purchase is consummated.

In the event that different or additional terms or conditions would otherwise result from accessing a linked document, agreement to said linked document shall not be effective until reviewed and approved in writing by Customer's authorized signatory.

Vendor shall not [without prior written agreement from Customer's authorized signatory,] require any document that: 1) diminishes the rights, benefits, or protections of the Customer, or that alters the definitions, measurements, or method for determining any authorized rights, benefits, or protections of the Customer; or 2) imposes additional costs, burdens, or obligations upon Customer, or that alters the definitions, measurements, or method for determining any authorized costs, burdens, or obligations upon Customer.

If Vendor attempts to do any of the foregoing, the prohibited documents will be void and inapplicable to the contract between DIR and Vendor or Vendor and Customer, and Vendor will nonetheless be obligated to perform the contract without regard to the prohibited documents, unless Customer elects instead to terminate the contract, which in such case may be identified as a termination for cause against Vendor.

The foregoing requirements apply to all contracts, including, but not limited to, contracts between Customer and a reseller who attempts to pass through documents and obligations from its Manufacturer or Publisher.

**8. Authorized Exceptions to Contract and any Appendices.**

No exceptions have been agreed to by DIR and Vendor.

This Contract is executed to be effective as of the date of last signature.

***VENDOR LEGAL ENTITY NAME***

**Authorized By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The State of Texas, acting by and through the Department of Information Resources**

**Authorized By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** Dale Richardson

**Title:** Chief Operations Officer

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Office of General Counsel:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

Table of Contents

1.	No Quantity Guarantees:.....	1
2.	Definitions.....	1
3.	General Provisions.....	2
	A. Entire Agreement.....	2
	B. Modification of Contract Terms and/or Amendments.....	2
	C. Invalid Term or Condition.....	2
	D. Assignment.....	3
	E. Survival.....	3
	F. Choice of Law.....	3
	G. Limitation of Authority.....	3
	H. Proof of Financial Stability.....	4
4.	Intellectual Property Matters.....	4
	A. Definitions.....	4
	B. Ownership.....	5
	C. Further Actions.....	5
	D. Waiver of Moral Rights.....	6
	E. Confidentiality.....	6
	F. Injunctive Relief.....	6
	G. Return of Materials Pertaining to Work Product.....	7
	H. Vendor License to Use.....	7
	I. Third-Party Underlying and Derivative Works.....	7
	J. Agreement with Subcontracts.....	7
	K. License to Customer.....	8
	L. Vendor Development Rights.....	8
5.	Terms and Conditions Applicable to State Agency Purchases Only:.....	8
	A. Electronic and Information Resources Accessibility Standards, As Required by 1 TAC Chapters 206 and 213 (Applicable to State Agency and Institution of Higher Education Purchases Only).....	8
	B. Purchase of Commodity Items (Applicable to State Agency Purchases Only).....	8
6.	Contract Fulfillment and Promotion.....	9
	A. Service, Sales and Support of the Contract.....	9
	B. Internet Access to Contract and Pricing Information.....	9
	1) Vendor Webpage.....	9
	2) Accurate and Timely Contract Information.....	10
	3) Webpage Compliance Checks.....	10
	4) Webpage Changes.....	10

**Appendix A:  
Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

5) Use of Access Data Prohibited .....	10
6) Responsibility for Content .....	10
C. Services Warranty and Return Policies.....	11
D. DIR Logo .....	11
E. Vendor Logo .....	11
F. Trade Show Participation.....	11
G. Orientation Meeting .....	11
H. Performance Review Meetings .....	12
I. DIR Cost Avoidance .....	12
7. Pricing, Purchase Orders, Invoices, and Payments.....	12
A. Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) or List Price.....	12
B. Customer Discount.....	12
C. Customer Price.....	12
D. Shipping and Handling Fees .....	13
E. Tax-Exempt.....	13
F. Travel Expense Reimbursement .....	13
G. Changes to Prices .....	13
H. Purchase Orders .....	14
I. Invoices .....	14
J. Payments .....	14
8. Contract Administration.....	14
A. Contract Managers .....	14
1) State Contract Manager.....	15
2) Vendor Contract Manager.....	15
B. Reporting and Administrative Fees .....	15
1) Reporting Responsibility .....	15
2) Detailed Monthly Report .....	15
3) Historically Underutilized Businesses Subcontract Reports.....	16
4) DIR Administrative Fee.....	16
5) Accurate and Timely Submission of Reports .....	16
C. Records and Audit.....	16
D. Contract Administration Notification .....	17
9. Vendor Responsibilities.....	18
A. Indemnification .....	18
1) INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.....	18
2) Acts or Omissions .....	18
3) Infringements .....	18
4) PROPERTY DAMAGE.....	19
B. Taxes/Worker’s Compensation/UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE .....	19
C. Vendor Certifications.....	20
D. Ability to Conduct Business in Texas.....	22
E. Equal Opportunity Compliance .....	22

**Appendix A:  
Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

F.	Use of Subcontractors and Designation of Order Fulfillers.....	22
G.	Responsibility for Actions .....	23
H.	Confidentiality .....	23
I.	Security of Premises, Equipment, Data and Personnel.....	23
J.	Background and/or Criminal History Investigation.....	23
K.	Limitation of Liability.....	24
L.	Overcharges .....	24
M.	Prohibited Conduct .....	24
N.	Required Insurance Coverage .....	24
O.	Use of State Property .....	25
P.	Immigration.....	26
Q.	Public Disclosure .....	26
R.	Product and/or Services Substitutions .....	26
S.	Secure Erasure of Hard Disk Managed Services Products and/or Services .....	26
T.	Deceptive Trade Practices; Unfair Business Practices .....	27
U.	Drug Free Workplace Policy .....	27
V.	Accessibility of Public Information .....	27
W.	Vendor Reporting Responsibilities .....	27
10.	Contract Enforcement .....	27
A.	Enforcement of Contract and Dispute Resolution .....	28
B.	Termination.....	28
1)	Termination for Non-Appropriation .....	28
a)	Termination for Non-Appropriation by Customer.....	28
b)	Termination for Non-Appropriation by DIR .....	28
2)	Absolute Right .....	29
3)	Termination for Convenience .....	29
4)	Termination for Cause .....	29
a)	Contract.....	29
b)	Purchase Order.....	29
5)	Immediate Termination or Suspension .....	30
6)	Customer Rights Under Termination.....	30
7)	Vendor or Order Fulfiller Rights Under Termination.....	30
C.	Force Majeure .....	30
11.	Notification .....	30
A.	Notices .....	31
B.	Handling of Written Complaints.....	31
12.	Captions .....	31

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

**1. No Quantity Guarantees:**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

The Contract is not exclusive to the Vendor. Customers may obtain services from other sources during the term of the Contract. DIR makes no express or implied warranties whatsoever that any particular quantity or dollar amount of services will be procured through the Contract.

**2. Definitions**

**A. Customer** – any Texas state agency, unit of local government, institution of higher education as defined in Section 2054.003, Texas Government Code, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the Lower Colorado River Authority, a private school, as defined by Section 5.001, Education Code, a private or independent institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code, a volunteer fire department, as defined by Section 152.001, Tax Code and those state agencies purchasing from a DIR contract through an Interagency Agreement, as authorized by Chapter 771, Texas Government Code, any local government as authorized through the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791, Texas Government Code, the state agencies and political subdivisions of other states as authorized by Section 2054.0565, Texas Government Code, and, except for telecommunications services under Chapter 2170, Texas Government Code, assistance organizations as defined in Section 2175.001, Texas Government Code to mean:

- 1) A non-profit organization that provides educational, health or human services or assistance to homeless individuals;
- 2) A nonprofit food bank that solicits, warehouses, and redistributes edible but unmarketable food to an agency that feeds needy families and individuals;
- 3) Texas Partners of the Americas, a registered agency with the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, with the approval of the Partners of the Alliance Office of the Agency for International Development;
- 4) A group, including a faith-based group, that enters into a financial or non-financial agreement with a health or human services agency to provide services to that agency's clients;
- 5) A local workforce development board created under Section 2308.253;
- 6) A nonprofit organization approved by the Supreme Court of Texas that provides free legal services for low-income households in civil matters;
- 7) The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Inc., or an entity designated by the commissioner of agriculture as the foundation's successor entity under Section 74.1011, Texas Agriculture Code;
- 8) A nonprofit computer bank that solicits, stores, refurbishes and redistributes used computer equipment to public school students and their families; and
- 9) A nonprofit organization that provides affordable housing.

**B. Compliance Check** – an audit of Vendor's compliance with the Contract may be performed by, but not limited to, a third party auditor, DIR Internal Audit department, or DIR contract management staff or their designees.

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

- C. Contract** – the document executed between DIR and Vendor into which this Appendix A is incorporated.
- D. CPA** – refers to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.
- E. Day** – shall mean business days, Monday through Friday, except for State and Federal holidays, unless otherwise specified as calendar days. If the Contract calls for performance on a day that is not a business day, then performance is intended to occur on the next business day.
- F. Purchase Order** – the Customer’s fiscal form or format, which is used when making a purchase (e.g., formal written Purchase Order, Procurement Card, Electronic Purchase Order, or other authorized instrument).
- G. State** – refers to the State of Texas.

**3. General Provisions**

**A. Entire Agreement**

The Contract, Appendices, and Exhibits constitute the entire agreement between DIR and the Vendor. No statement, promise, condition, understanding, inducement or representation, oral or written, expressed or implied, which is not contained in the Contract, Appendices, or its Exhibits shall be binding or valid.

**B. Modification of Contract Terms and/or Amendments**

1) The terms and conditions of the Contract shall govern all transactions by Customers under the Contract. The Contract may only be modified or amended upon mutual written agreement of DIR and Vendor.

2) Customers shall not have the authority to modify the terms of the Contract; however, additional Customer terms and conditions that do not conflict with the Contract and are acceptable to Vendor may be added in a Purchase Order and given effect. No additional term or condition added in a Purchase Order issued by a Customer can conflict with or diminish a term or condition of the Contract. Pre-printed terms and conditions on any Purchase Order issued by Customer hereunder will have no force and effect. In the event of a conflict between a Customer’s Purchase Order and the Contract, the Contract term shall control.

3) Customers and Vendor will negotiate and enter into written agreements regarding statements of work, service level agreements, remedies, acceptance criteria, information confidentiality and security requirements, and other terms specific to their Purchase Orders under the Contract with Vendor.

**C. Invalid Term or Condition**

1) To the extent any term or condition in the Contract conflicts with the applicable Texas and/or United States law or regulation, such Contract term or condition is void and unenforceable. By executing a contract which contains the conflicting term or condition, DIR makes no representations or warranties regarding the enforceability of such term or condition and DIR does not waive the applicable State and/or United States law or regulation which conflicts with the Contract term or condition.

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

2) If one or more term or condition in the Contract, or the application of any term or condition to any party or circumstance, is held invalid, unenforceable, or illegal in any respect by a final judgment or order of the State Office of Administrative Hearings or a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Contract and the application of the term or condition to other parties or circumstances shall remain valid and in full force and effect.

**D. Assignment**

DIR or Vendor may assign the Contract without prior written approval to: i) a successor in interest (for DIR, another state agency as designated by the Texas Legislature), or ii) a subsidiary, parent company or affiliate, or iii) as necessary to satisfy a regulatory requirement imposed upon a party by a governing body with the appropriate authority. Assignment of the Contract under the above terms shall require written notification by the assigning party and, for Vendor, a mutually agreed written Contract amendment. Any other assignment by a party shall require the written consent of the other party and a mutually agreed written Contract amendment.

**E. Survival**

All applicable service agreements that were entered into between Vendor and a Customer under the terms and conditions of the Contract shall survive the expiration or termination of the Contract. All Purchase Orders issued and accepted by Vendor shall survive expiration or termination of the Contract for the term of the Purchase Order, unless the Customer terminates the Purchase Order sooner. However, regardless of the term of the Purchase Order, no Purchase Order shall survive the expiration or termination of the Contract for more than five years, unless Customer makes an express finding and justification for the longer term. The finding and justification must either be included in the Purchase Order, or referenced in it and maintained in Customer's procurement record. Rights and obligations under this Contract which by their nature should survive, including, but not limited to the DIR Administrative Fee; and any and all payment obligations invoiced prior to the termination or expiration hereof, obligations of confidentiality; and indemnification will remain in effect after termination or expiration hereof.

**F. Choice of Law**

The laws of the State shall govern the construction and interpretation of the Contract. Exclusive venue for all actions will be in state court, Travis County, Texas. Nothing in the Contract or its Appendices shall be construed to waive the State's sovereign immunity.

**G. Limitation of Authority**

Vendor shall have no authority to act for or on behalf of the Texas Department of Information Resources or the State except as expressly provided for in this Contract; no other authority, power or use is granted or implied. Vendor may not incur any debts, obligations, expenses, or liabilities of any kind on behalf of the State or DIR.

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

**H. Proof of Financial Stability**

Either DIR or Customer may require Vendor to provide proof of financial stability prior to or at any time during the contract term.

**4. Intellectual Property Matters**

**A. Definitions**

1) “*Work Product*” means any and all deliverables produced by Vendor for Customer under a Statement of Work issued pursuant to this Contract, including any and all tangible or intangible items or things that have been or will be prepared, created, developed, invented or conceived at any time following the effective date of the Contract, including but not limited to any (i) works of authorship (such as manuals, instructions, printed material, graphics, artwork, images, illustrations, photographs, computer programs, computer software, scripts, object code, source code or other programming code, HTML code, flow charts, notes, outlines, lists, compilations, manuscripts, writings, pictorial materials, schematics, formulae, processes, algorithms, data, information, multimedia files, text web pages or web sites, other written or machine readable expression of such works fixed in any tangible media, and all other copyrightable works), (ii) trademarks, service marks, trade dress, trade names, logos, or other indicia of source or origin, (iii) ideas, designs, concepts, personality rights, methods, processes, techniques, apparatuses, inventions, formulas, discoveries, or improvements, including any patents, trade secrets and know-how, (iv) domain names, (v) any copies, and similar or derivative works to any of the foregoing, (vi) all documentation and materials related to any of the foregoing, (vii) all other goods, services or deliverables to be provided to Customer under the Contract or a Statement of Work, and (viii) all Intellectual Property Rights in any of the foregoing, and which are or were created, prepared, developed, invented or conceived for the use or benefit of Customer in connection with this Contract or a Statement of Work, or with funds appropriated by or for Customer or Customer’s benefit: (a) by any Vendor personnel or Customer personnel, or (b) any Customer personnel who then became personnel to Vendor or any of its affiliates or subcontractors, where, although creation or reduction-to-practice is completed while the person is affiliated with Vendor or its personnel, any portion of same was created, invented or conceived by such person while affiliated with Customer.

2) “*Intellectual Property Rights*” means the worldwide legal rights or interests evidenced by or embodied in: (i) any idea, design, concept, personality right, method, process, technique, apparatus, invention, discovery, or improvement, including any patents, trade secrets, and know-how; (ii) any work of authorship, including any copyrights, moral rights or neighboring rights; (iii) any trademark, service mark, trade dress, trade name, or other indicia of source or origin; (iv) domain name registrations; and (v) any other proprietary or similar rights. The Intellectual Property Rights of a party include all worldwide legal rights or interests that the party may have acquired by assignment or license with the right to grant sublicenses.

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

3) “Statement of Work” means a document signed by Customer and Vendor describing a specific set of activities and/or deliverables, which may include Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights, that Vendor is to provide Customer, issued pursuant to the Contract.

4) “Third Party IP” means the Intellectual Property Rights of any third party that is not a party to this Contract, and that is not directly or indirectly providing any goods or services to Customer under this Contract.

5) “Vendor IP” shall mean all tangible or intangible items or things, including the Intellectual Property Rights therein, created or developed by Vendor (a) prior to providing any Services or Work Product to Customer and prior to receiving any documents, materials, information or funding from or on behalf of Customer relating to the Services or Work Product, or (b) after the Effective Date of the Contract if such tangible or intangible items or things were independently developed by Vendor outside Vendor’s provision of Services or Work Product for Customer hereunder and were not created, prepared, developed, invented or conceived by any Customer personnel who then became personnel to Vendor or any of its affiliates or subcontractors, where, although creation or reduction-to-practice is completed while the person is affiliated with Vendor or its personnel, any portion of same was created, invented or conceived by such person while affiliated with Customer.

**B. Ownership.**

As between Vendor and Customer, the Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights therein are and shall be owned exclusively by Customer, and not Vendor. Vendor specifically agrees that the Work Product shall be considered “works made for hire” and that the Work Product shall, upon creation, be owned exclusively by Customer. To the extent that the Work Product, under applicable law, may not be considered works made for hire, Vendor hereby agrees that the Contract effectively transfers, grants, conveys, assigns, and relinquishes exclusively to Customer all right, title and interest in and to all ownership rights in the Work Product, and all Intellectual Property Rights in the Work Product, without the necessity of any further consideration, and Customer shall be entitled to obtain and hold in its own name all Intellectual Property Rights in and to the Work Product. Vendor acknowledges that Vendor and Customer do not intend Vendor to be a joint author of the Work Product within the meaning of the Copyright Act of 1976. Customer shall have access, during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 8AM to 5PM) and upon reasonable prior notice to Vendor, to all Vendor materials, premises and computer files containing the Work Product. Vendor and Customer, as appropriate, will cooperate with one another and execute such other documents as may be reasonably appropriate to achieve the objectives herein. No license or other right is granted hereunder to any Third Party IP, except as may be incorporated in the Work Product by Vendor.

**C. Further Actions.**

Vendor, upon request and without further consideration, shall perform any acts that may be deemed reasonably necessary or desirable by Customer to evidence more fully

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

the transfer of ownership and/or registration of all Intellectual Property Rights in all Work Product to Customer to the fullest extent possible, including but not limited to the execution, acknowledgement and delivery of such further documents in a form determined by Customer. In the event Customer shall be unable to obtain Vendor's signature due to the dissolution of Vendor or Vendor's unreasonable failure to respond to Customer's repeated requests for such signature on any document reasonably necessary for any purpose set forth in the foregoing sentence, Vendor hereby irrevocably designates and appoints Customer and its duly authorized officers and agents as Vendor's agent and Vendor's attorney-in-fact to act for and in Vendor's behalf and stead to execute and file any such document and to do all other lawfully permitted acts to further any such purpose with the same force and effect as if executed and delivered by Vendor, provided however that no such grant of right to Customer is applicable if Vendor fails to execute any document due to a good faith dispute by Vendor with respect to such document. It is understood that such power is coupled with an interest and is therefore irrevocable. Customer shall have the full and sole power to prosecute such applications and to take all other action concerning the Work Product, and Vendor shall cooperate, at Customer's sole expense, in the preparation and prosecution of all such applications and in any legal actions and proceedings concerning the Work Product.

**D. Waiver of Moral Rights.**

Vendor hereby irrevocably and forever waives, and agrees never to assert, any Moral Rights in or to the Work Product which Vendor may now have or which may accrue to Vendor's benefit under U.S. or foreign copyright or other laws and any and all other residual rights and benefits which arise under any other applicable law now in force or hereafter enacted. Vendor acknowledges the receipt of equitable compensation for its assignment and waiver of such Moral Rights. The term "Moral Rights" shall mean any and all rights of paternity or integrity of the Work Product and the right to object to any modification, translation or use of the Work Product, and any similar rights existing under the judicial or statutory law of any country in the world or under any treaty, regardless of whether or not such right is denominated or referred to as a moral right.

**E. Confidentiality.**

All documents, information and materials forwarded to Vendor by Customer for use in and preparation of the Work Product shall be deemed the confidential information of Customer, and subject to the license granted by Customer to Vendor under subparagraph H. hereunder. Vendor shall not use, disclose, or permit any person to use or obtain the Work Product, or any portion thereof, in any manner without the prior written approval of Customer.

**F. Injunctive Relief.**

The Contract is intended to protect Customer's proprietary rights pertaining to the Work Product, and the Intellectual Property Rights therein, and any misuse of such rights would cause substantial and irreparable harm to Customer's business. Therefore, Vendor acknowledges and stipulates that a court of competent jurisdiction

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

may immediately enjoin any material breach of the intellectual property, use, and confidentiality provisions of this Contract, upon a request by Customer, without requiring proof of irreparable injury as same should be presumed.

**G. Return of Materials Pertaining to Work Product.**

Upon the request of Customer, but in any event upon termination or expiration of this Contract or a Statement of Work, Vendor shall surrender to Customer all documents and things pertaining to the Work Product, including but not limited to drafts, memoranda, notes, records, drawings, manuals, computer software, reports, data, and all other documents or materials (and copies of same) generated or developed by Vendor or furnished by Customer to Vendor, including all materials embodying the Work Product, any Customer confidential information, or Intellectual Property Rights in such Work Product, regardless of whether complete or incomplete. This section is intended to apply to all Work Product as well as to all documents and things furnished to Vendor by Customer or by anyone else that pertain to the Work Product.

**H. Vendor License to Use.**

Customer hereby grants to Vendor a non-transferable, non-exclusive, royalty-free, fully paid-up license to use any Work Product solely as necessary to provide the Services to Customer. Except as provided in this Section, neither Vendor nor any Subcontractor shall have the right to use the Work Product in connection with the provision of services to its other customers without the prior written consent of Customer, which consent may be withheld in Customer's sole discretion.

**I. Third-Party Underlying and Derivative Works.**

To the extent that any Vendor IP or Third Party IP are embodied or reflected in the Work Product, or are necessary to provide the Services, Vendor hereby grants to the Customer, or shall obtain from the applicable third party for Customer's benefit, the irrevocable, perpetual, non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free right and license, for Customer's internal business purposes only, to (i) use, execute, reproduce, display, perform, distribute copies of, and prepare derivative works based upon such Vendor IP or Third Party IP and any derivative works thereof embodied in or delivered to Customer in conjunction with the Work Product, and (ii) authorize others to do any or all of the foregoing. Vendor agrees to notify Customer on delivery of the Work Product or Services if such materials include any Third Party IP. On request, Vendor shall provide Customer with documentation indicating a third party's written approval for Vendor to use any Third Party IP that may be embodied or reflected in the Work Product.

**J. Agreement with Subcontracts.**

Vendor agrees that it shall have written agreement(s) that are consistent with the provisions hereof related to Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights with any employees, agents, consultants, contractors or subcontractors providing Services or Work Product pursuant to the Contract, prior to their providing such Services or Work Product, and that it shall maintain such written agreements at all times during performance of this Contract, which are sufficient to support all performance and

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

grants of rights by Vendor. Copies of such agreements shall be provided to the Customer promptly upon request.

**K. License to Customer.**

Vendor grants to Customer, a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty free license, solely for the Customer's internal business purposes, to use, copy, modify, display, perform (by any means), transmit and prepare derivative works of any Vendor IP embodied in or delivered to Customer in conjunction with the Work Product. The foregoing license includes the right to sublicense third parties, solely for the purpose of engaging such third parties to assist or carryout Customer's internal business use of the Work Product. Except for the preceding license, all rights in Vendor IP remain in Vendor.

**L. Vendor Development Rights.**

To the extent not inconsistent with Customer's rights in the Work Product or as set forth herein, nothing in this Contract shall preclude Vendor from developing for itself, or for others, materials which are competitive with those produced as a result of the Services provided hereunder, provided that no Work Product is utilized, and no Intellectual Property Rights of Customer therein are infringed by such competitive materials. To the extent that Vendor wishes to use the Work Product, or acquire licensed rights in certain Intellectual Property Rights of Customer therein in order to offer competitive goods or services to third parties, Vendor and Customer agree to negotiate in good faith regarding an appropriate license and royalty agreement to allow for such.

**5. Terms and Conditions Applicable to State Agency Purchases Only:**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**A. Electronic and Information Resources Accessibility Standards, As Required by 1 TAC Chapters 206 and 213 (Applicable to State Agency and Institution of Higher Education Purchases Only)**

1) Effective September 1, 2006 state agencies and institutions of higher education shall procure products which comply with the State Accessibility requirements for Electronic and Information Resources specified in 1 TAC Chapters 206 and 213 when such products are available in the commercial marketplace or when such products are developed in response to a procurement solicitation.

2) Upon request, but not later than thirty (30) calendar days after request, Vendor shall provide DIR with a completed Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) of the specified product or a URL to the VPAT for reviewing compliance with the State Accessibility requirements (based on the federal standards established under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act).

**B. Purchase of Commodity Items (Applicable to State Agency Purchases Only)**

1) Texas Government Code, §2157.068 requires State agencies to buy commodity items, as defined in 5.B.2, below, in accordance with contracts developed by DIR, unless the agency obtains an exemption from DIR or a written certification that a commodity is not on DIR contract (for the limited purpose of purchasing from a local

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

government purchasing cooperative).

2) Commodity items are commercially available software, hardware and technology services that are generally available to businesses or the public and for which DIR determines that a reasonable demand exists in two or more state agencies. Hardware is the physical technology used to process, manage, store, transmit, receive or deliver information. Software is the commercially available programs that operate hardware and includes all supporting documentation, media on which the software may be contained or stored, related materials, modifications, versions, upgrades, enhancements, updates or replacements. Technology services are the services, functions and activities that facilitate the design, implementation, creation, or use of software or hardware. Technology services include seat management, staffing augmentation, training, maintenance and subscription services. Technology services do not include telecommunications services. Seat management is services through which a state agency transfers its responsibilities to a vendor to manage its personal computing needs, including all necessary hardware, software and technology services.

3) Vendor agrees to coordinate all State agency commodity item sales through existing DIR contracts. Institutions of higher education are exempt from this Subsection 5.B.

**6. Contract Fulfillment and Promotion**

**A. Service, Sales and Support of the Contract**

Vendor shall provide service, sales and support resources to serve all Customers throughout the State. It is the responsibility of the Vendor to sell, market, and promote services available under the Contract. Vendor shall use its best efforts to ensure that potential Customers are made aware of the existence of the Contract. All sales to Customers for services available under the Contract shall be processed through the Contract.

**B. Internet Access to Contract and Pricing Information**

**1) Vendor Webpage**

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of the Contract, Vendor will establish and maintain a webpage specific to the services awarded under the Contract that are clearly distinguishable from other, non-DIR Contract offerings on the Vendor's website. The webpage must include:

- a) the services awarded;
- b) description of product and service awarded
- c) a current price list or mechanism (for example, a services calculator or product builder) to obtain specific contracted pricing;
- d) discount percentage (%) off MSRP or List Price;
- e) designated Order Fulfillers;
- f) contact information (name, telephone number and email address) for Vendor and designated Order Fulfillers;

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

- g) instructions for obtaining quotes and placing Purchase Orders;
- h) warranty policies;
- i) return policies;
- j) the DIR Contract number with a hyperlink to the Contract's DIR webpage;
- k) a link to the DIR "Cooperative Contracts" webpage; and
- l) the DIR logo in accordance with the requirements of this Section.

If Vendor does not meet the webpage requirements listed above, DIR may cancel the contract without penalty.

**2) Accurate and Timely Contract Information**

Vendor warrants and represents that the website information specified in the above paragraph will be accurately and completely posted, maintained and displayed in an objective and timely manner. Vendor, at its own expense, shall correct any non-conforming or inaccurate information posted at Vendor's website within ten (10) business days after written notification by DIR.

**3) Webpage Compliance Checks**

Periodic compliance checks of the information posted for the Contract on Vendor's webpage will be conducted by DIR. Upon request by DIR, Vendor shall provide verifiable documentation that pricing listed upon this webpage is compliant with the pricing as stated in the Contract.

**4) Webpage Changes**

Vendor hereby consents to a link from the DIR website to Vendor's webpage in order to facilitate access to Contract information. The establishment of the link is provided solely for convenience in carrying out the business operations of the State. DIR reserves the right to suspend, terminate or remove a link at any time, in its sole discretion, without advance notice, or to deny a future request for a link. DIR will provide Vendor with subsequent notice of link suspension, termination or removal. Vendor shall provide DIR with timely written notice of any change in URL or other information needed to access the site and/or maintain the link.

**5) Use of Access Data Prohibited**

If Vendor stores, collects or maintains data electronically as a condition of accessing Contract information, such data shall only be used internally by Vendor for the purpose of implementing or marketing the Contract, and shall not be disseminated to third parties or used for other marketing purposes. The Contract constitutes a public document under the laws of the State and Vendor shall not restrict access to Contract terms and conditions including pricing, i.e., through use of restrictive technology or passwords.

**6) Responsibility for Content**

Vendor is solely responsible for administration, content, intellectual property rights, and all materials at Vendor's website. DIR reserves the right to require a change of

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

listed content if, in the opinion of DIR, it does not adequately represent the Contract.

**C. Services Warranty and Return Policies**

Vendor and Order Fulfiller will adhere to the Vendor's then-currently published policies concerning services warranties and returns. Such policies for Customers will not be more restrictive or more costly than warranty and return policies for other similarly situated Customers for like services.

**D. DIR Logo**

Vendor may use the DIR logo in the promotion of the Contract to Customers with the following stipulations: (i) the logo may not be modified in any way, (ii) when displayed, the size of the DIR logo must be equal to or smaller than the Vendor logo, (iii) the DIR logo is only used to communicate the availability of services under the Contract to Customers, and (iv) any other use of the DIR logo requires prior written permission from DIR.

**E. Vendor Logo**

If DIR receives Vendor's prior written approval, DIR may use the Vendor's name and logo in the promotion of the Contract to communicate the availability of services under the Contract to Customers. Use of the logos may be on the DIR website or on printed materials. Any use of Vendor's logo by DIR must comply with and be solely related to the purposes of the Contract and any usage guidelines communicated to DIR from time to time. Nothing contained in the Contract will give DIR any right, title, or interest in or to Vendor's trademarks or the goodwill associated therewith, except for the limited usage rights expressly provided by Vendor.

**F. Trade Show Participation**

At DIR's discretion, Vendor may be required to participate in no more than two DIR sponsored trade shows each calendar year. Vendor understands and agrees that participation, at the Vendor's expense, includes providing a manned booth display or similar presence. DIR will provide four months advance notice of any required participation. Vendor must display the DIR logo at all trade shows that potential Customers will attend. DIR reserves the right to approve or disapprove of the location or the use of the DIR logo in or on the Vendor's booth.

**G. Orientation Meeting**

Within thirty (30) calendar days from execution of the Contract, Vendor and Order Fulfillers will be required to attend an orientation meeting to discuss the content and procedures of the Contract to include reporting requirements. DIR, at its discretion, may waive the orientation requirement for Vendors who have previously held DIR contracts. The meeting will be held in the Austin, Texas area at a date and time mutually acceptable to DIR and the Vendor or by teleconference, at DIR's discretion. DIR shall bear no cost for the time and travel of the Vendor or Order Fulfillers for attendance at the meeting.

**Appendix A:  
Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

**H. Performance Review Meetings**

DIR will require the Vendor to attend periodic meetings to review the Vendor's performance under the Contract. The meetings will be held in the Austin, Texas area at a date and time mutually acceptable to DIR and the Vendor or by teleconference, at DIR's discretion. DIR shall bear no cost for the time and travel of the Vendor for attendance at the meeting.

**I. DIR Cost Avoidance**

As part of the performance measures reported to state leadership, DIR must provide the cost avoidance the State has achieved through the Contract. Upon request by DIR, Vendor shall provide DIR with a detailed report of a representative sample of service sold under the Contract. The report shall contain: service description, list price, price to Customer under the Contract.

**7. Pricing, Purchase Orders, Invoices, and Payments**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR A-F, H-J**

**A. Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) or List Price**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

MSRP is defined as the product sales price list published in some form by the manufacturer or publisher of a product and available to and recognized by the trade. A price list especially prepared for a given solicitation is not acceptable.

**B. Customer Discount**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

The minimum Customer discount for all services will be the percentage off MSRP as specified in Appendix C, Pricing Index.

**C. Customer Price**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR SECTION C1**

1) The price to the Customer shall be calculated as follows:

**Customer Price = (MSRP or List Price – Customer Discount as set forth in Appendix C, Pricing Index) x (1 + DIR Administrative Fee, as set forth in the Contract).**

2) Customers purchasing services under this Contract may negotiate more advantageous pricing or participate in special promotional offers. In such event, a copy of such better offerings shall be furnished to DIR upon request.

3) If pricing for services available under this Contract is provided by the Vendor at a lower price to: (i) an eligible Customer who is not purchasing those services under this Contract or (ii) to any other customer under the same terms and conditions provided for the State for the same commodities and services under this contract, then the available Customer Price in this Contract shall be adjusted to that lower price. This requirement applies to services quoted by Vendor or its resellers for a quantity of one (1) under like terms and conditions, and does not apply to volume or special pricing

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

purchases. Vendor shall notify DIR within ten (10) days and this Contract shall be amended days to reflect the lower price.

**D. Shipping and Handling Fees**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

The price to the Customer under this Contract shall include all shipping and handling fees. Shipments will be Free On Board Customer's Destination. No additional fees shall be charged to the Customer for standard shipping and handling. If the Customer requests expedited or special delivery, Customer will be responsible for any charges for expedited or special delivery.

**E. Tax-Exempt**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

As per Section 151.309, Texas Tax Code, Customers under this Contract are exempt from the assessment of State sales, use and excise taxes. Further, Customers under this Contract are exempt from Federal Excise Taxes, 26 United States Code Sections 4253(i) and (j). Customers shall provide evidence of tax-exempt status to Vendor upon request.

**F. Travel Expense Reimbursement**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Pricing for services provided under this Contract are exclusive of any travel expenses that may be incurred in the performance of those services. Travel expense reimbursement may include personal vehicle mileage or commercial coach transportation, hotel accommodations, parking and meals; provided, however, the amount of reimbursement by Customers shall not exceed the amounts authorized for state employees as adopted by each Customer; and provided, further, that all reimbursement rates shall not exceed the maximum rates established for state employees under the current State Travel Management Program (<http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/>). Travel time may not be included as part of the amounts payable by Customer for any services rendered under this Contract. The DIR administrative fee specified in the contract is not applicable to travel expense reimbursement. Anticipated travel expenses must be pre-approved in writing by Customer. Customer reserves the right not to pay travel expenses which are not pre-approved in writing by the Customer.

**G. Changes to Prices**

Subject to the requirements of this section, Vendor may change the price of any product or service at any time, based upon changes to the MSRP, but discount levels shall remain consistent with the discount levels specified in this Contract.

Vendor may revise its pricing (but not its discount rate, if any, and not the services on its contract pricing list) by posting a revised pricing list. Such revised pricing lists are subject to review by DIR. If DIR finds that a product's or service's price has been increased unreasonably, DIR may request Vendor to reduce its pricing for the product or service to the level published before the revision Vendor must reduce its pricing, or remove the product from its pricing list. Failure to do so will constitute an act of default by Vendor.

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

**H. Purchase Orders**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

All Customer Purchase Orders will be placed directly with the Vendor. Accurate Purchase Orders shall be effective and binding upon Vendor when accepted by Vendor. Customer and Vendor may work together to include specific requirements as to what constitutes a valid Purchase Order.

Vendors will be required to comply with the disclosure requirements of Section 2252.908, Texas Government Code, as enacted by House Bill 1295, 84<sup>th</sup> Regular Session, when execution of a contract requires an action or vote by the governing body of a governmental entity before the contract may be signed.

**I. Invoices**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

1) Invoices shall be submitted by the Vendor directly to the Customer and shall be issued in compliance with Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code. All payments for services purchased under the Contract and any provision of acceptance of such services shall be made by the Customer to the Vendor. For Customers that are not subject to Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code, Customer and Vendor will agree to acceptable terms.

2) Invoices must be timely and accurate. Each invoice must match Customer's Purchase Order and include any written changes that may apply, as it relates to services, prices and quantities. Invoices must include the Customer's Purchase Order number or other pertinent information for verification of receipt of the services by the Customer.

3) The administrative fee specified in the contract shall not be broken out as a separate line item when pricing or invoice is provided to Customer.

**J. Payments**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Customers shall comply with Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code, in making payments to Vendor. The statute states that payments for goods and services are due thirty (30) calendar days after the goods are provided, the services completed, or a correct invoice is received, whichever is later. Payment under the Contract shall not foreclose the right to recover wrongful payments. For Customers that are not subject to Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code, Customer and Vendor will agree to acceptable terms.

**8. Contract Administration**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR A, C-D**

**A. Contract Managers**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

DIR and the Vendor will each provide a Contract Manager to support the Contract.

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

Information regarding the Contract Managers will be posted on the Internet website designated for the Contract.

**1) State Contract Manager**

DIR shall provide a Contract Manager whose duties shall include but not be limited to: i) advising DIR and Vendor of Vendor's performance under the terms and conditions of the Contract, and ii) periodic verification of pricing and, iii) verification of monthly reports submitted by Vendor.

**2) Vendor Contract Manager**

Vendor shall identify a specific Contract Manager whose duties shall include but not be limited to: i) supporting the marketing and management of the Contract, ii) facilitating dispute resolution between Vendor and a Customer, and iii) advising DIR of Vendor's performance under the terms and conditions of the Contract. DIR reserves the right to require a change in Vendor's then-current Contract Manager if the assigned Contract Manager is not, in the reasonable opinion of DIR, adequately serving the needs of the State.

**B. Reporting and Administrative Fees**

**1) Reporting Responsibility**

a) Vendor shall be responsible for reporting all services purchased under the Contract. Vendor shall file the monthly reports, subcontract reports, and pay the administrative fees in accordance with the due dates specified in this section.

b) DIR shall have the right to verify required reports and to take any actions necessary to enforce its rights under this section, including but not limited to compliance checks of Vendor's applicable Contract. Vendor will provide all required documentation at no cost.

**2) Detailed Monthly Report**

Vendor shall electronically provide DIR with a detailed monthly report in the format required by DIR showing the dollar volume of any and all sales under the Contract for the previous calendar month period. Reports shall be submitted to the DIR Cooperative Contracts E-Mail Box at [ict.sales@dir.texas.gov](mailto:ict.sales@dir.texas.gov). Reports are due on the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) calendar day after the close of the previous month period. If the 15<sup>th</sup> calendar day falls on a weekend or state or federal holiday, the report shall be due on the next business day. The monthly report shall include, per transaction: the detailed sales for the period, Customer name, invoice date, invoice number, description, quantity, MSRP or List Price, unit price, extended price, Customer Purchase Order number, contact name, Customer's complete billing address, the administrative fee due for the reporting period, subcontractor name, EPEAT designation (if applicable), configuration (if applicable), contract discount percentage, actual discount percentage, negotiated contract price (if fixed price is offered instead of discount off of MSRP), and other information as required by DIR. Each report must contain all information listed above per transaction or the report will be rejected and returned to the Vendor for correction in accordance with this section. Vendor shall report in a manner required by DIR which is subject to change dependent upon DIR's business needs. Failure to do so may result in

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

contract termination.

**3) Historically Underutilized Businesses Subcontract Reports**

a) Vendor shall electronically provide each Customer with Vendor's relevant Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Report, pursuant to the Contract, as required by Chapter 2161, Texas Government Code. Reports shall also be submitted to DIR.

b) Reports shall be due in accordance with the CPA rules.

**4) DIR Administrative Fee**

a) An administrative fee shall be paid by Vendor to DIR to defray the DIR costs of negotiating, executing, and administering the Contract. The maximum administrative fee is set by the Texas Legislature in the biennial General Appropriations Act. Payment of the administrative fee shall be due on the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) calendar day after the close of the previous month period. DIR may change the amount of the administrative fee upon thirty (30) calendar days written notice to Vendor without the need for a formal contract amendment.

b) Vendor shall reference the DIR Contract number, reporting period, and administrative fee amount on any remittance instruments.

**5) Accurate and Timely Submission of Reports**

a) The reports and administrative fees shall be accurate and timely and submitted in accordance with the due dates specified in this section. Vendor shall correct any inaccurate reports or administrative fee payments within three (3) business days upon written notification by DIR. Vendor shall deliver any late reports or late administrative fee payments within three (3) business days upon written notification by DIR. If Vendor is unable to correct inaccurate reports or administrative fee payments or deliver late reports and fee payments within three (3) business days, Vendor must contact DIR and provide a corrective plan of action, including the timeline for completion of correction. The corrective plan of action shall be subject to DIR approval.

b) Should Vendor fail to correct inaccurate reports or cure the delay in timely delivery of reports and payments within the corrective plan of action timeline, DIR reserves the right to require an independent third party audit of the Vendor's records as specified in C.3 of this Section, at Vendor's expense. DIR will select the auditor (and all payments to auditor will require DIR approval).

c) Failure to timely submit three (3) reports or administrative fee payments within any rolling twelve (12) month period may, at DIR's discretion, result in the addition of late fees of \$100/day for each day the report or payment is due (up to \$1000/month) or suspension or termination of Vendor's Contract.

**C. Records and Audit**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN SUBPARAGRAPH 1.**

1) Acceptance of funds under the Contract by Vendor acts as acceptance of the authority of the State Auditor's Office, or any successor agency or designee, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Vendor further agrees to

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

cooperate fully with the State Auditor's Office or its successor or designee in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records requested. Vendor will ensure that this clause concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through Vendor and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract it awards pertaining to the Contract. Under the direction of the Legislative Audit Committee, a Vendor that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the State Auditor's Office must provide the State Auditor's Office with access to any information the State Auditor's Office considers relevant to the investigation or audit.

2) Vendor shall maintain adequate records to establish compliance with the Contract until the later of a period of seven (7) years after termination of the Contract or until full, final and unappealable resolution of all Compliance Check or litigation issues that arise under the Contract. Such records shall include per transaction: Customer name, invoice date, invoice number, description, quantity, MSRP or List Price, unit price, extended price, Customer Purchase Order number, contact name, Customer's complete billing address, the calculations supporting each administrative fee owed DIR under the Contract, Historically Underutilized Businesses Subcontracting reports, and such other documentation as DIR may request.

3) Vendor and/or Order Fulfillers shall grant access to all paper and electronic records, books, documents, accounting procedures, practices, customer records including but not limited to contracts, agreements, purchase orders and statements of work, and any other items relevant to the performance of the Contract to the DIR Internal Audit department or DIR Contract Management staff, including the compliance checks designated by the DIR Internal Audit department, DIR Contract Management staff, the State Auditor's Office, and of the United States, and such other persons or entities designated by DIR for the purposes of inspecting, Compliance Checking and/or copying such books and records. Vendor and/or Order Fulfillers shall provide copies and printouts requested by DIR without charge. DIR shall provide Vendor and/or Order Fulfillers ten (10) business days' notice prior to inspecting, Compliance Checking, and/or copying Vendor's and/or Order Fulfiller's records. Vendor's and/or Order Fulfillers records, whether paper or electronic, shall be made available during regular office hours. Vendor and/or Order Fulfiller personnel familiar with the Vendor's and/or Order Fulfiller's books and records shall be available to the DIR Internal Audit department, or DIR Contract Management staff and designees as needed. Vendor and/or Order Fulfiller shall provide adequate office space to DIR staff during the performance of Compliance Check. If Vendor is found to be responsible for inaccurate reports, DIR may invoice for the reasonable costs of the audit, which Vendor must pay within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt.

4) For procuring State Agencies whose payments are processed by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, the volume of payments made to Vendor through the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the administrative fee based thereon shall be presumed correct unless Vendor can demonstrate to DIR's satisfaction that Vendor's calculation of DIR's administrative fee is correct.

**D. Contract Administration Notification**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

- 1) Prior to execution of the Contract, Vendor shall provide DIR with written notification of the following: i) Vendor Contract Administrator name and contact information, ii) Vendor sales representative name and contact information, and iii) name and contact information of Vendor personnel responsible for submitting reports and payment of administrative fees.
- 2) Upon execution of the Contract, DIR shall provide Vendor with written notification of the following: i) DIR Contract Administrator name and contact information, and ii) DIR Cooperative Contracts E-Mail Box information.

**9. Vendor Responsibilities**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN C-M, O-S, V-W.**

**A. Indemnification**

**1) INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

VENDOR AGREES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS CONTRACT, IT IS FURNISHING SERVICES IN THE CAPACITY OF AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AND THAT VENDOR IS NOT AN EMPLOYEE OF THE CUSTOMER OR THE STATE OF TEXAS.

**2) Acts or Omissions**

Vendor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State of Texas and Customers, AND/OR THEIR OFFICERS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEY FEES, AND EXPENSES arising out of, or resulting from any acts or omissions of the Vendor or its agents, employees, subcontractors, Order Fulfillers, or suppliers of subcontractors in the execution or performance of the Contract and any Purchase Orders issued under the Contract. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY VENDOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND VENDOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. VENDOR AND THE CUSTOMER AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM.

**3) Infringements**

a) Vendor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State of Texas and Customers, AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES from any and all third party claims involving infringement of United States patents, copyrights, trade and service marks, and any other intellectual or intangible property rights in connection with the PERFORMANCES OR ACTIONS OF VENDOR PURSUANT TO THIS CONTRACT. VENDOR AND THE CUSTOMER AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM. VENDOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY VENDOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND VENDOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

b) Vendor shall have no liability under this section if the alleged infringement is caused in whole or in part by: (i) use of the product or service for a purpose or in a manner for which the product or service was not designed, (ii) any modification made to the product without Vendor's written approval, (iii) any modifications made to the product by the Vendor pursuant to Customer's specific instructions, (iv) any intellectual property right owned by or licensed to Customer, or (v) any use of the product or service by Customer that is not in conformity with the terms of any applicable license agreement.

c) If Vendor becomes aware of an actual or potential claim, or Customer provides Vendor with notice of an actual or potential claim, Vendor may (or in the case of an injunction against Customer, shall), at Vendor's sole option and expense: (i) procure for the Customer the right to continue to use the affected portion of the product or service, or (ii) modify or replace the affected portion of the product or service with functionally equivalent or superior product or service so that Customer's use is non-infringing.

**4) PROPERTY DAMAGE**

IN THE EVENT OF LOSS, DAMAGE, OR DESTRUCTION OF ANY PROPERTY OF CUSTOMER OR THE STATE DUE TO THE NEGLIGENCE, MISCONDUCT, WRONGFUL ACT OR OMISSION ON THE PART OF THE VENDOR, ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, OR SUBCONTRACTORS, THE VENDOR SHALL PAY THE FULL COST OF EITHER REPAIR, RECONSTRUCTION, OR REPLACEMENT OF THE PROPERTY, AT THE CUSTOMER'S SOLE ELECTION. SUCH COST SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE CUSTOMER AND SHALL BE DUE AND PAYABLE BY THE VENDOR NINETY (90) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE VENDORS RECEIPT FROM THE CUSTOMER OF A WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE AMOUNT DUE.

**B. Taxes/Worker's Compensation/UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

1) VENDOR AGREES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS CONTRACT, VENDOR SHALL BE ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LIABILITY AND PAYMENT OF VENDOR'S AND VENDOR'S EMPLOYEES' TAXES OF WHATEVER KIND, ARISING OUT OF THE PERFORMANCES IN THIS CONTRACT. VENDOR AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS APPLICABLE TO ANY SUCH PERSONS, INCLUDING LAWS REGARDING WAGES, TAXES, INSURANCE, AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION. THE CUSTOMER AND/OR THE STATE SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO THE VENDOR, ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, OR

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

OTHERS FOR THE PAYMENT OF TAXES OR THE PROVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION OR ANY BENEFIT AVAILABLE TO A STATE EMPLOYEE OR EMPLOYEE OF ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY CUSTOMER.

2) VENDOR AGREES TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS CUSTOMERS, THE STATE OF TEXAS AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, AND/OR ASSIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEYS' FEES, AND EXPENSES, RELATING TO TAX LIABILITY, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION IN ITS PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS CONTRACT. VENDOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY VENDOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND VENDOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. VENDOR AND THE CUSTOMER AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM.

**C. Vendor Certifications**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor certifies on behalf of Vendor and its designated Order Fulfillers that they:

- (i) have not given, offered to give, and do not intend to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the Contract;
- (ii) are not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise tax owed the State and are not ineligible to receive payment under §231.006 of the Texas Family Code and acknowledge the Contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate;
- (iii) neither they, nor anyone acting for them, have violated the antitrust laws of the United States or the State, nor communicated directly or indirectly to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business for the purpose of obtaining an unfair price advantage;
- (iv) have not received payment from DIR or any of its employees for participating in the preparation of the Contract;
- (v) under Section 2155.004, Texas Government Code, the vendor certifies that the individual or business entity named in this bid or contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate;
- (vi) to the best of their knowledge and belief, there are no suits or proceedings

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

pending or threatened against or affecting them, which if determined adversely to them will have a material adverse effect on the ability to fulfill their obligations under the Contract;

- (vii) Vendor and its principals are not suspended or debarred from doing business with the federal government as listed in the *System for Award Management (SAM)* maintained by the General Services Administration;
- (viii) as of the effective date of the Contract, are not listed in the prohibited vendors list authorized by Executive Order #13224, "*Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism*", published by the United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control;
- (ix) Vendor represents and warrants that, for its performance of this contract, it shall purchase products and materials produced in the State of Texas when available at the price and time comparable to products and materials produced outside the state, to the extent that such is required under Texas Government Code, Section 2155.4441;
- (x) agrees that all equipment and materials used in fulfilling the requirements of this contract are of high-quality and consistent with or better than applicable industry standards, if any. All Works and Services performed pursuant to this Contract shall be of high professional quality and workmanship and according consistent with or better than applicable industry standards, if any;
- (xi) agree that any payments due under this contract will be applied towards any debt, including but not limited to delinquent taxes and child support that is owed to the State of Texas;
- (xii) are in compliance Section 669.003, Texas Government Code, relating to contracting with executive head of a state agency;
- (xiii) represent and warrant that the provision of goods and services or other performance under the Contract will not constitute an actual or potential conflict of interest and certify that they will not reasonably create the appearance of impropriety, and, if these facts change during the course of the Contract, certify they shall disclose the actual or potential conflict of interest and any circumstances that create the appearance of impropriety;
- (xiv) under Section 2155.006 and Section 2261.053, Texas Government Code, are not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate;
- (xv) have complied with the Section 556.0055, Texas Government Code, restriction on lobbying expenditures. In addition, Vendor acknowledges the applicability of §2155.444 and §2155.4441, Texas Government Code, in fulfilling the terms of the Contract; and
- (xvi) represent and warrant that the Customer's payment and their receipt of

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

appropriated or other funds under this Agreement are not prohibited by Sections 556.005 or Section 556.008, Texas Government Code.

During the term of the Contract, Vendor shall, for itself and on behalf of its Order Fulfillers, promptly disclose to DIR all changes that occur to the foregoing certifications, representations and warranties. Vendor covenants to fully cooperate in the development and execution of resulting documentation necessary to maintain an accurate record of the certifications, representations and warranties.

In addition, Vendor understands and agrees that if Vendor responds to certain Customer pricing requests or Statements of Work, then, in order to contract with the Customer, Vendor may be required to comply with additional terms and conditions or certifications that an individual customer may require due to state and federal law (e.g., privacy and security requirements).

**D. Ability to Conduct Business in Texas**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor and its Order Fulfillers shall be authorized and validly existing under the laws of its state of organization, and shall be authorized to do business in the State of Texas in accordance with Texas Business Organizations Code, Title 1, Chapter 9.

**E. Equal Opportunity Compliance**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor agrees to abide by all applicable laws, regulations, and executive orders pertaining to equal employment opportunity, including federal laws and the laws of the State in which its primary place of business is located. In accordance with such laws, regulations, and executive orders, the Vendor agrees that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, veteran status or handicap, be excluded from employment with or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity performed by Vendor under the Contract. If Vendor is found to be not in compliance with these requirements during the term of the Contract, Vendor agrees to take appropriate steps to correct these deficiencies. Upon request, Vendor will furnish information regarding its nondiscriminatory hiring and promotion policies, as well as specific information on the composition of its principals and staff, including the identification of minorities and women in management or other positions with discretionary or decision-making authority.

**F. Use of Subcontractors and Designation of Order Fulfillers**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

If Vendor uses any subcontractors in the performance of this Contract, Vendor must make a good faith effort in the submission of its Subcontracting Plan in accordance with the State's Policy on Utilization of Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB). A revised Subcontracting Plan approved by DIR's HUB Office shall be required before Vendor can engage additional subcontractors in the performance of this Contract. A revised Subcontracting Plan approved by DIR's HUB Office shall be required before Vendor can remove subcontractors currently engaged in the performance of this Contract. Vendor shall remain solely responsible for the performance of its obligations

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

under the Contract.

Vendors who submit Order Fulfillers must indicate whether (a) the Order Fulfiller(s) will provide sales and marketing of the Vendor's services only or (b) the Order Fulfiller(s) will provide technical services in addition to sales and marketing of the Vendor's services. If Vendor wishes to engage additional Order Fulfiller(s) to provide technical services after Contract execution, Vendor must submit the qualifications of Order Fulfiller(s) to the DIR Contract Manager for approval (in addition to meeting HUB requirements) prior to inclusion of such Order Fulfiller.

**G. Responsibility for Actions**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

- 1) Vendor is solely responsible for its actions and those of its agents, employees, or subcontractors, and agrees that neither Vendor nor any of the foregoing has any authority to act or speak on behalf of DIR or the State.
- 2) Vendor, for itself and on behalf of its subcontractors, shall report to DIR promptly when the disclosures under the Certification Statement of Exhibit A to the RFO and/or Section 9.C. (x), Vendor Certifications of this Appendix A to the Contract change. Vendor covenants to fully cooperate with DIR to update and amend the Contract to accurately disclose the status of conflicts of interest.

**H. Confidentiality**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

- 1) Vendor acknowledges that DIR and Customers that are governmental bodies as defined by Texas Government Code, Section 552.003 are subject to the Texas Public Information Act. Vendor also acknowledges that DIR and Customers that are state agencies will comply with the Public Information Act, and with all opinions of the Texas Attorney General's office concerning this Act.
- 2) Under the terms of the Contract, DIR may provide Vendor with information related to Customers. Vendor shall not re-sell or otherwise distribute or release Customer information to any party in any manner.

**I. Security of Premises, Equipment, Data and Personnel**

Vendor and/or Order Fulfiller may, from time to time during the performance of the Contract, have access to the personnel, premises, equipment, and other property, including data, files and /or materials (collectively referred to as "Data") belonging to the Customer. Vendor shall use their best efforts to preserve the safety, security, and the integrity of the personnel, premises, equipment, Data and other property of the Customer, in accordance with the instruction of the Customer. Vendor shall be responsible for damage to Customer's equipment, workplace, and its contents when such damage is caused by its employees or subcontractors. If a Vendor fails to comply with Customer's security requirements, then Customer may immediately terminate its Purchase Order and related Service Agreement.

**J. Background and/or Criminal History Investigation**

Prior to commencement of any services, background and/or criminal history

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

investigation of the Vendor's employees and subcontractors who will be providing services to the Customer under the Contract may be performed by the Customer. Should any employee or subcontractor of the Vendor who will be providing services to the Customer under the Contract not be acceptable to the Customer as a result of the background and/or criminal history check, then Customer may immediately terminate its Purchase Order and related Service Agreement or request replacement of the employee or subcontractor in question.

**K. Limitation of Liability**

For any claim or cause of action arising under or related to the Contract: i) to the extent permitted by the Constitution and the laws of the State, none of the parties shall be liable to the other for punitive, special, or consequential damages, even if it is advised of the possibility of such damages; and ii) Vendor's liability for damages of any kind to the Customer shall be limited to the total amount paid to Vendor under the Contract during the twelve months immediately preceding the accrual of the claim or cause of action. However, this limitation of Vendor's liability shall not apply to claims of bodily injury; violation of intellectual property rights including but not limited to patent, trademark, or copyright infringement; indemnification requirements under this Contract; and violation of State or Federal law including but not limited to disclosures of confidential information and any penalty of any kind lawfully assessed as a result of such violation.

**L. Overcharges**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor hereby assigns to DIR any and all of its claims for overcharges associated with this contract which arise under the antitrust laws of the United States, 15 U.S.C.A. Section 1, et seq., and which arise under the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, Tex. Bus. and Comm. Code Section 15.01, et seq.

**M. Prohibited Conduct**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor represents and warrants that, to the best of its knowledge as of the date of this certification, neither Vendor nor any subcontractor, firm, corporation, partnership, or institution represented by Vendor, nor anyone acting for such, subcontractor, firm, corporation or institution has: (1) violated the antitrust laws of the State of Texas under Texas Business & Commerce Code, Chapter 15, or the federal antitrust laws; or (2) communicated its response to the Request for Offer directly or indirectly to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business during the procurement for the Contract.

**N. Required Insurance Coverage**

As a condition of this Contract with DIR, Vendor shall provide the listed insurance coverage within 5 business days of execution of the Contract if the Vendor is awarded services which require that Vendor's employees perform work at any Customer premises and/or use employer vehicles to conduct work on behalf of Customers. In addition, when engaged by a Customer to provide services on Customer premises, the

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

Vendor shall, at its own expense, secure and maintain the insurance coverage specified herein, and shall provide proof of such insurance coverage to the related Customer within five (5) business days following the execution of the Purchase Order. Vendor may not begin performance under the Contract and/or a Purchase Order until such proof of insurance coverage is provided to, and approved by, DIR and the Customer. All required insurance must be issued by companies that have an A rating and a Financial Size Category Class of VII from A.M. Best, and are licensed in the State of Texas and authorized to provide the corresponding coverage. The Customer and DIR will be named as Additional Insureds on all required coverage. Required coverage must remain in effect through the term of the Contract and each Purchase Order issued to Vendor there under. The minimum acceptable insurance provisions are as follows:

**1) Commercial General Liability**

Commercial General Liability must include \$1,000,000 per occurrence for Bodily Injury and Property Damage with a separate aggregate limit of \$2,000,000; Medical Expense per person of \$5,000; Personal Injury and Advertising Liability of \$1,000,000; Products/Completed Operations Aggregate Limit of \$2,000,000; and Damage to Premises Rented: \$50,000. Agencies may require additional Umbrella/Excess Liability insurance. The policy shall contain the following provisions:

- a) Blanket contractual liability coverage for liability assumed under the Contract;
- b) Independent Contractor coverage;
- c) State of Texas, DIR and Customer listed as an additional insured; and
- d) Waiver of Subrogation.

**2) Workers' Compensation Insurance**

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY COVERAGE MUST INCLUDE LIMITS CONSISTENT WITH STATUTORY BENEFITS OUTLINED IN THE TEXAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT (ART. 8308-1.01 ET SEQ. TEX. REV. CIV. STAT) AND MINIMUM POLICY LIMITS FOR EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY OF \$1,000,000 PER ACCIDENT, \$1,000,000 DISEASE PER EMPLOYEE AND \$1,000,000 PER DISEASE POLICY LIMIT.**

**3) Business Automobile Liability Insurance**

Business Automobile Liability Insurance must cover all owned, non-owned and hired vehicles with a minimum combined single limit of \$500,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. The policy shall contain the following endorsements in favor of DIR and/or Customer:

- a) Waiver of Subrogation; and
- b) Additional Insured.

**O. Use of State Property**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor is prohibited from using the Customer's equipment, the customer's location, or any other resources of the Customer or the State for any purpose other than performing services under this Agreement. For this purpose, equipment includes, but is not limited to, copy machines, computers and telephones using State long distance services. Any

## **Appendix A: Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

charges incurred by Vendor using the Customer's equipment for any purpose other than performing services under this Agreement must be fully reimbursed by Vendor to the Customer immediately upon demand by the Customer. Such use shall constitute breach of contract and may result in termination of the contract and other remedies available to DIR and Customer under the contract and applicable law.

### **P. Immigration**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

The Vendor shall comply with all requirements related to federal immigration laws and regulations, to include but not be limited to, the Immigration and Reform Act of 1986, the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 ("IIRIRA") and the Immigration Act of 1990 (8 U.S.C.1101, et seq.) regarding employment verification and retention of verification forms for any individual(s) who will perform any labor or services under this Contract.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. RP-80, issued by the Governor of Texas on December 3, 2014, and as subsequently clarified, the Vendor shall, as a condition of this Contract, also comply with the United States Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to determine the eligibility of:

- all persons 1) to whom the E-Verify system applies, and 2) who are hired by the Vendor during the term of this Contract to perform duties within Texas; and
- all subcontractors' employees 1) to whom the E-Verify system applies, and 2) who are hired by the subcontractor during the term of this Contract and assigned by the subcontractor to perform work pursuant to this Contract.

The Vendor shall require its subcontractors to comply with the requirements of this Section and the Vendor is responsible for the compliance of its subcontractors. Nothing herein is intended to exclude compliance by Vendor and its subcontractors with all other relevant federal immigration statutes and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

### **Q. Public Disclosure**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

No public disclosures or news releases pertaining to this contract shall be made by Vendor without prior written approval of DIR.

### **R. Product and/or Services Substitutions**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Substitutions are not permitted without the written permission of DIR or Customer.

### **S. Secure Erasure of Hard Disk Managed Services Products and/or Services**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor agrees that all managed service products and/or services equipped with hard disk drives (e.g., computers, telephones, printers, fax machines, scanners, multifunction devices) shall have the capability to securely erase data written to the hard drive prior to final disposition of such managed service products and/or services, either at the end of the managed service product and/or services' useful life or at the

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

end of the Customer's managed service product and/or services' useful life or the end of the related Customer Managed Services Agreement for such products and/or services, in accordance with 1 TAC 202.

**T. Deceptive Trade Practices; Unfair Business Practices**

1) Vendor represents and warrants that neither Vendor nor any of its Subcontractors has been (i) found liable in any administrative hearing, litigation or other proceeding of Deceptive Trade Practices violations as defined under Chapter 17, Texas Business & Commerce Code, or (ii) has outstanding allegations of any Deceptive Trade Practice pending in any administrative hearing, litigation or other proceeding.

2) Vendor certifies that it has no officers who have served as officers of other entities who (i) have been found liable in any administrative hearing, litigation or other proceeding of Deceptive Trade Practices violations or (ii) have outstanding allegations of any Deceptive Trade Practice pending in any administrative hearing, litigation or other proceeding.

**U. Drug Free Workplace Policy**

The Vendor shall comply with the applicable provisions of the Drug-Free Work Place Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D; 41 U.S.C. 701 et seq.) and maintain a drug-free work environment; and the final rule, government-wide requirements for drug-free work place (grants), issued by the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Defense (32 CFR Part 280, Subpart F) to implement the provisions of the Drug-Free Work Place Act of 1988 is incorporated by reference and Vendor shall comply with the relevant provisions thereof, including any amendments to the final rule that may hereafter be issued.

**V. Accessibility of Public Information**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

1) Pursuant to S.B. 1368 of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature, Regular Session, Vendor is required to make any information created or exchanged with the State pursuant to this Contract, and not otherwise excepted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to the State.

2) Each State government entity should supplement the provision set forth in Subsection 1, above, with the additional terms agreed upon by the parties regarding the specific format by which the Vendor is required to make the information accessible by the public.

**W. Vendor Reporting Responsibilities**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor shall comply with Subtitle C, Title 5, Business & Commerce Code, Chapter 109 as added by HB 2539 of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature, Regular Session, requiring computer technicians to report images of child pornography.

**10. Contract Enforcement**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED TO A, B2, 5-7.**

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

**A. Enforcement of Contract and Dispute Resolution**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

- 1) Vendor and DIR agree to the following: (i) a party's failure to require strict performance of any provision of the Contract shall not waive or diminish that party's right thereafter to demand strict compliance with that or any other provision, (ii) for disputes not resolved in the normal course of business, the dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, shall be used, and (iii) actions or proceedings arising from the Contract shall be heard in a state court of competent jurisdiction in Travis County, Texas.
- 2) Disputes arising between a Customer and the Vendor shall be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution process of the Customer that is not inconsistent with subparagraph A.1 above. DIR shall not be a party to any such dispute unless DIR, Customer, and Vendor agree in writing.
- 3) State agencies are required by rule (34 TAC §20.108(b)) to report vendor performance through the Vendor Performance Tracking System (VPTS) on every purchase over \$25,000.

**B. Termination**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**1) Termination for Non-Appropriation**

**a) Termination for Non-Appropriation by Customer**

Customer may terminate Purchase Orders if funds sufficient to pay its obligations under the Contract are not appropriated: i) by the governing body on behalf of local governments; ii) by the Texas legislature on behalf of state agencies; or iii) by budget execution authority provisioned to the Governor or the Legislative Budget Board as provided in Chapter 317, Texas Government Code. In the event of non-appropriation, Vendor will be provided ten (10) calendar days written notice of intent to terminate. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Customer issues a Purchase Order and has accepted delivery of the services, they are obligated to pay for the services or they may discontinue using services under any return provisions that Vendor offers. In the event of such termination, the Customer will not be considered to be in default or breach under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any further payments ordinarily due under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any damages or any other amounts which are caused by or associated with such termination.

**b) Termination for Non-Appropriation by DIR**

DIR may terminate Contract if funds sufficient to pay its obligations under the Contract are not appropriated: by the i) Texas legislature or ii) by budget execution authority provisioned to the Governor or the Legislative Budget Board as provided in Chapter 317, Texas Government Code. In the event of non-appropriation, Vendor will be provided thirty (30) calendar days written notice of intent to terminate. In the event of such termination, DIR will not be considered to be in default or breach under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any further payments ordinarily due under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any damages or any other amounts which are caused by or associated with such termination.

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

**2) Absolute Right**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

DIR shall have the absolute right to terminate the Contract without recourse in the event that: i) Vendor becomes listed on the prohibited vendors list authorized by Executive Order #13224, "*Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism*", published by the United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control; ii) Vendor becomes suspended or debarred from doing business with the federal government as listed in the *System for Award Management (SAM)* maintained by the General Services Administration; or (iii) Vendor is found by DIR to be ineligible to hold this Contract under Subsection (b) of Section 2155.006, Texas Government Code. Vendor shall be provided written notice in accordance with Section 11.A, Notices, of intent to terminate.

**3) Termination for Convenience**

DIR may terminate the Contract, in whole or in part, by giving the other party thirty (30) calendar days' written notice. A Customer may terminate a Purchase Order or other contractual document or relationship by giving the other party thirty (30) calendar days' written notice.

**4) Termination for Cause**

**a) Contract**

Either DIR or Vendor may issue a written notice of default to the other upon the occurrence of a material breach of any covenant, warranty or provision of the Contract, upon the following preconditions: first, the parties must comply with the requirements of Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code in an attempt to resolve a dispute; second, after complying with Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, and the dispute remains unresolved, then the non-defaulting party shall give the defaulting party thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of notice to cure said default. If the defaulting party fails to cure said default within the timeframe allowed, the non-defaulting party may, at its option and in addition to any other remedies it may have available, cancel and terminate the Contract. Customers purchasing services under the Contract have no power to terminate the Contract for default.

**b) Purchase Order**

Customer or Order Filler may terminate a Purchase Order or other contractual document or relationship upon the occurrence of a material breach of any term or condition: (i) of the Contract, or (ii) included in the Purchase Order or other contractual document or relationship in accordance with Section 3.B.2 above, upon the following preconditions: first, the parties must comply with the requirements of Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, in an attempt to resolve a dispute; second, after complying with Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, and the dispute remains unresolved, then the non-defaulting party shall give the defaulting party thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of notice to cure said default. If the defaulting party fails to cure said default within the timeframe allowed, the non-defaulting party may, at its option and in addition to any other remedies it may have available,

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

cancel and terminate the Purchase Order. Customer may immediately suspend or terminate a Purchase Order without advance notice in the event Vendor fails to comply with confidentiality, privacy, security requirements, environmental or safety laws or regulations, if such non-compliance relates or may relate to vendor provision of goods or services to the Customer.

**5) Immediate Termination or Suspension**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

DIR may immediately suspend or terminate this Contract without advance notice if DIR receives notice or knowledge of potentially criminal violations by Vendor (whether or not such potential violations directly impact the provision of goods or services under this Contract). In such case, the Vendor may be held ineligible to receive further business or payment but may be responsible for winding down or transition expenses incurred by Customer. DIR or Customer will use reasonable efforts to provide notice (to the extent allowed by law) to vendor within five (5) business days after imposing the suspension or termination. Vendor may provide a response and request an opportunity to present its position. DIR or Customer will review vendor presentation, but is under no obligation to provide formal response.

**6) Customer Rights Under Termination**

In the event the Contract expires or is terminated for any reason, a Customer shall retain its rights under the Contract and the Purchase Order issued prior to the termination or expiration of the Contract. The Purchase Order survives the expiration or termination of the Contract for its then effective term.

**7) Vendor or Order Fulfiller Rights Under Termination**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

In the event a Purchase Order expires or is terminated, a Customer shall pay: 1) all amounts due for products or services ordered prior to the effective termination date and ultimately accepted, and 2) any applicable early termination fees agreed to in such Purchase Order.

**C. Force Majeure**

DIR, Customer, or Vendor may be excused from performance under the Contract for any period when performance is prevented as the result of an act of God, strike, war, civil disturbance, epidemic, or court order, provided that the party experiencing the event of Force Majeure has prudently and promptly acted to take any and all steps that are within the party's control to ensure performance and to shorten the duration of the event of Force Majeure. The party suffering an event of Force Majeure shall provide notice of the event to the other parties when commercially reasonable. Subject to this provision, such non-performance shall not be deemed a default or a ground for termination. However, a Customer may terminate a Purchase Order if it is determined by the Customer that Vendor will not be able to deliver services in a timely manner to meet the business needs of the Customer.

**11. Notification**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**Appendix A:**  
**Standard Terms and Conditions For Services Contracts**

**A. Notices**

All notices, demands, designations, certificates, requests, offers, consents, approvals and other instruments given pursuant to the Contract shall be in writing and shall be validly given on: (i) the date of delivery if delivered by email, facsimile transmission, mailed by registered or certified mail, or hand delivered, or (ii) three business days after being mailed via United States Postal Service. All notices under the Contract shall be sent to a party at the respective address indicated in Section 6 of the Contract or to such other address as such party shall have notified the other party in writing.

**B. Handling of Written Complaints**

In addition to other remedies contained in the Contract, a person contracting with DIR may direct their written complaints to the following office:

Public Information Office  
Department of Information Resources  
Attn: Public Information Officer  
300 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1300  
Austin, Texas 78701  
(512) 475-4759, facsimile

**12. Captions**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

The captions contained in the Contract, Appendices, and its Exhibits are intended for convenience and reference purposes only and shall in no way be deemed to define or limit any provision thereof.



# HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) QUICK CHECKLIST

While this HSP Quick Checklist is being provided to merely assist you in readily identifying the sections of the HSP form that you will need to complete, it is very important that you adhere to the instructions in the HSP form and instructions provided by the contracting agency.

➤ **If you will be awarding all of the subcontracting work you have to offer under the contract to only Texas certified HUB vendors, complete:**

Section 1 - Respondent and Requisition Information

Section 2 a. - Yes, I will be subcontracting portions of the contract.

Section 2 b. - List all the portions of work you will subcontract, and indicate the percentage of the contract you expect to award to Texas certified HUB vendors.

Section 2 c. - Yes

Section 4 - Affirmation

GFE Method A (Attachment A) - Complete an Attachment A for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in Section 2 b.

➤ **If you will be subcontracting any portion of the contract to Texas certified HUB vendors and Non-HUB vendors, and the aggregate percentage of all the subcontracting work you will be awarding to the Texas certified HUB vendors with which you do not have a continuous contract\* in place for more than five (5) years meets or exceeds the HUB Goal the contracting agency identified in the "Agency Special Instructions/Additional Requirements", complete:**

Section 1 - Respondent and Requisition Information

Section 2 a. - Yes, I will be subcontracting portions of the contract.

Section 2 b. - List all the portions of work you will subcontract, and indicate the percentage of the contract you expect to award to Texas certified HUB vendors and Non-HUB vendors.

Section 2 c. - No

Section 2 d. - Yes

Section 4 - Affirmation

GFE Method A (Attachment A) - Complete an Attachment A for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in Section 2 b.

➤ **If you will be subcontracting any portion of the contract to Texas certified HUB vendors and Non-HUB vendors or only to Non-HUB vendors, and the aggregate percentage of all the subcontracting work you will be awarding to the Texas certified HUB vendors with which you do not have a continuous contract\* in place for more than five (5) years does not meet or exceed the HUB Goal the contracting agency identified in the "Agency Special Instructions/Additional Requirements", complete:**

Section 1 - Respondent and Requisition Information

Section 2 a. - Yes, I will be subcontracting portions of the contract.

Section 2 b. - List all the portions of work you will subcontract, and indicate the percentage of the contract you expect to award to Texas certified HUB vendors and Non-HUB vendors.

Section 2 c. - No

Section 2 d. - No

Section 4 - Affirmation

GFE Method B (Attachment B) - Complete an Attachment B for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in Section 2 b.

➤ **If you will not be subcontracting any portion of the contract and will be fulfilling the entire contract with your own resources (i.e., employees, supplies, materials and/or equipment, including transportation and delivery, complete:**

Section 1 - Respondent and Requisition Information

Section 2 a. - No, I will not be subcontracting any portion of the contract, and I will be fulfilling the entire contract with my own resources.

Section 3 - Self Performing Justification

Section 4 - Affirmation

**\*Continuous Contract:** Any existing written agreement (including any renewals that are exercised) between a prime contractor and a HUB vendor, where the HUB vendor provides the prime contractor with goods or service, to include transportation and delivery under the same contract for a specified period of time. The frequency the HUB vendor is utilized or paid during the term of the contract is not relevant to whether the contract is considered continuous. Two or more contracts that run concurrently or overlap one another for different periods of time are considered by CPA to be individual contracts rather than renewals or extensions to the original contract. In such situations the prime contractor and HUB vendor are entering (have entered) into "new" contracts.



# HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP)

In accordance with Texas Gov't Code §2161.252, the contracting agency has determined that subcontracting opportunities are probable under this contract. Therefore, all respondents, including State of Texas certified Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) must complete and submit this State of Texas HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) with their response to the bid requisition (solicitation).

**NOTE:** Responses that do not include a completed HSP shall be rejected pursuant to Texas Gov't Code §2161.252(b).

The HUB Program promotes equal business opportunities for economically disadvantaged persons to contract with the State of Texas in accordance with the goals specified in the 2009 State of Texas Disparity Study. The statewide HUB goals defined in 34 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §20.13 are:

- **11.2 percent for heavy construction other than building contracts,**
- **21.1 percent for all building construction, including general contractors and operative builders' contracts,**
- **32.9 percent for all special trade construction contracts,**
- **23.7 percent for professional services contracts,**
- **26.0 percent for all other services contracts, and**
- **21.1 percent for commodities contracts.**

**- - Agency Special Instructions/Additional Requirements - -**

*In accordance with 34 TAC §20.14(d)(1)(D)(iii), a respondent (prime contractor) may demonstrate good faith effort to utilize Texas certified HUBs for its subcontracting opportunities if the total value of the respondent's subcontracts with Texas certified HUBs meets or exceeds the statewide HUB goal or the agency specific HUB goal, whichever is higher. When a respondent uses this method to demonstrate good faith effort, the respondent must identify the HUBs with which it will subcontract. If using existing contracts with Texas certified HUBs to satisfy this requirement, only the aggregate percentage of the contracts expected to be subcontracted to HUBs with which the respondent does not have a continuous contract\* in place for more than five (5) years shall qualify for meeting the HUB goal. This limitation is designed to encourage vendor rotation as recommended by the 2009 Texas Disparity Study.*

**SECTION-1 RESPONDENT AND REQUISITION INFORMATION**

- a. Respondent (Company) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ State of Texas VID #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Point of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Is your company a State of Texas certified HUB?  - Yes  - No
- c. Requisition #: \_\_\_\_\_ Bid Open Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(mm/dd/yyyy)

Enter your company's name here: \_\_\_\_\_ Requisition #: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION-2: RESPONDENT'S SUBCONTRACTING INTENTIONS**

After dividing the contract work into reasonable lots or portions to the extent consistent with prudent industry practices, and taking into consideration the scope of work to be performed under the proposed contract, including all potential subcontracting opportunities, the respondent must determine what portions of work, **including contracted staffing, goods, services, transportation and delivery will be subcontracted**. Note: In accordance with 34 TAC §20.11., a "Subcontractor" means a person who contracts with a prime contractor to work, to supply commodities, or to contribute toward completing work for a governmental entity.

a. Check the appropriate box (Yes or No) that identifies your subcontracting intentions:

- *Yes*, I will be subcontracting portions of the contract. (If *Yes*, complete Item b of this SECTION and continue to Item c of this SECTION.)
- *No*, I will not be subcontracting any portion of the contract, and I will be fulfilling the entire contract with my own resources, including employees, goods, services, transportation and delivery. (If *No*, continue to SECTION 3 and SECTION 4.)

b. List all the portions of work (subcontracting opportunities) you will subcontract. Also, based on the total value of the contract, identify the percentages of the contract you expect to award to Texas certified HUBs, and the percentage of the contract you expect to award to vendors that are not a Texas certified HUB (i.e., Non-HUB).

Item #	Subcontracting Opportunity Description	HUBs		Non-HUBs
		Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to HUBs with which you <b>do not</b> have a <b>continuous contract*</b> in place for <b>more than five (5) years</b> .	Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to HUBs with which you have a <b>continuous contract*</b> in place for <b>more than five (5) years</b> .	Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to non-HUBs.
1		%	%	%
2		%	%	%
3		%	%	%
4		%	%	%
5		%	%	%
6		%	%	%
7		%	%	%
8		%	%	%
9		%	%	%
10		%	%	%
11		%	%	%
12		%	%	%
13		%	%	%
14		%	%	%
15		%	%	%
Aggregate percentages of the contract expected to be subcontracted:		%	%	%

(Note: If you have more than fifteen subcontracting opportunities, a continuation sheet is available online at <http://window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-subcontracting-plan/>.)

c. Check the appropriate box (Yes or No) that indicates whether you will be using **only** Texas certified HUBs to perform **all** of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in SECTION 2, Item b.

- *Yes* (If *Yes*, continue to SECTION 4 and complete an "HSP Good Faith Effort - Method A (Attachment A)" for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed.)
- *No* (If *No*, continue to Item d, of this SECTION.)

d. Check the appropriate box (Yes or No) that indicates whether the aggregate expected percentage of the contract you will subcontract **with Texas certified HUBs** with which you **do not** have a **continuous contract\*** in place with for **more than five (5) years**, meets or exceeds the HUB goal the contracting agency identified on page 1 in the "Agency Special Instructions/Additional Requirements."

- *Yes* (If *Yes*, continue to SECTION 4 **and** complete an "HSP Good Faith Effort - Method A (Attachment A)" for **each** of the subcontracting opportunities you listed.)
- *No* (If *No*, continue to SECTION 4 **and** complete an "HSP Good Faith Effort - Method B (Attachment B)" for **each** of the subcontracting opportunities you listed.)

**\*Continuous Contract:** Any existing written agreement (including any renewals that are exercised) between a prime contractor and a HUB vendor, where the HUB vendor provides the prime contractor with goods or service, to include transportation and delivery under the same contract for a specified period of time. The frequency the HUB vendor is utilized or paid during the term of the contract is not relevant to whether the contract is considered continuous. Two or more contracts that run concurrently or overlap one another for different periods of time are considered by CPA to be individual contracts rather than renewals or extensions to the original contract. In such situations the prime contractor and HUB vendor are entering (have entered) into "new" contracts.

Enter your company's name here: \_\_\_\_\_ Requisition #: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION-2 RESPONDENT'S SUBCONTRACTING INTENTIONS (CONTINUATION SHEET)**

This page can be used as a continuation sheet to the HSP Form's page 2, Section 2, Item b. Continue listing the portions of work (subcontracting opportunities) you will subcontract. Also, based on the total value of the contract, identify the percentages of the contract you expect to award to Texas certified HUBs, and the percentage of the contract you expect to award to vendors that are not a Texas certified HUB (i.e., Non-HUB).

Item #	Subcontracting Opportunity Description	HUBs		Non-HUBs
		Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to HUBs with which you <b>do not</b> have a <b>continuous contract*</b> in place for <b>more than five (5) years</b> .	Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to HUBs with which you have a <b>continuous contract*</b> in place for <b>more than five (5) years</b> .	Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to non-HUBs.
16		%	%	%
17		%	%	%
18		%	%	%
19		%	%	%
20		%	%	%
21		%	%	%
22		%	%	%
23		%	%	%
24		%	%	%
25		%	%	%
26		%	%	%
27		%	%	%
28		%	%	%
29		%	%	%
30		%	%	%
31		%	%	%
32		%	%	%
33		%	%	%
34		%	%	%
35		%	%	%
36		%	%	%
37		%	%	%
38		%	%	%
39		%	%	%
40		%	%	%
41		%	%	%
42		%	%	%
43		%	%	%
Aggregate percentages of the contract expected to be subcontracted:		%	%	%

**\*Continuous Contract:** Any existing written agreement (including any renewals that are exercised) between a prime contractor and a HUB vendor, where the HUB vendor provides the prime contractor with goods or service, to include transportation and delivery under the same contract for a specified period of time. The frequency the HUB vendor is utilized or paid during the term of the contract is not relevant to whether the contract is considered continuous. Two or more contracts that run concurrently or overlap one another for different periods of time are considered by CPA to be individual contracts rather than renewals or extensions to the original contract. In such situations the prime contractor and HUB vendor are entering (have entered) into "new" contracts.

Enter your company's name here: \_\_\_\_\_ Requisition #: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION-3 SELF PERFORMING JUSTIFICATION** (If you responded "No" to SECTION 2, Item a, you must complete this SECTION and continue to SECTION 4.)

If you responded "No" to SECTION 2, Item a, in the space provided below explain how your company will perform the entire contract with its own employees, supplies, materials and/or equipment, to include transportation and delivery.

**SECTION-4: AFFIRMATION**

As evidenced by my signature below, I affirm that I am an authorized representative of the respondent listed in SECTION 1, and that the information and supporting documentation submitted with the HSP is true and correct. Respondent understands and agrees that, if awarded any portion of the requisition:

- The respondent will provide notice as soon as practical to all the subcontractors (HUBs and Non-HUBs) of their selection as a subcontractor for the awarded contract. The notice must specify at a minimum the contracting agency's name and its point of contact for the contract, the contract award number, the subcontracting opportunity they (the subcontractor) will perform, the approximate dollar value of the subcontracting opportunity and the expected percentage of the total contract that the subcontracting opportunity represents. A copy of the notice required by this section must also be provided to the contracting agency's point of contact for the contract no later than ten (10) working days after the contract is awarded.
- The respondent must submit monthly compliance reports (Prime Contractor Progress Assessment Report – PAR) to the contracting agency, verifying its compliance with the HSP, including the use of and expenditures made to its subcontractors (HUBs and Non-HUBs). (The PAR is available at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-forms/progressassessmentrpt.xls>).
- The respondent must seek approval from the contracting agency prior to making any modifications to its HSP, including the hiring of additional or different subcontractors and the termination of a subcontractor the respondent identified in its HSP. If the HSP is modified without the contracting agency's prior approval, respondent may be subject to any and all enforcement remedies available under the contract or otherwise available by law, up to and including debarment from all state contracting.
- The respondent must, upon request, allow the contracting agency to perform on-site reviews of the company's headquarters and/or work-site where services are being performed and must provide documentation regarding staffing and other resources.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Printed Name Title Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

**Reminder:**

- If you responded "Yes" to SECTION 2, Items c or d, you must complete an "HSP Good Faith Effort - Method A (Attachment A)" for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in SECTION 2, Item b.
- If you responded "No" SECTION 2, Items c and d, you must complete an "HSP Good Faith Effort - Method B (Attachment B)" for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in SECTION 2, Item b.



# HSP Good Faith Effort - Method B (Attachment B)

Rev. 09/15

Enter your company's name here: _____	Requisition #: _____
---------------------------------------	----------------------

**IMPORTANT:** If you responded “No” to **SECTION 2, Items c and d** of the completed HSP form, you must submit a completed “HSP Good Faith Effort - Method B (Attachment B)” for **each** of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in **SECTION 2, Item b** of the completed HSP form. You may photo-copy this page or download the form at <http://window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-forms/hub-sbcont-plan-gfe-achm-b.pdf>.

## SECTION B-1: SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY

Enter the item number and description of the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION 2, Item b, of the completed HSP form for which you are completing the attachment.

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Description: \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION B 2: MENTOR PROTÉGÉ PROGRAM

If respondent is participating as a Mentor in a State of Texas Mentor Protégé Program, submitting its Protégé (Protégé must be a State of Texas certified HUB) as a subcontractor to perform the subcontracting opportunity listed in **SECTION B-1**, constitutes a good faith effort to subcontract with a Texas certified HUB towards that specific portion of work.

Check the appropriate box (Yes or No) that indicates whether you will be subcontracting the portion of work you listed in SECTION B-1 to your Protégé.

- Yes (If *Yes*, to continue to SECTION B-4.)
- No / Not Applicable (If *No* or *Not Applicable*, continue to SECTION B-3 and SECTION B-4.)

## SECTION B 3: NOTIFICATION OF SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY

When completing this section you **MUST** comply with items **a, b, c and d**, thereby demonstrating your Good Faith Effort of having notified Texas certified HUBs and trade organizations or development centers about the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1. Your notice should include the scope of work, information regarding the location to review plans and specifications, bonding and insurance requirements, required qualifications, and identify a contact person. When sending notice of your subcontracting opportunity, you are encouraged to use the attached HUB Subcontracting Opportunity Notice form, which is also available online at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-subcontracting-plan>.

Retain supporting documentation (i.e., certified letter, fax, e-mail) demonstrating evidence of your good faith effort to notify the Texas certified HUBs and trade organizations or development centers. Also, be mindful that a working day is considered a normal business day of a state agency, not including weekends, federal or state holidays, or days the agency is declared closed by its executive officer. The initial day the subcontracting opportunity notice is sent/provided to the HUBs and to the trade organizations or development centers is considered to be “day zero” and does not count as one of the seven (7) working days.

- a.** Provide written notification of the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1, to three (3) or more Texas certified HUBs. Unless the contracting agency specified a different time period, you must allow the HUBs at least seven (7) working days to respond to the notice prior to your submitting your bid response to the contracting agency. When searching for Texas certified HUBs and verifying their HUB status, ensure that you use the State of Texas’ Centralized Master Bidders List (CMBL) - Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Directory Search located at <http://mycpa.cpa.state.tx.us/tpasscmbsearch/index.jsp>. HUB status code “A” signifies that the company is a Texas certified HUB.
- b.** List the **three (3) Texas certified HUBs** you notified regarding the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1. Include the company’s Texas Vendor Identification (VID) Number, the date you sent notice to that company, and indicate whether it was responsive or non-responsive to your subcontracting opportunity notice.

Company Name	Texas VID <small>(Do not enter Social Security Numbers.)</small>	Date Notice Sent <small>(mm/dd/yyyy)</small>	Did the HUB Respond?
			- Yes    - No
			- Yes    - No
			- Yes    - No

- c.** Provide written notification of the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1 to **two (2)** or more trade organizations or development centers in Texas to assist in identifying potential HUBs by disseminating the subcontracting opportunity to their members/participants. Unless the contracting agency specified a different time period, you must provide your subcontracting opportunity notice to trade organizations or development centers at least seven (7) working days prior to submitting your bid response to the contracting agency. A list of trade organizations and development centers that have expressed an interest in receiving notices of subcontracting opportunities is available on the Statewide HUB Program’s webpage at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/mwb-links-1/>.

- d.** List **two (2) trade organizations or development centers** you notified regarding the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1. Include the date when you sent notice to it and indicate if it accepted or rejected your notice.

Trade Organizations or Development Centers	Date Notice Sent <small>(mm/dd/yyyy)</small>	Was the Notice Accepted?
		- Yes    - No
		- Yes    - No

# HSP Good Faith Effort - Method B (Attachment B) Cont.

Rev. 09/15

Enter your company's name here: \_\_\_\_\_ Requisition #: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION B-4: SUBCONTRACTOR SELECTION**

Enter the item number and description of the subcontracting opportunity you listed in **SECTION 2, Item b**, of the completed HSP form for which you are completing the attachment.

- a. Enter the item number and description of the subcontracting opportunity for which you are completing this Attachment B continuation page.

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Description: \_\_\_\_\_

- b. List the subcontractor(s) you selected to perform the subcontracting opportunity you listed in **SECTION B-1**. Also identify whether they are a Texas certified HUB and their Texas Vendor Identification (VID) Number or federal Employer Identification Number (EIN), the approximate dollar value of the work to be subcontracted, and the expected percentage of work to be subcontracted. When searching for Texas certified HUBs and verifying their HUB status, ensure that you use the State of Texas' Centralized Master Bidders List (CMBL) - Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Directory Search located at <http://mycpa.cpa.state.tx.us/tpasscmbsearch/index.jsp>. HUB status code "A" signifies that the company is a Texas certified HUB.

Company Name	Texas certified HUB	Texas VID or federal EIN <small>Do not enter Social Security Numbers. If you do not know their VID / EIN, leave their VID / EIN field blank.</small>	Approximate Dollar Amount	Expected Percentage of Contract
	- Yes    - No		\$	%
	- Yes    - No		\$	%
	- Yes    - No		\$	%
	- Yes    - No		\$	%
	- Yes    - No		\$	%
	- Yes    - No		\$	%
	- Yes    - No		\$	%
	- Yes    - No		\$	%
	- Yes    - No		\$	%
	- Yes    - No		\$	%

- c. If any of the subcontractors you have selected to perform the subcontracting opportunity you listed in **SECTION B-1** is **not** a Texas certified HUB, provide written justification for your selection process (attach additional page if necessary):

**REMINDER:** As specified in SECTION 4 of the completed HSP form, if you (respondent) are awarded any portion of the requisition, you are required to provide notice as soon as practical to **all** the subcontractors (HUBs and Non-HUBs) of their selection as a subcontractor. The notice must specify at a minimum the contracting agency's name and its point of contact for the contract, the contract award number, the subcontracting opportunity it (the subcontractor) will perform, the approximate dollar value of the subcontracting opportunity and the expected percentage of the total contract that the subcontracting opportunity represents. A copy of the notice required by this section must also be provided to the contracting agency's point of contact for the contract no later than ten (10) working days after the contract is awarded.





**Department of Information Resources**

**Request for Offer**

**End-User IT Outsourcing Services**

**DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**Bid Package 6**

**Vendor References**

VENDOR REFERENCES

End-User IT Outsourcing Services
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248

REFERENCE DEADLINE TO DIR: No later than June 21, 2016 – 2:00 pm CT

Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) requests your assistance in providing a Vendor reference for End-User IT Outsourcing Services (formerly known as Managed Services or Seat Management). The reference should only be applicable to Services End-User IT Outsourcing.

NOTE TO THE RATER: The Vendor that is responding to this RFO is providing this document for you to fill out. Please return directly to DIR at the following email address: enduseritoutsourcing@dir.texas.gov

This portion to be completed by the Vendor requesting reference information

Vendor Name
Product/Services Category
Prime Contractor
Subcontractor(s)
Dates of Performance: Starting Date Ending Date
Total Est. Contract Dollar Amount

This portion to be completed by the Rater providing reference and returned to DIR at: enduseritoutsourcing@dir.texas.gov

Rating: (0) Unsatisfactory; (1) Marginally Satisfactory; (2) Satisfactory; (3) Exceeds Expectations; (N/A) Not Applicable
Definitions for each rating category are contained on the following page.

Please provide your opinion by rating the following:

Quality of the Products and Services

- 1. Have you purchased any End-User IT Outsourcing services from this Vendor in past two years?
2. Vendor's ability to provide the products or services in a timely manner?
3. Vendor's knowledge of and ability to answer questions regarding the products?
4. Vendor's ability to resolve problems?

- Cost
5. Timely, current, accurate & complete invoices

- Timeliness of Performance
6. Adherence to delivery schedule (major tasks, milestones)

- Business Relations & Customer Satisfaction
7. Effectively communicated with customer management & staff
8. Vendor personnel (professional, cooperative & flexible)
9. Vendor's attitude toward customer service
10. Overall Satisfaction with Vendor

Comments: (Please use additional page if necessary)

In your opinion, should this Vendor be used again for Services for End-User IT Outsourcing?
Yes No

In your opinion, should this Vendor be recommended to others?
Yes No

Rater's Name: Date:
Organization:
Title:
Phone Number: Fax Number: Email address:

## VENDOR REFERENCES

### Rating Scale

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<b>Excellent (3)</b> There are no quality problems.	There are no cost issues.	There are no delays.	Responses to inquiries, technical, service, and administrative issues are effective and responsive.
<b>Satisfactory (2)</b> Nonconformances do not impact achievement of contract requirements.	Cost issues do not impact achievement of contract requirements.	Delays do not impact achievement of contract requirements.	Response to inquiries, technical, service, and administrative issues is usually effective and responsive.
<b>Marginal (1)</b> Nonconformances require minor Agency resources to ensure achievement of contract requirements.	Cost issues require minor Agency resources to ensure achievement of contract requirements.	Delays require minor Agency resources to ensure achievement of contract requirements.	Response to inquiries, technical, service, and administrative issues is somewhat effective and responsive.
<b>Unsatisfactory (0)</b> Nonconformances are compromising the achievement of contract requirements.	Cost issues are compromising performance of contract requirements.	Delays are compromising the achievement of contract requirements.	Response to inquiries, technical, service, and administrative issues is not effective and responsive.

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**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**Bid Package 7**

**MASTER OPERATING LEASE AGREEMENT**

1. **Definitions.** Capitalized terms used in this Appendix and not otherwise defined will have the meanings set forth in the Contract.
- (a) “Assets” refers to the Products as allowed within the Contract, including the Hardware, Software, and related Services, which are specifically identified on the applicable Schedule. Assets includes any items associated with the foregoing, including but not limited to all parts, replacements, additions, repairs, and attachments incorporated therein and/or affixed thereto, and documentation (technical and/or user manuals).
  - (b) “Contract” refers to DIR Contract number DIR-TSO-XXXX into which this Appendix is incorporated.
  - (c) “Event of Default” is defined in Section 23, “Default.”
  - (d) “Event of Loss” means an event of loss, theft, destruction or damage of any kind to any item of the Assets, including the loss, theft or taking by governmental action of any item of the Assets for a stated period extending beyond the Term of any Schedule.
  - (e) “Hardware” refers to the computer machinery and equipment specifically identified on the applicable Schedule.
  - (f) “Lease” means the financing transaction described in this MOLA.
  - (g) “Lessee” means any Texas state agency, unit of local government, institution of higher education as defined in Section 2054.003 (8-a), Texas Government Code, and those state agencies purchasing from a DIR contract through an Interagency Agreement, as authorized by Chapter 771, Texas Government Code, any local government as authorized through the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791, Texas Government Code, and the state agencies and political subdivisions of other states as authorized by Section 2054.0565, Texas Government Code.
  - (h) “Lessor” means the Vendor identified in the Contract.
  - (i) “MOLA” means this Master Operating Lease Agreement (Appendix E). Any reference to “MOLA” includes the Contract, the Opinion of Counsel, and any riders, amendments and addenda thereto, and any other documents as may from time to time be made a part hereof upon mutual agreement in a writing signed by authorized representatives of both parties.
  - (j) “Rent Payment” means the amount payable by Lessee for the Assets as specified in the applicable Schedule.
  - (k) “Schedule” or “Supplementary Schedule” to this MOLA means the form or format entered into between Lessor and Lessee which contains, at a minimum, a description of the Assets, the name of the Lessee,

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

applicable Rent Payment, and term of the Lease. To be effective, a Schedule must be executed by both Lessor and Lessee.

- (l) "Services" refers to the configuration, installation, implementation, support, training, and other professional and consulting services specifically identified on the applicable Schedule.
- (m) "Software" refers to the computer programs specifically identified on the applicable Schedule.
- (n) "Stipulated Loss Value" is the value of each unit of Hardware at various times during the Lease as specified in the applicable Schedule; however, in no event will the Stipulated Loss Value of a Hardware unit exceed its fair market value.

**2. Lease.**

- (a) Lessor and Lessee intend that this MOLA constitute an operating lease and a true lease as those terms are defined in the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 13 and as provided for under the Uniform Commercial Code – Leases, Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code Article 2A. Under no circumstances shall this MOLA or any Schedules entered into under it be construed as a "finance lease" as defined in Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code § 2A.103 (7). In addition, Lessor acknowledges that Lessee is not a "merchant lessee" for purposes of Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code § 2A.511.
- (b) Lessor hereby leases to Lessee, and Lessee hereby leases from Lessor, the Assets described on each Schedule. Each such Schedule constitutes a separate agreement between Lessor and Lessee. In addition, each Schedule is subject to the terms and conditions of this MOLA as if a separate MOLA were executed for such Schedule by the parties.
- (c) In the event of Lessee's rightful rejection of the Assets as specified in Section 10 ("Inspection and Acceptance") of this MOLA, Lessee shall have the right, at its sole option, to cancel this Lease as to the rejected Assets or as to all of the Assets to be leased under the Schedule applicable to such Assets. Upon cancellation, Lessee shall have no obligations under this MOLA with respect to the portion of this Lease so cancelled.
- (d) Each Lessee has made an independent legal and management determination to enter into each Schedule. DIR has not offered or provided any legal or management advice to Lessor or to any Lessee under any Schedule. Lessee may negotiate additional terms or more advantageous terms with Lessor to satisfy individual procurements in which case such terms shall be set forth in a Rider to the MOLA or the Schedule. To the extent that any of the provisions of the MOLA conflict with any of the terms contained in any Schedule, the terms of this MOLA shall control.
- (e) If more than one Lessee is named in a Schedule, the liability of each named Lessee shall be joint and several. However, unless DIR leases Assets for its own use, DIR is not a party to any Schedule executed under this MOLA and is not responsible for Rent Payments or any other obligations under such Lessee's Schedule. The invalidation, fulfillment, waiver, termination, or other disposition of any rights or obligations of either a Lessee or Lessor (or both of them) arising from the use of this MOLA in conjunction with any one Schedule shall not affect the status of the rights or obligations of either or both

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

of those parties arising from the use of this MOLA in conjunction with any other Schedule, except in the Event of Default as provided in Section 23 (“Default”) of this MOLA.

**3. Term of MOLA.**

The term of this MOLA shall commence (a) upon commencement of the term of the Contract, if this MOLA was agreed to under the Contract, or (b) on the Effective Date specified in Amendment Number (XX), if this MOLA is added to the Contract under such Amendment. The term of this MOLA shall continue until the last to occur of the following: (i) the Schedule Term of each Schedule entered into by the parties has expired or been terminated, or (ii) the Contract has expired or been terminated. In the event of any termination or expiration of the Contract or termination of this MOLA, any provisions of the Contract and this MOLA as may be necessary to preserve the rights of Lessor or Lessee hereunder shall survive said termination or expiration.

**4. Term of Schedule.**

The term for each Schedule agreed to by a Lessee and Lessor under this MOLA shall commence on the date specified in the Lessee Certificate of Acceptance, as described in Section 10, . Unless earlier terminated as provided for herein, the Schedule shall continue for the number of whole months or other payment periods set forth in it (the “Schedule Term”). Specifically with respect to Hardware, under no circumstances shall the Schedule Term exceed seventy five percent (75%) of the economic life of the Hardware, nor shall the present value of the Rent Payments for the Hardware on the Schedule Commencement equal or exceed ninety percent (90%) of the value of the Hardware. Lessee shall provide confirmation that its lease of assets satisfies the two foregoing percentage limitations. The Schedule Term may be earlier terminated upon: (i) the non-appropriation of funds pursuant to Section 8 (“Appropriation of Funds”) of this MOLA, (ii) an Event of Loss, (iii) an Event of Default by Lessee and Lessor’s election to cancel the Schedule pursuant to Section 24 (“Remedies”) of this MOLA, (iv) an event of default or other breach of this Agreement by Lessor and Lessee's election to cancel the Schedule pursuant to Section 24 (“Remedies”) of this MOLA, or (v) as otherwise set forth herein.

**5. Administration of MOLA.**

- (a) When a prospective Lessee wishes to lease Assets under this MOLA, the prospect will submit its request directly to Lessor. Lessor shall apply the applicable pricing discounts as stated in Section 4 of the Contract or the price as agreed upon by Lessee and Lessor in the applicable Schedule, whichever is lower and submit the lease proposal to the prospective Lessee. If the prospective Lessee wishes to proceed to lease Assets based on the proposal, Lessor will negotiate the applicable Rent Payment, availability of Assets, and term of the Lease directly with the prospective Lessee.
- (b) With respect to Lessor’s obligations under Section 5 of the Contract to report the sale and make payment of the DIR administrative fee as defined in that Section, all leasing activities in conjunction to this MOLA shall be treated as a “purchase sale.” Notwithstanding treatment of this Lease as a "purchase sale" as to the transaction between Lessor and DIR under the Contract, however, under no circumstances shall this MOLA be construed as creating anything other than a true lease and operating lease as stated in Section 2 (“Lease”) hereof for the transaction(s) between Lessor and Lessee.

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

- (c) Upon agreement by Lessor and Lessee on the applicable Rent Payment, availability, Lease term, and the like, Lessee may issue a purchase order in the amount indicated on the applicable Schedule to Lessor for the Assets and reference the Contract number on the purchase order. Any pre-printed terms and conditions on the Schedule issued by Lessor (with respect to any item other than the specific Assets which are the subject of the Lease, the Schedule Term, and the Rent Payments), Lessor's order acknowledgement form or the like shall not be effective with respect to the lease of Assets hereunder. Rather, the terms and conditions of this MOLA shall control in all respects.
- (d) Until a Schedule is entered into by Lessor and a Lessee per the process set forth in this MOLA, neither DIR nor any Lessee is obligated under this MOLA to lease Assets from Lessor nor is Lessor obligated under this MOLA to lease Assets to a Lessee.

**6. Rent Payments.**

- (a) During the Schedule Term and any renewal terms agreed to by Lessee as specified herein, Lessee agrees to pay Lessor the Rent Payments set forth in the relevant Schedule for each Asset. Rent Payments shall be the amount equal to the Rent Payment amount specified in the Schedule multiplied by the amount of the total number of Rent Payments specified therein. Lessee shall pay Rent Payments in the amount and on the due dates specified by Lessor until all Rent Payments and all other amounts due under the Schedule have been paid in full. If the Schedule Commencement Date is other than the first day of a month, Lessee shall make an initial payment on the Schedule Commencement Date in an amount equal to one-thirtieth of the Rent Payment specified in the Schedule for each day from the Schedule Commencement Date (including the Schedule Commencement Date) through the last day of such month (including that day). For example, if a scheduled payment amount is \$3,000 and the Scheduled Commencement date is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, a payment of \$1,500 will be made. Under no circumstances shall the present value of the Rent Payments exceed ninety percent (90%) of the value of the Assets.
- (b) Any amounts received by Lessor from Lessee in excess of Rent Payments and any other sums required to be paid by Lessee shall be refunded to Lessee within ninety (90) calendar days. All Rent Payments shall be paid to Lessor at the address stated on the Schedule or any other such place as Lessor or its assigns may hereafter direct to Lessee. Lessee shall abide by Appendix A, Section 8J of the Contract in making payments to Lessor. Lessor's (including its assignees') remedy for late payments is as set forth in Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code.

Lessee acknowledges and agrees, except as specifically provided for in Section 8 ("Appropriation of Funds") of this MOLA and excluding claims resulting from a breach of Lessor's obligations as set forth in this MOLA or any Schedule or of Lessee's rights under Section 16 ("Quiet Enjoyment") hereof, that Lessee's obligation to pay Rent and other sums payable hereunder, shall not be abated, reduced or subject to offset or diminished as a result of any past, present or future claims Lessee may have against Lessor under this Lease. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this Section or any other provision of this MOLA shall affect or preclude Lessee from enforcing any and all other rights it may have against Lessor and its assignees under this MOLA or otherwise affect any right Lessee may have against the manufacturer or licensor of the Assets or any party other than Lessor.

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**7. Liens.**

Lessee shall keep the Assets free and clear of all levies, liens and encumbrances, and shall give Lessor immediate notice of any attachment or other judicial process affecting any item of the Assets.

**8. Appropriation of Funds.**

Lessee intends to continue each Schedule to which it is a party for the Schedule Term and to pay the Rent and other amounts due hereunder. Lessee reasonably believes that legally available funds in an amount sufficient to pay all Rent during the Schedule Term can be obtained. Lessee further intends to act in good faith to do those things reasonably and lawfully within its power to obtain and maintain funds from which the Rent may be paid. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event sufficient funds are not appropriated to continue the Schedule Term for any fiscal period (as set forth on the Schedule) of Lessee beyond the fiscal period first in effect at the commencement of the Schedule Term, Lessee may terminate the Schedule with regard to those of the Assets on the Schedule so affected. Lessee shall endeavor to provide Lessor with written notice sixty (60) days prior to the end of its current Fiscal Period confirming which Assets on the Schedule will be so affected by the termination. All obligations of Lessee to make Rent Payments due with respect to those Assets after the end of the Fiscal Period for which such termination applies will cease, all interests of Lessee in those Assets will terminate, Lessee shall surrender those Assets in accordance with Section 15 (“Option to Extend; Surrender of Assets”) of this MOLA, and the applicable Schedule shall be deemed amended. Lessee represents and warrants it has adequate funds to meet its obligations during the first fiscal period of the Schedule Term. Lessor and Lessee intend that the obligation of Lessee to make Rent Payments under this MOLA shall constitute a current expense of Lessee and shall not in any way be construed to be a debt of Lessee in contravention of any applicable constitutional or statutory limitation or requirement concerning the creation of indebtedness by Lessee, nor shall anything contained herein constitute a pledge of the general revenues, funds or monies of Lessee or the State of Texas, as applicable, beyond the fiscal period for which sufficient funds have been appropriated to make Rent Payments hereunder.

**9. Assignment of Warranties.**

Each Schedule is intended to be a true lease and operating lease as defined in Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code Article 2A. Lessor has acquired or will acquire the Assets in connection with this MOLA and hereby agrees to assign to Lessee any warranties provided to Lessor with respect to the Assets during the Term of the applicable Schedule, to the extent the warranties are assignable. Unless Lessor is the manufacturer or is otherwise liable under the Contract, Lessor shall not be liable for damages for any reason for any act or omission of the manufacturer of the Assets. Except as provided in Section 24 (“Remedies”) hereof, Lessee acknowledges that none of the following shall relieve Lessee from the obligations under this MOLA during the Schedule Term unless due to Lessor’s acts or omissions: (i) Lessee’s dissatisfaction with any unit of the Assets, (ii) the failure of an Asset to remain in useful condition for the Schedule Term, or (iii) the loss or right of possession of the Assets (or any part thereof) by Lessee. Lessee shall have no right, title or interest in or to the Assets except the right to use the same upon the terms and conditions herein contained. The Assets shall remain the sole and exclusive personal property of Lessor and not be deemed a fixture whether or not it becomes attached to any real property of Lessee.

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**10. Inspection and Acceptance.**

Promptly upon delivery of the Assets, Lessee will inspect and test the Assets. No later than twenty (20) business days following its date of delivery (or, if the Assets are part of a system, the date of last delivery of the Assets comprising the system), Lessee will execute and deliver either (i) a Certificate of Acceptance, or (ii) written notification of any defects in the Assets. If Lessee has not given notice within such time period, the Assets shall be deemed accepted by Lessee as of the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) business day, as described above. In the event Lessee does not accept the Assets, Vendor will promptly remove the Assets from Lessee's premises and deliver conforming Assets within ten (10) business days thereafter. If conforming Assets are not delivered within that timeframe, Lessee may terminate the Schedule on written notice to Lessor. Lessee's acceptance of any Assets shall not be deemed to waive any rights Lessee may have against the manufacturer or licensor, as applicable. Lessor and its assigns, including either of their respective agents shall have the right to inspect the Assets upon reasonable notice to Lessee and during normal business hours provided that anyone who does so has first executed a non-disclosure agreement acceptable to Lessee.

**11. Installation and Delivery; Use of Assets; Repair and Maintenance.**

- (a) Except as set forth in this MOLA, all transportation, delivery, installation, and de-installation costs associated with the Assets shall be borne by Lessee. Lessee shall provide a place of installation for the Assets, which conforms to the requirements of the manufacturer and Lessor.
- (b) Subject to the terms hereof, Lessee shall be entitled to use the Assets for the conduct of its business in compliance with all laws, rules, and regulations of the jurisdiction in which the Assets are located. Lessee shall not use or permit the use of the Assets for any purpose for which, according to the specification of the manufacturer, the Assets are not designed.
- (c) Lessee, at its expense, shall take good and proper care of the Hardware and make all repairs and replacements necessary to maintain and preserve the Hardware and keep the Hardware in good order and condition (reasonable wear and tear excepted). Unless Lessor shall otherwise consent in writing, Lessee shall, at its own expense, enter into and maintain in force a maintenance agreement covering each Hardware unit. Lessee shall furnish Lessor with a copy of such agreement, upon request. Lessee shall not make any alterations, additions, or improvements, or add attachments to the Hardware without the prior written consent of Lessor, except for additions or attachments to the Hardware leased by Lessee from Lessor or purchased by Lessee from the manufacturer of the Hardware (or an authorized distributor of the manufacturer) or any other person approved by Lessor. Lessee shall affix on a prominent place on each item of Hardware any tags, decals or labels supplied by Lessor to Lessee which describe the ownership of the Hardware. Subject to the provisions of Section 15(b) under "Option to Extend; Surrender of Hardware and Software Assets," Lessee agrees to restore the Hardware to Return Condition prior to its return to Lessor.

**12. Relocation of Hardware and Software.**

Except as set forth on the applicable Schedule, Lessee shall at all times keep the Hardware and Software within its exclusive possession and control. Lessee may move the Hardware or Software to another location of Lessee within the continental United States, provided Lessee is not in default on any Schedule and pays

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

all costs associated with such relocation. If such relocation requires Lessor's prior written consent, Lessee shall obtain such consent prior to relocating the Hardware or Software, as applicable, which consent Lessor shall not unreasonably withhold. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in those situations where consent is otherwise required, Lessee may move the Hardware or Software to another location within Texas without notification to, or the consent of, Lessor; provided, however, that not later than December 31 of each calendar year, Lessee shall provide Lessor a written report detailing the total amount of Hardware and Software at each location of Lessee as of that date, and the complete address for each location. Lessor shall make all filings and returns for property taxes due with respect to the Hardware and Software, and Lessee agrees that it shall not make or file any property tax returns, including information returns, with respect to the Hardware and Software.

**13. Taxes.**

Unless otherwise agreed by the parties on the applicable Schedule, Lessor will pay any Imposition or file any forms or returns with respect thereto. Lessee shall, when billed, and with copy of Imposition invoice(s) with respect to Assets specified on the Schedule, reimburse Lessor for such payment. For purposes of this paragraph "Impositions" means all taxes, including personal property taxes and fees, without pro-ration as described in the Financial Disclosure Summary Work Sheet (Attachment 1) hereafter imposed, assessed or payable during the term of the relevant Schedule including any extension thereof. Because the reimbursement date for an Imposition may occur after the expiration or termination of the term of the relevant Schedule, it is understood and agreed that Lessee's liability to reimburse for such Impositions shall survive the expiration or termination of the term of the relevant Schedule.

**14. Ownership.**

The Hardware and Software shall at all times be and remain the sole and exclusive property of Lessor, subject to the parties' rights under any applicable software license agreement. Lessee shall have no right, title or interest in the Hardware except a leasehold interest as provided for herein. Lessee agrees that the Hardware shall be and remain personal property and shall not be so affixed to realty as to become a fixture or otherwise to lose its identity as the separate property of Lessor. Upon Lessor's request, Lessee will enter into agreements necessary to ensure that the Hardware remains the personal property of Lessor.

**15. Option to Extend; Surrender of Hardware and Software Assets.**

- (a) Not less than ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the initial Schedule Term, Lessor shall notify Lessee in writing of options to extend the Schedule for continued use of the Hardware or Software specified in that Schedule. If Lessee desires to exercise any of the options offered by Lessor (and provided that, with respect to Hardware, any extension does not exceed seventy five percent (75%) of its economic life), Lessee shall give Lessor irrevocable written notice of the option Lessee intends to exercise at least forty-five (45) days before the expiration of such Schedule Term. In the event the Lease is extended for some but not all of the Hardware and Software specified on a Schedule, the Schedule shall be updated to reflect those changes. At the end of the Schedule Term (as well as with respect to any Hardware and Software not extended as described immediately above), Lessee will surrender and return the Hardware and Software to Lessor in compliance with Section 15(b) below.

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

(b) Except as specified otherwise herein, upon the expiration, early termination as provided herein, or final termination of the Schedule, Lessee, at its cost and expense, shall promptly return the Hardware, freight prepaid, to Lessor in good repair and working order, with reasonably unblemished physical appearance and with no defects which affect the operation or performance of the Hardware (“Return Condition”), reasonable wear and tear excepted. If the Hardware is not in Return Condition, Lessee shall, at its option, either restore the Hardware (at Lessee’s cost) to Return Condition or pay for the Hardware at its Stipulated Loss Value if the Hardware is not reasonably repairable. Lessee shall arrange and pay for the de-installation and packing of the Hardware in suitable packaging, and return the Hardware to Lessor at the location specified by Lessor; provided, however, that such location shall be within the United States no farther than 500 miles from the original Lessee delivery location, unless otherwise agreed to on the applicable Schedule. At its option and expense, Lessor shall have the right to supervise and direct the preparation of the Hardware for return. If, upon termination or expiration of the Schedule for any reason, Lessee fails or refuses to return to Lessor a Hardware unit or Software program specified in that Schedule or to pay Lessor the Stipulated Loss Value for a Hardware unit, Lessee shall remain liable for Rent Payments for that unit or program up to the date on which the unit or program is returned to the address specified by Lessor (or on which Lessee has paid Lessor the Stipulated Loss Value). In such event and specifically with respect to the Hardware, Lessor shall also have the right to enter Lessee’s premises or any other premises where the Hardware may be found upon reasonable written notice to the Lessee and during normal business hours, and subject to Lessee’s reasonable safety and security requirements to take possession of and to remove the Hardware, at Lessee’s sole cost and expense, without legal process. Lessee understands that it may have a right under law to notice and a hearing prior to repossession of the Hardware. However, as an inducement to Lessor to enter into a transaction, but only to the extent that Lessee, if a state agency, has statutory authority to do so, Lessee hereby expressly waives all rights conferred by existing law to notice and a hearing prior to such repossession by Lessor or any officer authorized by law to effect repossession and hereby releases Lessor from all liability in connection with such repossession except as provided by Paragraph b. Without waiving the doctrines of sovereign immunity and immunity from suit and to the extent authorized by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, Lessee’s obligation to return Hardware may, at Lessor’s option, be specifically enforced by Lessor.

**16. Quiet Enjoyment.**

During the Schedule Term, Lessor shall not interfere with Lessee’s quiet enjoyment and use of the Assets as long as an Event of Default (as hereinafter defined in Section 23 (“Default”) of the MOLA) has not occurred.

**17. Warranties regarding the Assets.**

Lessor acknowledges that warranties made by the manufacturer or licensor of the Assets, if any, inure to the benefit of Lessee. Lessee agrees to pursue any warranty claim directly against such manufacturer or licensor of the Assets and shall not pursue any such claim against Lessor.

**18. No Warranties by Lessor regarding the Assets.**

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

Except as set forth in the Contract, Lessee acknowledges that Lessor is not the manufacturer or licensor of the Hardware or Software Assets. Lessee agrees that Lessor makes no representations or warranties of whatsoever nature, directly or indirectly, express or implied, as to the suitability, durability, fitness for use, merchantability, condition, or quality of the Hardware or Software Assets or any unit thereof. Except to the extent Lessor is the manufacturer or licensor of the Hardware or Software Assets, Lessee specifically waives all right to make claim against Lessor for breach of any warranty of any kind whatsoever; and with respect to Lessor, Lessee leases the Hardware and Software “as is”. Except to the extent Lessor is the manufacturer or licensor of the Hardware or Software Assets, Lessor shall not be liable to Lessee for any loss, damage, or expense of any kind or nature caused directly or indirectly by any Hardware or Software leased hereunder, or by the use or maintenance thereof, or by the repairs, service or adjustment thereto or any delay or failure to provide any thereof, or by any interruption of service or loss of use thereof, or for any loss of business or damage whatsoever and howsoever caused. Lessor agrees to assign to Lessee, upon Lessee’s request therefor, any warranty of a manufacturer or licensor or seller relating to the Hardware and Software that may have been given to Lessor.

**19. Risk of Loss.**

Commencing upon delivery and continuing throughout the Schedule Term, Lessee shall bear the entire risk of loss or damage in respect to the Hardware specified on the Schedule, whether partial or complete, from any cause whatsoever. Lessee shall promptly notify Lessor regarding any Event of Loss. Upon any Event of Loss, Lessee shall, at its option: (a) immediately repair the affected Hardware so that it is in good condition and working order, (b) replace the affected Hardware with identical equipment of at least equal value, in good condition and repair, and transfer clear title thereto to Lessor, or (c) to the extent permitted by law, pay to Lessor, within thirty (30) days of the Event of Loss, an amount equal to the Stipulated Loss Value for such affected Hardware unit, plus any other unpaid amounts then due under the Schedule. If an Event of Loss occurs as to part of the Hardware for which the SLV is paid, a prorated amount of each Rent Payment shall abate from the date the SLV payment is received by Lessor. The SLV shall be an amount equal to the sum of all future Rent Payments from the last Rent Payment date to the end of the Schedule Term with such Rent Payments discounted to present value at the like-term Treasury Bill rate for the remaining Schedule Term in effect on the date of such Event of Loss, or if such rate is not permitted by law, then at the lowest permitted rate.

In the event of a governmental taking of a Hardware unit for an indefinite period or for a stated period, which does not extend beyond the Schedule Term, all obligations of Lessee with respect to such Hardware unit (including payment of Rent) shall continue. So long as Lessee is not in default hereunder, Lessor shall pay to Lessee all sums received by Lessor from the government by reason of such taking.

**20. Representations and Warranties of Lessee.**

Lessee represents and warrants for the benefit of Lessor and its assigns, and Lessee will provide an opinion of counsel to the effect that, as of the time of execution of the MOLA and each Schedule between Lessor and Lessee:

- (a) Lessee is either a Texas state agency or Texas local government, as defined in Section 2054.003, Texas Government Code (including institutions of higher education as defined in Section 2054.003 (8-a),

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

Texas Government Code) or a state agency purchasing from a DIR contract through an Interagency Agreement, as authorized by Chapter 771, Texas Government Code. Lessee has made an independent legal and management determination to enter into this transaction;

- (b) Each Schedule executed by Lessee has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by Lessee and constitutes a valid, legal and binding true lease and operating lease agreement of Lessee, enforceable in accordance with its terms;
- (c) No approval, consent or withholding of objection is required from any federal or other governmental authority or instrumentality with respect to the entering into or performance by Lessee of any Schedule between Lessor and Lessee;
- (d) The entering into and performance of any Schedule between Lessor and Lessee, this MOLA or any Schedule will not violate any judgment, order, law or regulation applicable to Lessee or result in any breach of, or constitute a default under, or result in the creation of any lien, charge, security interest or other encumbrance upon assets of Lessee or on the Hardware or Software leased under any Schedule between Lessor and Lessee pursuant to any instrument to which Lessee is a party or by which it or its assets may be bound;
- (e) To the best of Lessee's knowledge and belief, there are no suits or proceedings pending or threatened against or affecting Lessee, which if determined adversely to Lessee will have a material adverse effect on the ability of Lessee to fulfill its obligations under the MOLA or any Schedule between Lessor and Lessee;
- (f) The use of the Assets is essential to Lessee's proper, efficient and economic operation, and Lessee will sign and provide to Lessor upon execution of each Schedule between Lessor and Lessee hereto written certification to that effect; and
- (g) Lessee represents and warrants that (i) It has authority to enter into any Schedule under this MOLA, (ii) the persons executing a Schedule have been duly authorized to execute the Schedule on Lessee's behalf, (iii) all information supplied to Lessor is true and correct, including all credit and financial information and (iv) it is able to meet all its financial obligations, including the Rent Payments hereunder.

**21. Representation and Warranties of DIR.**

DIR represents and warrants for the benefit of Lessor and its assigns, and DIR will provide an opinion of counsel to the effect that, as of the time of execution of the MOLA:

- (a) DIR is a State agency as defined in Section 2251.001, Texas Government Code. DIR has not provided Lessee or Lessor with any legal or management advice regarding the MOLA or any Schedule executed pursuant thereto;
- (b) This MOLA has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by DIR and constitutes a valid, legal and binding agreement of DIR, enforceable in accordance with its terms;

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

- (c) No approval, consent or withholding of objection is required from any federal or other governmental authority or governmental authority or instrumentality with respect to the entering into or performance by DIR of this MOLA;
- (d) The entering into and performance of the MOLA does not violate any judgment, order, law or regulation applicable to DIR or result in any breach of, constitute a default under, or result in the creation of any lien, charge, security interest or other encumbrance upon assets of DIR or on the Hardware or Software pursuant to any instrument to which DIR is a party or by which it or its assets may be bound;
- (e) To the best of DIR's knowledge and belief, there are no suits or proceedings pending or threatened against or affecting DIR, which if determined adversely to DIR will have a material adverse effect on the ability of DIR to fulfill its obligations under the MOLA;
- (f) DIR is authorized to charge and collect the administrative fee as set forth within Section 5 of the Contract; and
- (g) Lessor's payment of the administrative fee to DIR shall not constitute an illegal gratuity or otherwise violate Texas law.

**22. Representations and Warranties of Lessor.**

Lessor represents and warrants for the benefit of DIR and each Lessee:

- (a) Lessor is an entity authorized and validly existing under the laws of its state of organization, is authorized to do business in Texas, and is not in default as to taxes owed to the State of Texas and any of its political subdivisions;
- (b) The MOLA and each Schedule executed in conjunction to this MOLA have been duly authorized, executed and delivered by Lessor and constitute valid, legal and binding agreements of Lessor, enforceable with respect to the obligations of Lessor herein in accordance with their terms;
- (c) No approval, consent or withholding of objection is required from any federal or other governmental authority or instrumentality with respect to the entering into or performance by Lessor of this MOLA or any Schedule;
- (d) The entering into and performance of the MOLA or any Schedule will not violate any judgment, order, law or regulation applicable to Lessor or result in any breach of, or constitute a default under, or result in the creation of any lien, charge, security interest or other encumbrance upon the assets of Lessor, including the Hardware or Software leased under the MOLA and Schedules thereto, pursuant to any instrument to which Lessor is a party or by which it or its assets may be bound;
- (e) To the best of Lessor's knowledge and belief, there are no suits or proceedings pending or threatened against or affecting Lessor, which if determined adversely to Lessor will have a material adverse effect on the ability of Lessor to fulfill its obligations under the MOLA or any Schedule;

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

- (f) Lessor acknowledges that DIR and any Lessee that is a state agency, as government agencies, are subject to the Texas Public Information Act, and that DIR and Lessees that are state agencies will comply with such Act, including all opinions of the Texas Attorney General's Office concerning this Act.

**23. Default.**

Lessee shall be in default under a Schedule upon the occurrence of any one or more of the following events (each an "Event of Default"): (a) nonpayment or incomplete payment by Lessee of Rent or any other sum payable on its due date; (b) Lessee's material breach of this MOLA, any Schedule, or any applicable software license agreement, which is not cured within thirty (30) days after written notice thereof from Lessor; (c) Lessee's filing of any proceedings commencing bankruptcy or the taking of other similar action by Lessee under any state insolvency or similar law, (d) the filing of any involuntary petition against Lessee or the appointment of any receiver not dismissed within sixty (60) days from the date of said filing or appointment; (e) subjection of a substantial part of Lessee's property or any part of the Hardware to any levy, seizure, assignment or sale for or by any creditor or governmental agency; or (f) any representation or warranty made by Lessee in this MOLA, any Schedule or in any document furnished by Lessee to Lessor in connection therewith or with the acquisition or use of the Assets being or becoming untrue in any material respect.

**24. Remedies.**

(a) Lessor's Remedies.

- i. Upon the occurrence of an "Event of Default," Lessor may, in its sole discretion, do any one or more of the following:
  - A. after giving thirty (30) days prior written notice to Lessee of the Event of Default, during which time Lessee shall have the opportunity to cure such Default, terminate any or all Schedules executed by Lessor and the defaulting Lessee;
  - B. without Lessee and DIR waiving the doctrines of sovereign immunity and immunity from suit, and to the extent allowed by the laws and Constitution of the State of Texas, Lessor may proceed by appropriate court action to enforce the performance of the terms of the Schedule;
  - C. after giving thirty (30) days prior written notice to Lessee of the Event of Default, during which time Lessee shall have the opportunity to cure such Default, and whether or not the Schedule is terminated, take possession of the Hardware and Software wherever located, without additional demand, liability, court order or other process of law. To the extent permitted by Texas law, Lessee hereby authorizes Lessor, its assigns or the agents of either to enter upon the premises where such Hardware or Software is located or cause Lessee, and Lessee hereby agrees, to return such Hardware and Software to Lessor in accordance with the requirements of Section 15 ("Option to Extend; Surrender of Hardware and Software Assets") hereof;

**Department of Information Resources**  
**End-User IT Outsourcing Services**  
**Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

- D. by notice to Lessee, and to the extent permitted by law, declare immediately due and payable and recover from Lessee, as liquidated damages and as a remedy, the sum of:
- I. the present value of the Rent owed from the earlier of the last date of payment by Lessee or the date Lessor obtains a judgment against Lessee until the end of the Schedule Term plus, if the Hardware is not returned to or repossessed by Lessor, the present value of the Stipulated Loss Value of the Hardware at the end of the Schedule Term, each discounted at a rate equal to the rate used by Lessor for business opportunity analysis;
  - II. without Lessee and DIR waiving the doctrines of sovereign immunity and immunity from suit, and to the extent allowed by the laws and Constitution of the State of Texas, costs, fees (including all attorneys' fees and court costs) and expenses associated with collecting said sums; and
  - III. interest on (I) from the date of default at 1½% per month or portion thereof (or the highest rate allowable by law, if less) and, on (II) from the date Lessor incurs such fees, costs or expenses.
- ii. Upon return or repossession of the Hardware, Lessor may, if it so decides in its sole discretion, upon notice to Lessee, use reasonable efforts to sell, re-lease or otherwise dispose of such Hardware, in such manner and upon such terms as Lessor may determine in its sole discretion, so long as such manner and terms are commercially reasonable. Upon disposition of the Hardware, Lessor shall credit the Net Proceeds (as defined below) to the damages paid or payable by Lessee. Proceeds upon sale of the Hardware shall be the sale price paid to Lessor less the Stipulated Loss Value in effect as of the date of default. Proceeds upon a re-lease of the Hardware shall be all rents to be received for a term not to exceed the remaining Schedule Term, discounted to present value as of the commencement date of the re-lease at Lessor's current applicable debt rate. Without Lessee and DIR waiving the doctrines of sovereign immunity and immunity from suit, and to the extent allowed by the laws and Constitution of the State of Texas, "Net Proceeds" shall be the Proceeds of sale or re-lease as determined above, less all costs and expenses incurred by Lessor in the recovery, storage and repair of the Hardware, in the remarketing or disposition thereof, or otherwise as a result of Lessee's default, including any court costs and attorney's fees and interest on the foregoing at eighteen percent (18%) per annum or the highest rate allowable by law, if less, calculated from the dates such costs and expenses were incurred until received by Lessor. Lessee shall remain liable for the amount by which all sums, including liquidated damages, due from Lessee exceeds the Net Proceeds. Net Proceeds in excess thereof are the property of and shall be retained by Lessor.
- iii. No termination, repossession or other act by Lessor in the exercise of its rights and remedies upon an Event or Default by Lessee shall relieve Lessee from any of its obligations hereunder. No remedy referred to in this Section is intended to be exclusive, but each shall be cumulative and in addition to any other remedy referred to above or otherwise available to Lessor at law or in equity.

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

- iv. Neither DIR nor non-defaulting Lessees shall be deemed in default under the MOLA or Schedules because of the default of a particular Lessee. Lessor's remedies under this Section 24 shall not extend to DIR and those non-defaulting Lessees.
- (b) Lessee's Remedies. Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, Lessee shall have all rights provided under Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code § 2A.508 through § 2A.522, including without limitation, the right to cancel a Schedule and recover damages from Lessor in the event of nonperformance of or other default by Lessor hereunder.
- (c) Each party agrees that any delay or failure by the other party to enforce that party's rights under this MOLA or a Schedule does not prevent that party from enforcing its rights at a later time.

**25. Notices and Waivers.**

- (a) All notices relating to this MOLA shall be delivered to DIR or Lessor as specified in Section 6 of the Contract, or to another representative and address subsequently specified in writing by the appropriate parties hereto. All notices relating to a Schedule shall be delivered in person to an officer of Lessor or Lessee or shall be given by certified or registered mail or overnight carrier to Lessor or Lessee at its respective address shown on the Schedule or to another address subsequently specified in writing by the appropriate parties thereof. DIR, Lessee, and Lessor intend and agree that a photocopy or facsimile of this MOLA or a Schedule and all related documents, including but not limited to the Acceptance Certificate, with their signatures thereon shall be treated as originals, and shall be deemed to be as binding, valid, genuine, and authentic as an original signature document for all purposes.
- (b) A waiver of a specific default shall not be a waiver of any other or subsequent default. No waiver of any provision of this MOLA or a provision of a Schedule shall be a waiver of any other provision or matter, and all such waivers shall be in writing and executed by an officer of the waiving party. No failure on the part of a party to exercise, and no delay in exercising, any right hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.

**26. Assignment by Lessor; Assignment or Sublease by Lessee.**

- (a) Upon thirty (30) days advance written notice to Lessee and provided that any such assignee expressly assumes Lessor's obligations under this MOLA and each Schedule, Lessor may (i) assign all or a portion of Lessor's right, title and interest in this MOLA and/or any Schedule; (ii) grant a security interest in the right, title and interest of Lessor in the MOLA, any Schedule and/or any Asset; and/or (iii) sell or transfer its title and interest as owner or licensor of the Hardware and Software and/or as Lessor under any Schedule; and DIR and each Lessee leasing Hardware under the MOLA understand and agree that Lessor's assigns may each do the same (hereunder collectively "Assignment"). All such Assignments shall be subject to each Lessee's rights under the Schedule(s) executed between it and Lessor and to DIR's rights under the MOLA. Each Lessee leasing Assets through Schedules under this MOLA and DIR hereby consent to such Assignments and agree to execute and deliver promptly such acknowledgements, Opinions of Counsel and other instruments reasonably requested to effect such Assignment. Lessor shall remain liable for performance under the MOLA and any Schedule(s) executed hereunder to the extent Lessor's assigns do not perform Lessor's obligations under the MOLA and

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

Schedule(s) executed hereunder. Upon any such Assignment, all references to Lessor shall also include all such assigns, whether specific reference thereto is otherwise made herein.

- (b) Lessee will not sell, assign, sublet, pledge or otherwise encumber, or permit a lien to exist on or against any interest in this MOLA or the Assets without Lessor's prior written consent except otherwise permitted under this MOLA; provided, however, that no such prior written consent from Lessor is necessary in the event of a legislative mandate to transfer the MOLA to another state agency.

**27. Delivery of Related Documents.**

For each Schedule, Lessee will provide the following documents and information satisfactory to Lessor: (a) Certificate of Acceptance (if Acceptance has taken place); (b) Opinion of Counsel; (c) Financial Statements; (d) incumbency certificate; and (e) other documents specified in the applicable Schedule as being reasonably required by Lessor.

**28. Miscellaneous.**

- (a) Prior to delivery of any Assets, the obligations of Lessor hereunder shall be suspended to the extent that it is hindered or prevented from performing because of causes beyond its control. In such event, the obligation of Lessee to commence Rents for such Assets shall also be suspended.
- (b) Lessor and Lessee acknowledge that there are no agreements or understanding, written or oral, between them with respect to the Assets, other than as set forth in this MOLA, including the Contract, and in each Schedule to which Lessee is a signatory party. Lessor and Lessee further acknowledge that this MOLA, including the Contract, and each Schedule to which Lessee is a party contain the entire agreement between Lessor and Lessee and supersedes all previous discussions and terms and conditions of any purchase orders issued by Lessee, order acknowledgement and other forms issued by Lessor, and the like. DIR and Lessor acknowledge that there are no agreements or understandings, written or oral, between them other than as set forth in this MOLA and the Contract and that both contain the entire agreement between them. The terms and conditions of this MOLA may be amended only by written instrument executed by Lessor and DIR. The terms of a Schedule may only be amended in a writing signed by both Lessee and Lessor.

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**Attachment 1 to the Master Operating Lease Agreement  
Financial Disclosure Summary**

<b>Lease Rate Factor(s):</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Equipment Type A		
Equipment Type B		
Equipment Type C		
How is Daily Rental calculated?		
Is Daily Rental invoiced separately or rolled into monthly rental?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Is this a Step Lease?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Does this lease include software?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, who owns the software?	<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Lessor	
<hr/>		
<b>Personal Property Tax</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Estimated PPT		
PPT Payment made by	<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Lessor on Agency behalf	
PPT calculation method	<input type="checkbox"/> Agency pays direct <input type="checkbox"/> Lessor pays and passes invoice through <input type="checkbox"/> Lessor estimates and includes <input type="checkbox"/> Lessor sets PPT at disclosed rate	
If PPT rate changes, how are charge backs or short falls handled?	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A - Agency pays direct <input type="checkbox"/> N/A - Lessor pays/passes invoice through <input type="checkbox"/> Lessor is responsible <input type="checkbox"/> Lessee is invoiced for short fall	
<hr/>		
<b>Equipment Schedule Details</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Can Agency make decisions at asset level (extend, purchase, return)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Asset level <input type="checkbox"/> All and not less than all	
Does this ES auto extend?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If Yes, how long?		
What is the cost of the Auto extension?		
What is the notice period?		

**Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

Are negotiated extensions FMV based?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
On FMV, can Agency select own evaluator?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is asset and lease information available online?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>End of Lease Details</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Where are the assets returned to?		
What is the return freight cost?		
Who pays the return freight cost?	<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Lessor	
Do I need to return original packaging?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, what is the cost if not returned?	
Do I need to return original manuals and documentation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, what is the cost if not returned?	
Do I need to return software?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, what is the cost if not returned?	
Is there an FMV purchase cost cap?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, what is the cost cap percentage?	
What is the cost for a lost asset?		
What is the cost for missing equipment?		
What is the cost for data sanitization on assets with memory?		
What is the cost for data sanitization?		
What is the cost for on-site data destruction?		

Department of Information Resources  
End-User IT Outsourcing Services  
Request for Offer DIR-TSO-TMP-248

## Bid Package 8

### VPAT™

# Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

#### Version 1.3

The purpose of the **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template**, or **VPAT™**, is to assist Federal contracting officials and other buyers in making preliminary assessments regarding the availability of commercial “Electronic and Information Technology” products and services with features that support accessibility. It is assumed and recommended that offerers will provide additional contact information to facilitate more detailed inquiries.

The first table of the Template provides a summary view of the Section 508 Standards. The subsequent tables provide more detailed views of each subsection. There are three columns in each table. Column one of the Summary Table describes the subsections of subparts B and C of the Standards. The second column describes the supporting features of the product or refers you to the corresponding detailed table, e.g., “equivalent facilitation.” The third column contains any additional remarks and explanations regarding the product. In the subsequent tables, the first column contains the lettered paragraphs of the subsections. The second column describes the supporting features of the product with regard to that paragraph. The third column contains any additional remarks and explanations regarding the product.

---

**Date:**

**Name of Product:**

**Contact for more Information (name/phone/email):**

## Summary Table

### VPAT™

#### Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

<i>Criteria</i>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
Section 1194.21 <a href="#">Software Applications and Operating Systems</a>		
Section 1194.22 <a href="#">Web-based Internet Information and Applications</a>		
Section 1194.23 <a href="#">Telecommunications Products</a>		
Section 1194.24 <a href="#">Video and Multi-media Products</a>		
Section 1194.25 <a href="#">Self-Contained, Closed Products</a>		
Section 1194.26 <a href="#">Desktop and Portable Computers</a>		
Section 1194.31 <a href="#">Functional Performance Criteria</a>		
Section 1194.41 <a href="#">Information, Documentation and Support</a>		

[Return to the top of the page.http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html](http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html)

**Section 1194.21 Software Applications and  
Operating Systems – Detail**

**VPAT™**

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<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
<p>(a) When software is designed to run on a system that has a keyboard, product functions shall be executable from a keyboard where the function itself or the result of performing a function can be discerned textually.</p>		
<p>(b) Applications shall not disrupt or disable activated features of other products that are identified as accessibility features, where those features are developed and documented according to industry standards. Applications also shall not disrupt or disable activated features of any operating system that are identified as accessibility features where the application programming interface for those accessibility features has been documented by the manufacturer of the operating system and is available to the product developer.</p>		
<p>(c) A well-defined on-screen indication of the current focus shall be provided that moves among interactive interface elements as the input focus changes. The focus shall be programmatically exposed so that Assistive Technology can track focus and focus changes.</p>		

<p>(d) Sufficient information about a user interface element including the identity, operation and state of the element shall be available to Assistive Technology. When an image represents a program element, the information conveyed by the image must also be available in text.</p>		
<p>(e) When bitmap images are used to identify controls, status indicators, or other programmatic elements, the meaning assigned to those images shall be consistent throughout an application's performance.</p>		
<p>(f) Textual information shall be provided through operating system functions for displaying text. The minimum information that shall be made available is text content, text input caret location, and text attributes.</p>		
<p>(g) Applications shall not override user selected contrast and color selections and other individual display attributes.</p>		
<p>(h) When animation is displayed, the information shall be displayable in at least one non-animated presentation mode at the option of the user.</p>		
<p>(i) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.</p>		
<p>(j) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a variety of color selections capable of producing a range of contrast levels shall be provided.</p>		

(k) Software shall not use flashing or blinking text, objects, or other elements having a flash or blink frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.		
(l) When electronic forms are used, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.		

[Return to the top of the page.http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html](http://www.itic.org/Local%20Settings/Temporary%20Internet%20Files/OLK42/VPAT.html)

**Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet  
information and applications – Detail**

**VPAT™**

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<i>Criteria</i>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) A text equivalent for every non-text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content).		
(b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.		
(c) Web pages shall be designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup.		

(d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet.		
(e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map.		
(f) Client-side image maps shall be provided instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape.		
(g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables.		
(h) Markup shall be used to associate data cells and header cells for data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or column headers.		
(i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation		
(j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.		
(k) A text-only page, with equivalent information or functionality, shall be provided to make a web site comply with the provisions of this part, when compliance cannot be accomplished in any other way. The content of the text-only page shall be updated whenever the primary page changes.		
(l) When pages utilize scripting languages to display content, or to create interface elements, the information provided by the script shall be identified with functional text that can be read by Assistive Technology.		

(m) When a web page requires that an applet, plug-in or other application be present on the client system to interpret page content, the page must provide a link to a plug-in or applet that complies with §1194.21(a) through (l).		
(n) When electronic forms are designed to be completed on-line, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.		
(o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links.		
(p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.		

Note to 1194.22: The Board interprets paragraphs (a) through (k) of this section as consistent with the following priority 1 Checkpoints of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 (WCAG 1.0) (May 5 1999) published by the Web Accessibility Initiative of the World Wide Web Consortium: Paragraph (a) - 1.1, (b) - 1.4, (c) - 2.1, (d) - 6.1, (e) - 1.2, (f) - 9.1, (g) - 5.1, (h) - 5.2, (i) - 12.1, (j) - 7.1, (k) - 11.4.

[Return to the top of the page. http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html](http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html)

**Section 1194.23 Telecommunications**  
**Products – Detail**  
**VPAT™**  
**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) Telecommunications products or systems which provide a function allowing voice communication and which do not themselves provide a TTY functionality shall provide a standard non-acoustic connection point for TTYs. Microphones shall be capable of being turned on and off to allow the user to intermix speech with TTY use.		
(b) Telecommunications products which include voice communication functionality shall support all commonly used cross-manufacturer non-proprietary standard TTY signal protocols.		
(c) Voice mail, auto-attendant, and interactive voice response telecommunications systems shall be usable by TTY users with their TTYs.		
(d) Voice mail, messaging, auto-attendant, and interactive voice response telecommunications systems that require a response from a user within a time interval, shall give an alert when the time interval is about to run out, and shall provide sufficient time for the user to indicate more time is required.		
(e) Where provided, caller identification and similar telecommunications functions shall also be available for users of TTYs, and for users who cannot see displays.		
(f) For transmitted voice signals, telecommunications products shall		

<p>provide a gain adjustable up to a minimum of 20 dB. For incremental volume control, at least one intermediate step of 12 dB of gain shall be provided.</p>		
<p>(g) If the telecommunications product allows a user to adjust the receive volume, a function shall be provided to automatically reset the volume to the default level after every use.</p>		
<p>(h) Where a telecommunications product delivers output by an audio transducer which is normally held up to the ear, a means for effective magnetic wireless coupling to hearing technologies shall be provided.</p>		
<p>(i) Interference to hearing technologies (including hearing aids, cochlear implants, and assistive listening devices) shall be reduced to the lowest possible level that allows a user of hearing technologies to utilize the telecommunications product.</p>		
<p>(j) Products that transmit or conduct information or communication, shall pass through cross-manufacturer, non-proprietary, industry-standard codes, translation protocols, formats or other information necessary to provide the information or communication in a usable format. Technologies which use encoding, signal compression, format transformation, or similar techniques shall not remove information needed for access or shall restore it upon delivery.</p>		
<p>(k)(1) Products which have mechanically operated controls or keys shall comply with the</p>		

<p>following: Controls and Keys shall be tactilely discernible without activating the controls or keys.</p>		
<p>(k)(2) Products which have mechanically operated controls or keys shall comply with the following: Controls and Keys shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate controls and keys shall be 5 lbs. (22.2N) maximum.</p>		
<p>(k)(3) Products which have mechanically operated controls or keys shall comply with the following: If key repeat is supported, the delay before repeat shall be adjustable to at least 2 seconds. Key repeat rate shall be adjustable to 2 seconds per character.</p>		
<p>(k)(4) Products which have mechanically operated controls or keys shall comply with the following: The status of all locking or toggle controls or keys shall be visually discernible, and discernible either through touch or sound.</p>		

[Return to the top of the page. http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html](http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html)

**Section 1194.24 Video and Multi-media**  
**Products – Detail**  
**VPAT™**  
**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
<p>a) All analog television displays 13 inches and larger, and computer equipment that includes analog television receiver or display circuitry, shall be equipped with caption decoder circuitry which appropriately receives, decodes, and displays closed captions from broadcast, cable, videotape, and DVD signals. As soon as practicable, but not later than July 1, 2002, widescreen digital television (DTV) displays measuring at least 7.8 inches vertically, DTV sets with conventional displays measuring at least 13 inches vertically, and stand-alone DTV tuners, whether or not they are marketed with display screens, and computer equipment that includes DTV receiver or display circuitry, shall be equipped with caption decoder circuitry which appropriately receives, decodes, and displays closed captions from broadcast, cable, videotape, and DVD signals.</p>		
<p>(b) Television tuners, including tuner cards for use in computers, shall</p>		

be equipped with secondary audio program playback circuitry.		
(c) All training and informational video and multimedia productions which support the agency's mission, regardless of format, that contain speech or other audio information necessary for the comprehension of the content, shall be open or closed captioned.		
(d) All training and informational video and multimedia productions which support the agency's mission, regardless of format, that contain visual information necessary for the comprehension of the content, shall be audio described.		
(e) Display or presentation of alternate text presentation or audio descriptions shall be user-selectable unless permanent.		

[Return to the top of the page. http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html](http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html)

**Section 1194.25 Self-Contained, Closed Products – Detail**

**VPAT™**

## Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) Self contained products shall be usable by people with disabilities without requiring an end-user to attach Assistive Technology to the product. Personal headsets for private listening are not Assistive Technology.		
(b) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.		
(c) Where a product utilizes touchscreens or contact-sensitive controls, an input method shall be provided that complies with §1194.23 (k) (1) through (4).		
(d) When biometric forms of user identification or control are used, an alternative form of identification or activation, which does not require the user to possess particular biological characteristics, shall also be provided.		
(e) When products provide auditory output, the audio signal shall be		

<p>provided at a standard signal level through an industry standard connector that will allow for private listening. The product must provide the ability to interrupt, pause, and restart the audio at anytime.</p>		
<p>(f) When products deliver voice output in a public area, incremental volume control shall be provided with output amplification up to a level of at least 65 dB. Where the ambient noise level of the environment is above 45 dB, a volume gain of at least 20 dB above the ambient level shall be user selectable. A function shall be provided to automatically reset the volume to the default level after every use.</p>		
<p>(g) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.</p>		
<p>(h) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a range of color selections capable of producing a variety of contrast levels shall be provided.</p>		

<p>(i) Products shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.</p>		
<p>(j) (1) Products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location and which have operable controls shall comply with the following: The position of any operable control shall be determined with respect to a vertical plane, which is 48 inches in length, centered on the operable control, and at the maximum protrusion of the product within the 48 inch length on products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location and which have operable controls.</p>		
<p>(j)(2) Products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location and which have operable controls shall comply with the following: Where any operable control is 10 inches or less behind the reference plane, the height shall be 54 inches maximum and 15 inches minimum above the floor.</p>		

<p>(j)(3) Products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location and which have operable controls shall comply with the following: Where any operable control is more than 10 inches and not more than 24 inches behind the reference plane, the height shall be 46 inches maximum and 15 inches minimum above the floor.</p>		
<p>(j)(4) Products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location and which have operable controls shall comply with the following: Operable controls shall not be more than 24 inches behind the reference plane.</p>		

[Return to the top of the page. http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html](http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html)

**Section 1194.26 Desktop and Portable  
Computers – Detail**

**VPAT™**

**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<i>Criteria</i>	Supporting Features	Remarks and explanations
-----------------	---------------------	--------------------------

<p>(a) All mechanically operated controls and keys shall comply with §1194.23 (k) (1) through (4).</p>		
<p>(b) If a product utilizes touchscreens or touch-operated controls, an input method shall be provided that complies with §1194.23 (k) (1) through (4).</p>		
<p>(c) When biometric forms of user identification or control are used, an alternative form of identification or activation, which does not require the user to possess particular biological characteristics, shall also be provided.</p>		
<p>(d) Where provided, at least one of each type of expansion slots, ports and connectors shall comply with publicly available industry standards</p>		

[Return to the top of the page. http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html](http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html)

**Section 1194.31 Functional Performance**  
**Criteria – Detail**  
**VPAT™**  
**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user vision shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided.		
(b) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require visual acuity greater than 20/70 shall be provided in audio and enlarged print output working together or independently, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are visually impaired shall be provided.		
(c) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user hearing shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are deaf or hard of hearing shall be provided		
(d) Where audio information is important for the use of a product, at least one mode of operation and information retrieval shall be provided in an		

enhanced auditory fashion, or support for assistive hearing devices shall be provided.		
(e) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user speech shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people with disabilities shall be provided.		
(f) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous actions and that is operable with limited reach and strength shall be provided.		

[Return to the top of the page. http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html](http://www.itic.org/Local Settings/Temporary Internet Files/OLK42/VPAT.html)

***Section 1194.41 Information, Documentation and Support – Detail***

**VPAT™**

**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<b><i>Criteria</i></b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) Product support documentation provided to end-users shall be		

made available in alternate formats upon request, at no additional charge		
(b) End-users shall have access to a description of the accessibility and compatibility features of products in alternate formats or alternate methods upon request, at no additional charge.		
(c) Support services for products shall accommodate the communication needs of end-users with disabilities.		

[Return to the top of the page.](#)



**Department of Information Resources**

**Request for Offer  
DIR-TSO-TMP-248**

**Bid Package 9**

**Vendor ICT Accessibility Policy Assessment**



## Vendor ICT Accessibility Policy Assessment

This Information and Communications Technology (ICT) accessibility assessment is for vendor organizations to describe how they are currently implementing accessibility policy and practices within their organizations.

Please complete this form by checking a box for each topic that most closely match the current state of your organization. A completed example is available using the "Example" tab of the worksheet. This assessment is not a substitute for other requested accessibility information such as VPATs. All questions, inquiries, etc. should only be directed to Carrie Cooper: Phone: 512-936-2353 Fax: 512-936-6896 Email: carrie.cooper@dir.texas.gov

### Organization information

Organization name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Responder contact information: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of assessment completion: \_\_\_\_\_

### My organization is a (choose one or more if applicable)

- Manufacturer: My organization develops and sells its own ICT products / services
- Service Provider: My organization sells IT development services
- Integrator: My organization develops customer solutions using a combination of products / services from manufacturers and products / components developed by my organization
- Reseller or Catalogue Supplier: Does not develop or have its own products, but offers COTS 3rd party products

For each criteria statement, please enter the number corresponding to your response in the shaded areas of the "Response" column for the status statement in each grouping that is most relevant to your organization today.

### Responses

#### 1. Develop, implement, and maintain an ICT accessibility policy.

0 My organization has no plan to have an ICT accessibility policy. (If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section)

##### 1a. Having an ICT accessibility policy.

- 1 My organization is developing an ICT accessibility policy.
- 2 My organization is finalizing an ICT accessibility policy.
- 3 My organization has approved an ICT accessibility policy.

##### 1b. Having appropriate plans in place to implement and maintain the policy.

- 1 My organization is developing plans to implement our ICT accessibility policy and ensure that it is maintained.
- 2 My organization has completed planning for initial implementation and maintenance of our accessibility policy.
- 3 My organization has approved plans for accessibility policy implementation and maintenance.

##### 1c. Establishing metrics and tracking progress towards achieving compliance to the policy.

- 1 My organization is identifying metrics that can be used to gauge policy compliance.
- 2 My organization is collecting metrics and has begun designing progress reporting based on them.
- 3 My organization is tracking progress on policy adoption and continues to refine the metrics.

Section 1 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

#### 2. Establish and maintain an organizational structure that enables and facilitates progress in ICT accessibility.

0 My organization has no plan to develop a governance system to support ICT accessibility. (If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section)

##### 2a. Developing an organization wide governance system.

- 1 My organization is investigating opportunities to improve organization wide governance for ICT accessibility.
- 2 My organization is finalizing plans that will result in an organization wide governance system.
- 3 My organization has approved plans for an organization wide governance system.

##### 2b. Designating one or more individuals responsible for implementation.

- 2 My organization has identified key individuals in the implementation process.
- 3 My organization has assigned implementation duties and responsibilities to appropriate individuals.

##### 2c. Implementing reporting/decision mechanism and maintain records.

- 1 My organization is developing tools and procedures for tracking ICT accessibility issues.
- 2 My organization is tracking and keeping records of ICT accessibility reporting and decisions.
- 3 My organization uses reports to make organizational changes to improve ICT accessibility.

Section 2 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

#### 3. Integrate ICT accessibility criteria into key phases of development, procurement, acquisitions, and other relevant business processes.

Manufacturers: Address processes that pertain to your development of ICT products.

Service providers: Address processes that pertain to your development of ICT services.

Integrators: Address processes that pertain to your ICT integration services and solutions.

Catalog Vendor/Reseller: Address processes that pertain to your reseller or catalogue offerings.

0 My organization has no plan to integrate accessibility criteria into key business processes. (If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section.)

##### 3a. Identifying candidate processes for criteria integration.

- 1 My organization has a plan to identify and evaluate its key business processes for accessibility gaps.
- 2 My organization has evaluated its key business processes for accessibility gaps and is developing plans to better integrate accessibility criteria into these processes.
- 3 My organization has approved plans to integrate accessibility criteria into these processes.

##### 3b. Implementing process changes.

- 1 My organization has begun modifying its key business processes to integrate accessibility criteria.
- 2 My organization has completed accessibility criteria modification for some of its key business processes and has begun using these modified processes.
- 3 My organization has completed accessibility criteria modification for most of its key business processes and has begun using these modified processes.

##### 3c. Integrate fully into all key processes.

- 2 My organization has fully integrated accessibility criteria into all of its key business processes and is using these processes to improve the accessibility of its product / service offerings.
- 3 My organization has fully integrated accessibility criteria ACROSS its key business processes and is using these integrated processes to improve the accessibility of its product / service offerings.

Section 3 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

#### 4. Provide processes for addressing inaccessible ICT.

Manufacturers: Address processes that pertain to your development of ICT products in 4a, 4b, 4c, and 4d.

Service providers: Address processes that pertain to your development of ICT services in 4a, 4b, 4c, and 4d.

Integrators: Address processes that pertain to your ICT integration services and solutions in 4a, 4b, 4c, and 4d.

**Catalogue Vendor/Reseller: Address processes that pertain to your reseller or catalogue offerings in 4e.**

0 We do not have plans to provide processes for bringing ICT developed and sold by our organization into accessibility compliance. **(If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section.)**

**4a. Creating plans that include dates for compliance of inaccessible ICT.**

- 1 We are developing plans to identify and test ICT developed and sold by our organization.
- 2 We have begun identifying and testing for accessibility in ICT products / services developed and sold by our organization and are developing plans that include dates for bringing inaccessible ICT into compliance.
- 3 We perform accessibility testing on all products / serviced developed and sold by our organization, and have plans in place that include dates for bringing inaccessible ICT into compliance.

**4b. Providing alternate means of access until the ICT is accessible.**

- 0 We do not have plans for providing alternate means of access for our organization's ICT offerings.
- 1 We are developing plans for providing alternate means of access for our organization's ICT offerings.
- 2 We are implementing methods providing alternate means of access for our organization's ICT offerings.
- 3 We have fully implemented a repeatable process for providing alternate means for our organization's ICT offerings.

**4c. Implementing a corrective actions process(s) for handling accessibility technical issues and defects**

- 1 We are developing a corrective actions process for handling accessibility technical issues and defects
- 2 We are implementing a corrective actions process for handling accessibility technical issues and defects
- 3 We have fully implemented an integrated corrective actions process for handling accessibility technical issues and defects.

**4d. Maintaining records of identified inaccessible ICT, corrective action, and tracking.**

- 1 We plan to develop a record keeping system for tracking the accessibility status of current and future products / services.
- 1 We plan to develop a record keeping process for corrective action tracking and handling of accessibility related issues / defects.
- 2 We have a record keeping system for tracking the accessibility status of current and future products / services.
- 2 We have a record keeping process for corrective action tracking and handling of accessibility related issues / defects.
- 3 We have a record keeping system for tracking the accessibility status of current and future products / services and use this system to improve the accessibility of our offerings.
- 3 We have a record keeping process for corrective action tracking and handling of accessibility related issues / defects and use this system to improve the accessibility of our offerings.

**4e. Maintaining records of identified inaccessible ICT, corrective action, and tracking. (Catalogue Vendor/Reseller only)**

- 1 We have a plan to develop a record keeping system for obtaining and tracking accessibility documentation for vendor products and services offered through our organization.
- 2 We have a record keeping system for obtaining and tracking accessibility documentation for vendor products and services offered through our organization.
- 3 We have a record keeping system for obtaining and tracking accessibility documentation for vendor products and services offered through our organization, and use this system to improve the accessibility of our offerings.

Section 4 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

**5. Ensure the availability of relevant ICT accessibility skills within (or to) the organization.**

0 We do not have plans in place to define, identify existing, or acquire ICT accessibility skills. **(If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section.)**

**5a. Defining skills/job descriptions.**

- 1 We have defined general skills and knowledge needs for ICT accessibility.
- 2 We have identified the fields of practice that require at least some level of accessibility knowledge and/or skills (examples include, but are not limited to: product manager, project manager, product/system designer, application architect, application developer, quality assurance tester, and /or training/instructional designer.)
- 3 We have mapped key accessibility skills and knowledge needs to specific fields of practice.

**5b. Identifying existing resources that match up and address gaps.**

- 2 We have performed a gap analysis correlating accessibility skills and knowledge and current resources.
- 3 We have organized the gaps in order of priority.

**5c. Managing progress in acquiring skills and allocating qualified resources.**

- 1 We have a high level management plan in place to acquire accessibility skills and/or allocate those resources.
- 1 We have developed a training plan for in-house resources and identified external resources for training and/or augmentation.
- 2 We have developed a process to track resource training and augmentation.
- 3 All resources have the appropriate skills and continuous monitoring and improvement systems are in place.

Section 5 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

**6. Make information regarding ICT accessibility policy, plans, and progress available to customers.**

0 We do not have a plan to make our accessibility policy or other accessibility information publicly available. **(If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section.)**

**6a. ICT Accessibility policy and VPAT documentation availability**

- 1 Our ICT accessibility policy is publicly available.
- 1 Our accessibility policy and documentation (VPATs, etc.) for some products is publicly available or available upon request.
- 2 Our accessibility policy and documentation (VPATs, etc.) for all released products is complete and publicly available or available upon request.

**6b. Availability of other accessibility documentation beyond policy and VPATs**

- 2 We are beginning to make other accessibility technical information available such as how accessibility testing is performed.
- 3 We make accessibility information available beyond policy and VPAT information including information on how accessibility testing is performed and other information that demonstrates our organization's capability to produce accessible product / services.

**6c. ICT Accessibility policy and documentation availability**

- 2 We are implementing an accessibility support program within our organization to address questions related to our accessibility documentation.
- 3 We have a fully implemented accessibility support program within our organization to provide requested documentation and address questions related to the accessibility of our products.

Section 6 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

Results	
Vendor	
Total Points	0
Percent Complete	0%



## Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) for Vendors regarding Policy-Driven Adoption for Accessibility (PDAA)

### 1. What is PDAA?

Policy-driven Adoption for Accessibility (PDAA) is a tool that Vendors can use to demonstrate the extent to which their organization has implemented accessibility best practices within operations. The PDAA concept is based on the following principles:

- Integrating accessibility policies and practices into their business and culture enables organizations to drive themselves towards the creation of accessible offerings over the long term.
- Enabling products for accessibility requires integrating accessibility criteria into all phases of a product life cycle, and other business processes where accessibility plays a role.
- Many state and federal agencies are required by law to procure or develop accessible offerings based on technical standards. Gaps in Vendor internal governance systems and leadership commitment inhibit their ability to meet these standards.
- Agency procurement organizations need assurances that vendors have the ability to produce accessible offerings and continue to improve them over time.

### 2. Why are buying organizations requesting information on company accessibility policy?

Making an organization's information and communications technology (ICT) offerings accessible to people with disabilities requires commitment in many areas of that organization. PDAA data helps buying organizations understand a Vendor's accessibility policy, progress and commitment to accessibility holistically.

A mature accessibility policy implementation signals that the Vendor is fully aware of the implications of accessibility requirements and is prepared to resolve any issues in a timely manner with minimal friction. It also makes it more likely that the Vendor understands that accessibility is more than meeting a set of technical guidelines or standards, and that usability will be a factor in how they go about meeting the technical requirements. Accessibility that is planned, designed, and built in from the beginning consistently results in a friendlier product for all users, including those with disabilities.

### 3. Why is PDAA information important to the buying organization?

The requested information provides insight into Vendors' ability to develop accessible commercial off the shelf (COTS) and non-COTS offerings, which can increase the procuring organizations' confidence in the accuracy of Vendor's accessibility documentation.

Current ICT accessibility reporting formats such as VPATs (Voluntary Product Assessment Templates) only apply to COTS products and services. In many cases, Vendor VPATs lack credibility due to limited knowledge about their offerings' accessibility. Additionally, there is no standard reporting format for non-COTS offerings such as development services for websites, web applications, system software, etc.

### 4. How will this information be used?

The initial completed form will establish a baseline for where a vendor stands with regard to its ICT accessibility policy. The baseline illustrates the depth and maturity of the Vendor's support for accessibility policy and practices as illustrated via the PDAA Maturity Model (Link on next line. If prompted for a password, select "cancel")

<http://publishingext.dir.texas.gov/portal/internal/resources/DocumentLibrary/PDAA%20Maturity%20Matrix.pptx>

The questionnaire may also be included in future solicitations so that progress can be assessed. The Vendor responses from the questionnaire may be considered as an element in Vendor selection; however, this would be determined by the procuring organization.

Additionally, Vendor organizations can use the results as a roadmap for implementing their organization-wide ICT accessibility initiatives, which will help ensure that programs and processes are in place to facilitate the development of future accessible offerings.

**5. We already submit VPATs as part of solicitation responses. Is that adequate?**

No. VPATs (Voluntary Product Assessment Templates) are product-specific. PDAA is a holistic presentation of the organization's approach to accessibility. The expectation is that organizations with mature approaches to PDAA will greatly improve the levels of accessibility in products. It should also result in well documented, accurate VPATs, improving their value in product-level assessments

**6. What is the PDAA Maturity Model?**

Based on the Capability Maturity Model (CMM) concept, the PDAA Maturity Model (Link on next line) provides buying organizations and vendors with a simple dashboard or matrix to track and demonstrate Vendors' progress toward full system-wide support of accessibility.

<http://publishingext.dir.texas.gov/portal/internal/resources/DocumentLibrary/PDAA%20Maturity%20Matrix.pptx>

**7. Where can I obtain more information on Accessibility Policy implementation for my organization?**

<http://dir.texas.gov/View-Resources/Pages/Content.aspx?id=39#Procurement>

Or contact the Statewide EIR Accessibility Coordinator via Email at:

[statewideaccessibilitycoordinator@dir.texas.gov](mailto:statewideaccessibilitycoordinator@dir.texas.gov)

**For government organizations/agencies**

**8. What is PDAA?**

Policy-driven Adoption for Accessibility (PDAA) is a tool that Vendors can use to demonstrate the extent to which their organization has implemented accessibility best practices within operations. The PDAA concept is based on the following principles:

- Integrating accessibility policies and practices into their business and culture enables organizations to drive themselves towards the creation of accessible offerings over the long term.
- Enabling products for accessibility requires the integration of accessibility criteria in all phases of a product life cycle, and other business process where accessibility plays a role.
- Many state and federal agencies are required by law to procure or develop accessible offerings based on technical standards, but gaps in internal governance and commitment by industry inhibits the adoption and implementation of these standards.
- Agency procurement organizations need assurances that vendors have the ability to produce accessible offerings and continue to improve them over time.

**9. Does the PDAA replace VPATs?**

No. VPATs (Voluntary Product Assessment Templates) are product-specific. PDAA is a holistic presentation of the organization's approach to accessibility. VPATs are still a valuable tool at the product level, and the expectation is that vendors with mature approaches to PDAA will have accurate and informative VPATs.

**10. Why a "maturity model" of evaluation?**

Successfully enabling an organization for ICT accessibility requires implementation within various areas of an organization. As with any organization-wide initiative, implementation cannot occur all at once. The PDAA Maturity Model is used to gauge progress towards the complete implementation of PDAA core criteria. (Link on next line. If prompted for a password, select "cancel")

<http://publishingext.dir.texas.gov/portal/internal/resources/DocumentLibrary/PDAA%20Maturity%20Matrix.pptx>

**11. Why should we support vendors who have mature PDAA practices?**

A mature accessibility policy implementation signals that the vendor is fully aware of the implications of accessibility requirements and is prepared to resolve any issues in a timely manner with minimal friction. It also makes it more likely that the vendor understands that accessibility is more than meeting a set of technical guidelines or standards, and that usability will be a factor in how they go about meeting the technical requirements. Accessibility that is planned, designed, and built in from the beginning consistently results in a friendlier product for all users, including those with disabilities.

**12. How should we score PDAA information?**

In general, the PDAA questionnaire is meant to ensure that the same information is collected from all bidders, and how the agency uses that information will depend on circumstances. While scoring has not yet been established for PDAA, the responses from the questionnaire may be used as criteria in selecting offerings or Vendors by the procuring organization. PDAA evaluation is an area that will need some practical experience, and we hope that organizations will share what they learn.

**13. Where does the PDAA information fit within the procurement process?**

Using consistent information in evaluating bids is a key element of open and competitive public procurements. The information given in a PDAA report can help judge the ability of a Vendor to: complete a VPAT correctly, produce accessible custom ICT offerings (web sites, web applications, software, etc.), resolve accessibility defects when discovered, and otherwise be a partner in helping you meet your compliance obligations. The specific role of PDAA responses may be determined in part by the procurement laws, policies and practices for your organization.

**14. What happens if the vendor claims the information is confidential or a trade secret?**

Vendors often claim this for information required in procurements. Your organization's procurement laws, policies, or practices may already address how you handle such claims.

**15. What other states are using the PDAA model?**

The PDAA model is in its early stages. A coalition of states are working with several national associations to harmonize the criteria for this model, and for obtaining and evaluating PDAA information. The goal is for more states and other government entities to adopt the PDAA model in their procurement processes.

**16. Where can I obtain more information on Accessibility Policy implementation for my organization?**

<http://dir.texas.gov/View-Resources/Pages/Content.aspx?id=39#Procurement>

Or contact the Statewide EIR Accessibility Coordinator at:

[statewideaccessibilitycoordinator@dir.texas.gov](mailto:statewideaccessibilitycoordinator@dir.texas.gov)



## Vendor ICT Accessibility Policy Assessment

This Information and Communications Technology (ICT) accessibility assessment is for vendor organizations to describe how they are currently implementing accessibility policy and practices within their organizations.

Please complete this form by checking a box for each topic that most closely match the current state of your organization. A completed example is available using the "Example" tab of the worksheet. The assessment is not a substitute for other requested accessibility information such as VPATs. All questions, inquiries, etc. should only be directed to Carrie Cooper: Phone: 512-936-2353 Fax: 512-936-6896 Email: carrie.cooper@dir.texas.gov

### Organization information

Organization name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company X \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization address: \_\_\_\_\_ 1111 State Blvd. Anytown, TX 78701 \_\_\_\_\_  
Responder contact information: \_\_\_\_\_ myemailaddress@yahoo.com \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of assessment completion: \_\_\_\_\_ 1/1/15 \_\_\_\_\_

### My organization is a (choose one or more if applicable)

- Manufacturer:** My organization develops and sells its own ICT products / services
- Service Provider:** My organization sells IT development services
- Integrator:** My organization develops customer solutions using a combination of products / services from manufacturers and products / components developed by my organization
- Reseller or Catalogue Supplier:** Does not develop or have its own products, but offers COTS 3rd party products

For each criteria statement, please enter the number corresponding to your response in the shaded areas of the "Response" column for the status statement in each grouping that is most relevant to your organization today.

### Responses

#### 1. Develop, implement, and maintain an ICT accessibility policy.

0 My organization has no plan to have an ICT accessibility policy. (If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section)

2

##### 1a. Having an ICT accessibility policy.

- 1 My organization is developing an ICT accessibility policy.
- 2 My organization is finalizing an ICT accessibility policy.
- 3 My organization has approved an ICT accessibility policy.

1

##### 1b. Having appropriate plans in place to implement and maintain the policy.

- 1 My organization is developing plans to implement our ICT accessibility policy and ensure that it is maintained.
- 2 My organization has completed planning for initial implementation and maintenance of our accessibility policy.
- 3 My organization has approved plans for accessibility policy implementation and maintenance.

1

##### 1c. Establishing metrics and tracking progress towards achieving compliance to the policy.

- 1 My organization is identifying metrics that can be used to gauge policy compliance.
- 2 My organization is collecting metrics and has begun designing progress reporting based on them.
- 3 My organization is tracking progress on policy adoption and continues to refine the metrics.

Section 1 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

#### 2. Establish and maintain an organizational structure that enables and facilitates progress in ICT accessibility.

0 My organization has no plan to develop a governance system to support ICT accessibility. (If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section)

1

##### 2a. Developing an organization wide governance system.

- 1 My organization is investigating opportunities to improve organization wide governance for ICT accessibility.
- 2 My organization is finalizing plans that will result in an organization wide governance system.
- 3 My organization has approved plans for an organization wide governance system.

2

##### 2b. Designating one or more individuals responsible for implementation.

- 2 My organization has identified key individuals in the implementation process.
- 3 My organization has assigned implementation duties and responsibilities to appropriate individuals.

1

##### 2c. Implementing reporting/decision mechanism and maintain records.

- 1 My organization is developing tools and procedures for tracking ICT accessibility issues.
- 2 My organization is tracking and keeping records of ICT accessibility reporting and decisions.
- 3 My organization uses reports to make organizational changes to improve ICT accessibility.

Section 2 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

#### 3. Integrate ICT accessibility criteria into key phases of development, procurement, acquisitions, and other relevant business processes.

**Manufacturers:** Address processes that pertain to your development of ICT products.

**Service providers:** Address processes that pertain to your development of ICT services.

**Integrators:** Address processes that pertain to your ICT integration services and solutions.

**Catalog Vendor/Reseller:** Address processes that pertain to your reseller or catalogue offerings.

0 My organization has no plan to integrate accessibility criteria into key business processes. (If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section.)

1

##### 3a. Identifying candidate processes for criteria integration.

- 1 My organization has a plan to identify and evaluate its key business processes for accessibility gaps.
- 2 My organization has evaluated its key business processes for accessibility gaps and is developing plans to better integrate accessibility criteria into these processes.
- 3 My organization has approved plans to integrate accessibility criteria into these processes.

1

##### 3b. Implementing process changes.

- 1 My organization has begun modifying its key business processes to integrate accessibility criteria.
- 2 My organization has completed accessibility criteria modification for some of its key business processes and has begun using these modified processes.
- 3 My organization has completed accessibility criteria modification for most of its key business processes and has begun using these modified processes.

##### 3c. Integrate fully into all key processes.

- 2 My organization has fully integrated accessibility criteria into all of its key business processes and is using these processes to improve the accessibility of its product / service offerings.
- 3 My organization has fully integrated accessibility criteria ACROSS its key business processes and is using these integrated processes to improve the accessibility of its product / service offerings.

Section 3 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

#### 4. Provide processes for addressing inaccessible ICT.

**Manufacturers:** Address processes that pertain to your development of ICT products in 4a, 4b, 4c, and 4d.

**Service providers:** Address processes that pertain to your development of ICT services in 4a, 4b, 4c, and 4d.

**Integrators:** Address processes that pertain to your ICT integration services and solutions in 4a, 4b, 4c, and 4d.

**Catalogue Vendor/Reseller:** Address processes that pertain to your reseller or catalogue offerings in 4e.

0 We do not have plans to provide processes for bringing ICT developed and sold by our organization into accessibility compliance. (If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section.)

2

##### 4a. Creating plans that include dates for compliance of inaccessible ICT.

- 1 We are developing plans to identify and test ICT developed and sold by our organization.
- 2 We have begun identifying and testing for accessibility in ICT products / services developed and sold by our organization and are developing plans that include dates for bringing inaccessible ICT into compliance.
- 3 We perform accessibility testing on all products / services developed and sold by our organization, and have plans in place that include dates for bringing inaccessible ICT into compliance.

2

##### 4b. Providing alternate means of access until the ICT is accessible.

- 0 We do not have plans for providing alternate means of access for our organization's ICT offerings.
- 1 We are developing plans for providing alternate means of access for our organization's ICT offerings.
- 2 We are implementing methods providing alternate means of access for our organization's ICT offerings.
- 3 We have fully implemented a repeatable process for providing alternate means for our organization's ICT offerings.

2

##### 4c. Implementing a corrective actions process(es) for handling accessibility technical issues and defects

- 1 We are developing a corrective actions process for handling accessibility technical issues and defects
- 2 We are implementing a corrective actions process for handling accessibility technical issues and defects
- 3 We have fully implemented an integrated corrective actions process for handling accessibility technical issues and defects.

1

##### 4d. Maintaining records of identified inaccessible ICT, corrective action, and tracking.

- 1 We plan to develop a record keeping system for tracking the accessibility status of current and future products / services.
- 1 We plan to develop a record keeping process for corrective action tracking and handling of accessibility related issues / defects.
- 2 We have a record keeping system for tracking the accessibility status of current and future products / services.
- 2 We have a record keeping process for corrective action tracking and handling of accessibility related issues / defects.
- 3 We have a record keeping system for tracking the accessibility status of current and future products / services and use this system to improve the accessibility of our offerings.

# EXAMPLE

3 We have a record keeping process for corrective action tracking and handling of accessibility related issues / defects and use this system to improve the accessibility of our offerings.

**4e. Maintaining records of identified inaccessible ICT, corrective action, and tracking. (Catalogue Vendor/Reseller only)**

- 1 We have a plan to develop a record keeping system for obtaining and tracking accessibility documentation for vendor products and services offered through our organization.
- 2 We have a record keeping system for obtaining and tracking accessibility documentation for vendor products and services offered through our organization.
- 3 We have a record keeping system for obtaining and tracking accessibility documentation for vendor products and services offered through our organization, and use this system to improve the accessibility of our offerings.

Section 4 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

**5. Ensure the availability of relevant ICT accessibility skills within (or to) the organization.**

0 We do not have plans in place to define, identify existing, or acquire ICT accessibility skills. (If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section.)

**5a. Defining skills/job descriptions.**

- 1 We have defined general skills and knowledge needs for ICT accessibility.
- 2 We have identified the fields of practice that require at least some level of accessibility knowledge and/or skills (examples include, but are not limited to: product manager, project manager, product/system designer, application architect, application developer, quality assurance tester, and /or training/instructional designer.)
- 3 We have mapped key accessibility skills and knowledge needs to specific fields of practice.

**5b. Identifying existing resources that match up and address gaps.**

- 2 We have performed a gap analysis correlating accessibility skills and knowledge and current resources.
- 3 We have organized the gaps in order of priority.

**5c. Managing progress in acquiring skills and allocating qualified resources.**

- 1 We have a high level management plan in place to acquire accessibility skills and/or allocate those resources.
- 1 We have developed a training plan for in-house resources and identified external resources for training and/or augmentation.
- 2 We have developed a process to track resource training and augmentation.
- 3 All resources have the appropriate skills and continuous monitoring and improvement systems are in place.

Section 5 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

**6. Make information regarding ICT accessibility policy, plans, and progress available to customers.**

0 We do not have a plan to make our accessibility policy or other accessibility information publically available. (If selected, skip to next section or provide comments at the end of this section.)

**6a. ICT Accessibility policy and VPAT documentation availability**

- 1 Our ICT accessibility policy is publicly available.
- 1 Our accessibility policy and documentation (VPATs, etc.) for some products is publicly available or available upon request.
- 2 Our accessibility policy and documentation (VPATs, etc.) for all released products is complete and publicly available or available upon request.

**6b. Availability of other accessibility documentation beyond policy and VPATs**

- 2 We are beginning to make other accessibility technical information available such as how accessibility testing is performed.
- 3 We make accessibility information available beyond policy and VPAT information including information on how accessibility testing is performed and other information that demonstrates our organization's capability to produce accessible product / services.

**6c. ICT Accessibility policy and documentation availability**

- 2 We are implementing an accessibility support program within our organization to address questions related to our accessibility documentation.
- 3 We have a fully implemented accessibility support program within our organization to provide requested documentation and address questions related to the accessibility of our products.

Section 6 Comments (Provide any comments or additional information on this section here.)

Results	
Company X	
Total Points	18
Percent Complete	30%

