



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS # 34513-34224
AMENDMENT # 1
FOR GENETIC MATERIAL COLLECTION AND TESTING**

DATE: AUGUST 7, 2023

RFP # 34513-34224 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. This RFP Schedule of Events updates and confirms scheduled RFP dates. Any event, time, or date containing revised or new text is highlighted.

EVENT	TIME (central time zone)	DATE
1. RFP Issued		August 1, 2023
2. Disability Accommodation Request Deadline	2:00 p.m.	August 4, 2023
3. Notice of Intent to Respond Deadline	2:00 p.m.	August 16, 2023
4. Written "Questions & Comments" Deadline	2:00 p.m.	August 28, 2023
5. State Response to Written "Questions & Comments"		September 12, 2023
6. Response Deadline	2:00 p.m.	September 22, 2023
7. Oral Presentations		October 2, 2023 through October 3, 2023
8. State Completion of Technical Response Evaluations		October 6, 2023
9. State Opening & Scoring of Cost Proposals	2:00 p.m.	October 10, 2023
10. Negotiations (Optional)		October 11, 2023 through October 12, 2023
11. State Notice of Intent to Award Released <u>and</u> RFP Files Opened for Public Inspection	2:00 p.m.	October 17, 2023
12. End of Open File Period		October 25, 2023
13. State sends contract to Contractor for signature		November 1, 2023
14. Contractor Signature Deadline	2:00 p.m.	November 8, 2023

2. Add the following as RFP section 5.2.1.6 and renumber any subsequent sections as necessary:

5.2.1.6. Before Cost Proposals are opened, the Proposal Evaluation Team will review the Technical Response Evaluation record and any other available information pertinent to whether or not each Respondent is responsive and responsible. If the Proposal Evaluation Team identifies any Respondent that does not meet the responsive and responsible thresholds such that the team would not recommend the Respondent for Cost Proposal Evaluation and potential contract award, the team members will fully document the determination.

3. Delete RFP section 5.2.3 in its entirety and insert the following in its place (any sentence or paragraph containing revised or new text is highlighted):

5.2.3. Clarifications and Negotiations: The State reserves the right to award a contract on the basis of initial responses received, therefore, each response shall contain the Respondent's best terms and conditions from a technical and cost standpoint. The State reserves the right to conduct clarifications or negotiations with one or more Respondents. All communications, clarifications, and negotiations shall be conducted in a manner that supports fairness in response improvement.

5.2.3.1. Clarifications: The State may identify areas of a response that may require further clarification or areas in which it is apparent that there may have been miscommunications or misunderstandings as to the State's specifications or requirements. The State may seek to clarify those issues identified during one or multiple clarification rounds. Each clarification sought by the State may be unique to an individual Respondent, provided that the process is conducted in a manner that supports fairness in response improvement.

5.2.3.2. Negotiations: The State may elect to negotiate with one or more Respondents by requesting revised responses, negotiating costs, or finalizing contract terms and conditions. The State reserves the right to conduct multiple negotiation rounds or no negotiations at all.

5.2.3.3. Cost Negotiations: All Respondents, selected for negotiation by the State, will be given equivalent information with respect to cost negotiations. All cost negotiations will be documented for the procurement file. Additionally, the State may conduct target pricing and other goods or services level negotiations. Target pricing may be based on considerations such as current pricing, market considerations, benchmarks, budget availability, or other methods that do not reveal individual Respondent pricing. During target price negotiations, Respondents are not obligated to reduce their pricing to target prices, but no Respondent is allowed to increase prices.

5.2.3.4. If the State determines that it is unable to successfully negotiate terms and conditions of a contract with the apparent best evaluated Respondent, the State reserves the right to bypass the apparent best evaluated Respondent and enter into terms and conditions contract negotiations with the next apparent best evaluated Respondent.

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