



**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION #32110-24642  
AMENDMENT # 2  
COMPETITIVE PROOF OF CONCEPT PROGRAM**

DATE: APRIL 25, 2024

RFI 32110-24642 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **State responses to questions and comments in the table below amend and clarify this RFI.**  
Any restatement of RFI text in the Question/Comment column shall NOT be construed as a change in the actual wording of the RFI document.

Q #	RFI Language	Question or Comment	State Response
1	<i>Section 2, Page 1:</i> The State of Tennessee is considering a pilot and adoption of a new procurement method based off the State of Michigan's Competitive Proof of Concept procurement method.	Has TN collected data on how much the award-winning program has yielded results superior for Michigan to traditional procurement methods, as it applies to IT contracts that include hardware, software & services – for modernization and Maintenance & Operations?	The State has not collected specific data regarding results.
2	<i>Section 1, Page 1:</i> "...a new procurement method for the state to utilize called the Competitive Proof of Concept program."	For IT Services initiatives, Agile principles & methodologies are being adopted across industries and have been found to be effective. Most of the benefits and costs associated with CPC (Competitive Proof of Concept) can be achieved by utilizing Agile principles. To that end, has the State given thought to building in mandatory requirements for Agile methods (Scrums, 2-week sprints, Retrospectives) on IT projects while adopting traditional RFP procurement methods?	Yes. The State has implemented or required Agile principles or methodologies on some previous IT solicitations and projects.
3	<i>Section 2, Page 5:</i> Award multiple, optional-use contracts, or award by Contract Activity	Should the State award multiple contracts, would allocating limited IT staff across multiple POC projects simultaneously be a challenge? Has the State undergone such a scenario building exercise? If yes,	Yes, this could be a challenge the State would have to carefully navigate. The State has not undergone this scenario building exercise.

		could you please share those results with us to inform us on the resource bandwidth aspect of IT departments of TN State agencies.	
4	<i>Attachment 2 – CPC Instructions #3.c, General:</i> c. Respondent must attach a completed Cost Proposal (Cost Proposal must cover any costs to the State for the proof of concept and may optionally also include full implementation pricing) and submit these documents with its proposal. These documents do not count toward proposal length.	Please confirm that the Respondent does not need to include a Cost Proposal with our RFI response.	Confirmed.  Attachment 2 is simply provided for reference and the State is not seeking for the Respondents to actually fill out.
5	<i>Attachment 2 – CPC Instructions # 3.g, General:</i> g. Respondent must submit proposals via Edison no later than [insert date and time]. The proposal and attachments must be fully uploaded and submitted prior to the due date identified above. The Respondent should submit all documents in a modifiable (native) format (examples include but are not limited to: Microsoft Word or Excel and Google Docs or Sheets). In addition to submitting documents in a modifiable format, the Respondent may also submit copies of documents in PDF. Respondent's failure to submit a proposal as required may result in disqualification. The proposal and attachments must be fully uploaded and submitted prior to the proposal deadline. Do not wait until the last minute to submit a proposal, as the Edison system requires the creation of an account and entry of certain information, in addition to uploading and submitting the materials. Questions on how to submit information or how to navigate in the Edison system can be answered by contacting the solicitation coordinator or the Central Procurement Office internet site, <a href="https://www.tn.gov/generalservices/procurement.html">https://www.tn.gov/generalservices/procurement.html</a> , which may be utilized to access the Edison Guide to Agency Procurement.	Please confirm that we should submit our RFI response via email per RFI Section 3.1 and we are not expected to upload to the Edison System over the instructions in Attachment 2	Confirmed that the RFI response should be submitted via email per RFI Section 3.1. Attachment 2 is simply provided for reference and the State is not seeking for the Respondents to actually fill out.

6	<p><i>Attachment 2 – CPC Instructions, Section A, General:</i> TECHNICAL RESPONSE &amp; EVALUATION GUIDE</p> <p>· SECTION A: MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS. The Respondent must address all items detailed below and provide, in sequence, the information and documentation as required (referenced with the associated item references). The Respondent must also detail the response page number for each item in the appropriate space below.</p> <p>The Solicitation Coordinator will review the response to determine if the Mandatory Requirement Items are addressed as required and mark each with pass or fail. For each item that is not addressed as required, the Proposal Evaluation Team must review the response and attach a written determination. In addition to the Mandatory Requirement Items, the Solicitation Coordinator will review each response for compliance with all requirements</p>	<p>Please confirm that we do not need to provide a response to the Section A. requirements as part of the RFI evaluation.</p>	<p>Confirmed.</p> <p>Attachment 2 is simply provided for reference and the State is not seeking for the Respondents to actually fill out.</p>
7	N/A	<p>In order to facilitate a more informed response to the RFI, please provide the law and/or regulation that would allow the Central Procurement Office to enter into a contract utilizing the proposed procurement method.</p>	<p>The State has sufficient authority conferred on it under Tenn Code Ann. § 12-3-101, et seq., and the policies and procedures adopted there under by the Procurement Commission.</p>
8	N/A	<p>Under the proposed procurement method, should a bidder submit a proposal for the proof of concept, would that proposer than be precluded from pursuing subsequent system integration work for the technology that is ultimately selected?</p>	<p>Conflicts such as the type referenced in your question would have to be analyzed under the State's Business Ethics Policy. Whether a participating Respondent is precluded from participating in subsequent systems integration work will depend upon facts and circumstances currently unknown to the State.</p>

**2. RFI Amendment Effective Date.** The revisions set forth herein shall be effective upon release. All other terms and conditions of this RFI not expressly amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.