



'NO BID' FORM

IFB # 2016-25-CL

DESCRIPTION: Stenography Services

CONTRACT PERIOD: 5 Years

<b>BIDS DUE:</b>		<b>SUBMIT BIDS TO:</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	9/15/16	<b>IFB# 2016-25-CL</b> NYSIF – Procurement Unit 15 Computer Drive West Albany, NY 12205
<b>TIME:</b>	2:00 PM (EST)	

Bidders choosing not to bid are requested to complete and return only this page. Please check all boxes that apply:

- 1. We do not provide the requested services. Please remove our firm from your mailing list.
- 2. We are unable to bid at this time because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FAILURE TO RESPOND TO THIS BID SOLICITATION MAY RESULT IN YOUR FIRM BEING REMOVED FROM OUR MAILING LIST. A "NO BID" IS CONSIDERED A RESPONSE.

Name of Firm: \_\_\_\_\_ FEIN: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Page: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Typed Name & Title: \_\_\_\_\_



NEW YORK  
STATE INSURANCE FUND

INVITATION FOR BIDS

for

STENOGRAPHY SERVICES

Bid # 2016-25-CL

July 28, 2016

NYSIF encourages the participation of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) in its procurement projects. NYSIF is committed to achieving the statewide goal of increasing opportunities for New York State Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises. Any firm that feels it may meet the state requirements for certification is encouraged to visit the [NYS Empire State Development](#) for more information about the program and how to apply for certification.

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## **IFB CALENDAR**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>7/28/16</b>	IFB Issued – Advertisement posted	Bid documents may be obtained here: <a href="http://www.nysif.com/procurement">www.nysif.com/procurement</a>
<b>8/17/16</b>	Final date for bidder inquiries	<b><u>Written inquiries only</u></b> by 12:00 p.m. to: Email: <a href="mailto:contracts@nysif.com">contracts@nysif.com</a> Fax: 518-437-4209
<b>9/1/16</b>	Responses to inquiries	Written responses will be posted on NYSIF's website at: <a href="http://www.nysif.com/procurement">www.nysif.com/procurement</a>
<b>9/15/16</b>	Final date for submission of bids	Deadline for response to this IFB. Sealed bids <b>MUST</b> be received by 2:00 p.m. EST
<b>TBD</b>	Anticipated Start Date	Subject to the required approvals.

**SECTION I – GENERAL INFORMATION**

**I.1 OVERVIEW OF THE NEW YORK STATE INSURANCE FUND**

The New York State Insurance Fund (NYSIF) was established in 1914 as part of the original enactment of the New York Workers’ Compensation Law. The Fund’s mission is to guarantee the availability of workers’ compensation insurance at the lowest possible cost to employers, while maintaining a solvent fund, as well as to provide timely and appropriate indemnity and medical payments to injured workers. NYSIF is a self-supporting insurance carrier that competes with private insurers in both the workers’ compensation and disability benefits markets in New York State. With 160,000 policyholders, over \$2 billion in annual premium and \$17 billion of assets, NYSIF is the largest workers’ compensation carrier in the state and among the top five largest workers’ compensation carriers in the nation. NYSIF provides disability benefits coverage for off-the-job injuries to more than 61,000 New York employers.

**I.2 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Invitation for Bids (IFB) is to obtain stenographic services from non-Workers Compensation Board (WCB) employees for depositions ordered by the WCB.

Proposals submitted in response to this solicitation must comply with the instructions and procedures contained herein.

**I.3 SUMMARY OF NYSIF’S POLICY AND PROHIBITIONS REGARDING PERMISSIBLE CONTACTS DURING A COVERED PROCUREMENT**

Pursuant to State Finance Law §§139-j and 139-k, this IFB includes and imposes certain restrictions on communications between a Governmental Entity and a Bidder during the procurement process. A Bidder is restricted from making contacts from the earliest notice of intent to solicit bids through final award and approval of the Procurement Contract by the Governmental Entity and, if applicable, Office of the State Comptroller (“restricted period”) to other than designated staff unless it is a contact that is included among certain statutory exceptions set forth in State Finance Law §139-j (3)(a). Designated staff, as of the date hereof, is identified on page 2 of this IFB. NYSIF employees are also required to obtain certain information when contacted during the restricted period and make a determination of the responsibility of the Bidder pursuant to these two statutes. Certain findings of non-responsibility can result in rejection for contract award and in the event of two findings within a 4 year period, the Bidder is debarred from obtaining governmental Procurement Contracts. Further information about these requirements is available from the designated contact(s).

**I.4 INQUIRIES/ISSUING OFFICE/DESIGNATED CONTACT**

All inquiries concerning this solicitation will be addressed to the following Designated Contacts:

Alexandria Romano  
Contract Management Specialist 1  
E-Mail: [contracts@nysif.com](mailto:contracts@nysif.com)

Heather Baumann  
Contract Management Specialist 2  
E-Mail: [contracts@nysif.com](mailto:contracts@nysif.com)

For inquiries related specifically to Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) provisions of this procurement solicitation, the designated contact is:

Lucas McCullough  
MWBE Fiscal Business Specialist  
E-Mail: [contracts@nysif.com](mailto:contracts@nysif.com)

**All questions related to this IFB or the contract process must be submitted in writing to [contracts@nysif.com](mailto:contracts@nysif.com) by the date and time indicated in the IFB Calendar, citing the particular bid section and paragraph number. No telephone questions will be answered.**

Only questions received during the Question and Answer period (as outlined in the IFB Calendar) will be addressed. **Official answers to the questions will be posted on NYSIF’s website at [www.nysif.com/procurement](http://www.nysif.com/procurement), on the date indicated in the IFB Calendar.**

Prospective Bidders should note that all clarifications and exceptions are to be resolved prior to the submission of a bid. Answers may be included in a bid addendum.

**I.5 METHOD OF AWARD**

Award will be made by Grand Total Bid to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder whose bid meets all the terms, conditions and specifications of this IFB. All bids will be reviewed and evaluated by a committee of NYSIF personnel. In the event of a tie, the order of precedence will be:

1. NYS Certified M/WBE
2. Favorable experience with NYSIF
3. Coin Flip – Note: The coin flip will occur within 48 hours after bid opening

Each bidder should specify which region(s) they are seeking a contract for work. Bidders may seek a contract in more than one region. NYSIF reserves the right to make multiple awards in a particular region. Matters will be assigned to Bidders based on first right of refusal for each awarded region.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Anticipated Number of Awards Per Region</b>
1	3
2	3
3	3
4	2
5	1
6	1
7	1
8	1

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**SECTION II – BIDDER'S QUALIFICATIONS**

**All bids submitted in response to this IFB must include the following information. Failure to submit information to meet any of the following mandatory requirements may result in your bid being deemed non-responsive and eliminate your bid from consideration.**

**II.1 EXPERIENCE**

Bidders are required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in providing stenographic services. Documentation must be provided with your bid.

**II.2 COMPLIANCE**

By submitting a bid, Bidders are certifying they are qualified to perform the proposed work. Bidders shall have the necessary staff, equipment, permits and licensing, and compliance for the schedule set forth in this contract.

**II.3 REFERENCES**

The bidder must provide a list of at least one (1) client for whom bidder has performed services in the last five (5) years of a similar or greater size and scope to those required in this IFB. The list must include each client's name, address, contact person, telephone number and the dates these services were performed. Use Appendix I, *Bidder References*, to provide this information. NYSIF reserves the right to contact references to verify information in the proposal.

**II.4 LICENSES AND PERMITS**

The contractor shall obtain, maintain, and pay for all permits, licenses, and fees legally required to perform the work under this IFB, copies of which must be submitted to NYSIF prior the commencement of work. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to ensure that any subcontractors are also licensed and permitted appropriately for the work they perform. For more information, please visit the following website: <http://www.dos.ny.gov/licensing/notary/notary.html>

All of bidders' stenographers or subcontracted stenographers must be New York State licensed notaries throughout the contract. Visit the website above for more information on how to become a Notary Public. Copies of all certifications, licenses, and manufacturer's authorizations must accompany the Contractor's bid.

The notary is required to place the deponent under oath at every deposition after both sides. The recommended language is as follows:

**“Do you solemnly swear that the testimony that you will give is correct and true?”**

Alternatively, the following affirmation may be used for persons who conscientiously decline taking an oath. This affirmation is legally equivalent to an oath and is just as binding:

**“Do you solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that the statements you will make during this deposition are true and correct?”**

Every transcript must be notarized by the stenographer and must close with a certification signed by the stenographer certifying that the transcript is a true and accurate transcription of their stenographic notes.

The stenographer must also certify that they are not employed by the workers' compensation board or any party to the deposition.

**II.5 VENDOR SECURITY SURVEY (APPENDIX T)**

NYSIF will review and evaluate the bidder's response to Appendix T, NYSIF Vendor Security Survey on a pass/fail basis. The minimum required implementation levels are defined in Appendix T, NYSIF Vendor Security Survey. Bidders who do not meet the minimum required implementation levels will be disqualified.

- a. **Pass:** Meets or exceeds minimum implementation levels
- b. **Fail:** Does not meet minimum implementation levels

NYSIF reserves the right to seek non-material adjustments to the bidder's IT Data Security procedures if determined to be in NYSIF's best interest.

**II.6 INSURANCE, INDEMNIFICATION AND BONDS**

Prior to the commencement of the work to be performed by the successful bidder, the contractor shall file with NYSIF Certificates of Insurance evidencing compliance with all requirements contained in this IFB. Acceptance and/or approval by NYSIF does not and shall not be construed to relieve contractor of any obligations, responsibilities or liabilities under the awarded contract.

All insurance required by the contract shall be obtained at the sole cost and expense of the contractor; shall be maintained with insurance carriers licensed to do business in New York State, and acceptable to NYSIF; shall be primary and non-contributing to any insurance or self insurance maintained by NYSIF; shall be endorsed to provide written notice be given to NYSIF at least thirty (30) days prior to the cancellation, non-renewal, or material alteration of such policies, which notice, evidenced by return receipt of United States Certified Mail; shall be sent in accordance to the 'Notice' provision of the Agreement and shall name NYSIF, its officers, agents, and employees as additional insureds hereunder (General Liability Additional Insured Endorsement shall be on Insurance Service Office's (ISO) form number **CG 20 26 11 85**).

The contractor shall be solely responsible for the payment of all deductibles and self insured retentions to which such policies are subject. Deductibles and self-insured retentions must be approved by NYSIF. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

If NYSIF allows subcontracting, the contractor shall require that any subcontractors hired, carry insurance with the same limits and provisions provided herein.

Each insurance carrier must be rated at least "A-" Class "VII" in the most recently published Best's Insurance Report. If, during the term of the policy, a carrier's rating falls below "A-" Class "VII", the insurance must be replaced no later than the renewal date of the policy with an insurer acceptable to NYSIF and rated at least "A-" Class "VII" in the most recently published Best's Insurance Report.

The contractor shall cause all insurance to be in full force and effect as of the commencement date of this contract and to remain in full force and effect throughout the term of this contract and as further required by this contract. The contractor shall not take any action, or omit to take any action that would suspend or invalidate any of the required coverage during the period of time such coverage is required to be in effect.

Not less than thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date or renewal date, the contractor shall supply NYSIF updated replacement Certificates of Insurance, and amendatory endorsements.

The contractor, throughout the term of this contract, or as otherwise required by this contract, shall obtain and maintain in full force and effect, the following insurance with limits not less than those described below and as required by the terms of this contract, or as required by law, whichever is greater (limits may be provided through a combination of primary and umbrella/excess policies):

1. Commercial General Liability Insurance with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each occurrence, \$2,000,000 aggregate. Such liability shall be written on the ISO occurrence form CG 00 01, or a substitute form providing equivalent coverage and shall cover liability arising from premises operations, independent contractors, products-completed operations, broad form property damage, personal & advertising injury, cross liability coverage, liability assumed in a contract (including the tort liability of another assumed in a contract) and explosion, collapse & underground coverage.
2. Workers Compensation and NYS Disability Benefits, as required by New York State. Visit <http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/Employers/busPermits.jsp> for further information.
3. Comprehensive Business Automobile Liability Insurance with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each accident. Such insurance shall cover liability arising out of any automobile including owned, leased, hired and non-owned automobiles.

**Waiver of Subrogation.** Contractor shall cause to be included in each of its policies insuring against loss, damage or destruction by fire or other insured casualty a waiver of the insurer's right of subrogation against NYSIF, or, if such waiver is unobtainable (i) an express agreement that such policy shall not be invalidated if contractor waives or has waived before the casualty, the right of recovery against NYSIF or (ii) any other form of permission for the release of NYSIF.

Awarded contractor shall furnish evidence of all policies to NYSIF, before any work is started. Certificates of Insurance may be supplied as evidence of such aforementioned policies; however, if requested by the Agency, the contractor shall deliver to NYSIF within forty-five (45) days of the request a copy of such policies, certified by the insurance carrier as being true and complete. If a Certificate of Insurance is submitted it must: (i) be signed by an authorized representative of the insurance carrier or producer, and notarized; (ii) disclose any deductible, self-insured retention, aggregate limit or any exclusions to the policy that materially change the coverage; (iii) indicate the Additional Insureds and Named Insured(s) as required herein; (iv) reference the Agreement by number on the face of the certificate; and (v) expressly reference the inclusion of all required endorsements.

If, at any time during the term of this Agreement, insurance as required is not in effect, or proof thereof is not provided to NYSIF, NYSIF shall have the option to: (i) direct the contractor to suspend work with no additional cost or extension of time due on account thereof; or (ii) treat such failure as a material breach of an essential element of the contract.

The contractor will indemnify NYSIF against any and all liability which may be assessed against it as a result of the actions, activities or neglect of the contractor, its officers, employees, agents, or subcontractors relating to its performance of the functions required (see NYSIF Exhibit C).

**Note:** Any Prospective Bidder failing to submit in whole or in part the above statements attesting its qualifications may result in a rejection of that bid. It is the State's intent in having these requirements to ensure that only qualified and reliable contractors perform the work of this contract.

**II.7 MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION**

It is the policy of NYSIF to encourage the greatest possible participation by Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) as Bidders, subcontractors and suppliers on its procurement contracts, consistent with New York State laws. NYSIF has established a goal of 30% MWBE participation for its contracts.

Bidders are required to complete the forms contained within Exhibit M and submit those with the bid proposal. Failure to properly complete and provide these documents may result in rejection of the bid.

The Awarded Contractor(s) will be required to demonstrate its ability to meet NYSIF's goals for MWBE participation by documenting all subcontracted work related to this contract for which MWBE participation will take place. If a waiver (or partial waiver) from meeting NYSIF's MWBE goals is being sought, the contractor **MUST** complete the waiver form (Form 104 of Exhibit M) and provide supporting documentation as listed on the form's instructions detailing extensive efforts taken to seek and sub-contract MWBE vendors for this procurement.

The awarded contractor may be required to submit subcontractor and payment information in the New York State Contract System on a regular basis throughout the term of the contract. Subcontractors may also be required to verify such payments through this system.

Proof of utilization and payment to MWBE subcontractors is required.

Please see Exhibit M for further information.

**II.8 SERVICE DISABLED VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS PARTICIPATION**

The Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Act, signed into law by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo on May 12, 2014, allows eligible Veteran business owners to become certified as a New York State Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDVOB) in order to increase participation in New York State's contracting opportunities.

We encourage any firm that believes it meets the state requirements for certification to visit The Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development within the NYS Office of General Services (OGS) at [www.ogs.ny.gov](http://www.ogs.ny.gov).

For more general information on the program you can contact OGS via e-mail at [VeteransDevelopment@ogs.ny.gov](mailto:VeteransDevelopment@ogs.ny.gov).

**SECTION III – SPECIFICATIONS**

No oral statements of any person shall alter or otherwise affect the terms, conditions, or specifications noted herein or in the contract for the service. Any amendments to this IFB that may be necessary will be issued in writing.

**III.1 SPECIFICATIONS**

Provide deposition reporting stenographically. Depositions are to be stenographically recorded, and transcribed through mechanical or electronic keyboard-operated typing devices. Backup electronic verbal recording equipment shall be operating at all times while proceedings are being reported. No part of the deposition shall be excluded from the verbatim transcript for any reason.

The contractor shall furnish all labor and materials required to provide session reporting at the designated New York locations within the region of the Contract. When in person attendance is required the stenographer shall be at the scheduled proceeding, session, or meeting a minimum of ten (10) minutes prior to start time, and expected to stay until told they are able to leave unless otherwise noted by NYSIF. The vast majority of depositions will be conducted telephonically without the need for in-person presence of the stenographer. On occasion the reporter’s in-person presence may be required in certain cases, depending on the claim and the claimant’s counsel. For telephonic depositions, the contractor shall supply a telephone line and the associated phone number for the parties to call. That number shall allow a minimum of 10 callers to be a party to the same deposition. The contractor shall be able to cover the simultaneous depositions in accordance with the chart below.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Number of Simultaneous Depositions</b>
1	10
2	8
3	6
4	6
5	4
6	4
7	4
8	4

**III.2 COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS**

Requirements will be agreed upon by NYSIF and the awarded Contractor at the time of job scheduling and can only be changed with consent of both parties.

- **Normal Completion (85% of all completion rates):**  
The Contractor shall deliver transcripts to NYSIF in electronic format (PDF) within seven (7) business days after the deposition, excluding Saturday, Sunday, and New York State designated holidays.

- **Priority Completion (10% of all completion rates):**  
The Contractor shall deliver transcripts electronically in PDF format as specified by NYSIF, to NYSIF within three (3) business days after the deposition, excluding Saturday, Sunday, and New York State designated holidays.
- **Overnight Completion (4% of all completion rates):**  
The Contractor shall deliver transcripts to NYSIF in electronic format (PDF) no later than 1:00 p.m. on the business day following the deposition.
- **Immediate Completion (1% of all completion rates):**  
The Contractor shall deliver transcripts via electronic format (PDF) no later than 6:00 p.m. on the date of the deposition.
- **Deposition Cancellation:**  
NYSIF shall provide the Contractor with a minimum of 24 (twenty-four) hours written notice of cancellation of any deposition. In the event of deposition cancellation without specific notification, the Contractor shall be entitled to minimum payment as noted below.

**Minimum Fees:**

Contractor shall be entitled to a minimum payment equal to the value of 20 pages at the normal delivery rate.

**Late Completion Payment Reductions:**

The following payment reductions shall be assessed by NYSIF for late completion of stenographic work:

- a. One day late: Ten (10) percent per 20-page minimum rate reduction.
- b. Two to five days late: Fifteen (15) percent per 20-page minimum rate reduction.
- c. More than five days late: Thirty (30) percent per 20-page minimum rate reduction.

**III.3 RECORDING REQUIREMENTS**

All instructions by NYSIF to the Stenographer with respect to the Stenographer's conduct and participation in depositions shall be followed without discussion. Except where inconsistent with general or specific instructions issued by NYSIF, every word spoken during a deposition or meeting shall be transcribed by the Stenographer, unless designated specifically as "off the record" by any party.

The Contractor shall furnish an electronic transcript proofread with all words correctly spelled, properly hyphenated and properly punctuated. Any corrections to spelling, hyphenation or punctuation requested by NYSIF shall be made without additional cost.

All original notes or other records taken in connection with any proceeding and all audio recordings provided by NYSIF shall be held in security by the contractor for a period of time as designated by NYSIF. Depositions are to be stenographically recorded and transcribed. Backup electronic verbal recording equipment shall be operating at all times while depositions are being reported. Stenographic recording shall be mechanical or electronic keyboard-operated typing devices, and shall meet the requirements of the State Administrative Procedure Act.

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**III.4 TRANSCRIBED REQUIREMENTS**

- **Type:** Shall be black, ten letters to the inch size and reproducible by standard office copy equipment.
- **Type Spacing:** Shall be 25 lines minimum double spaced between lines with ruled margin of 3/8 inch on right and 1-3/4 inches on left or not to exceed 2-1/8 inches in total.
- **Format:** All transcripts shall be formatted as noted below: If NYSIF format requirements deviate from below, NYSIF shall furnish Contractor with a sample format.
- **Recording Medium:** All transcripts shall be typewritten or mechanical reproduced if approved in writing by NYSIF.

All pages shall be paginated in consecutive order for each proceeding report and sequential from the first to the last volume. Page numbers shall be located in the upper right hand corner of each page. The WCB number shall be placed on the top center of every page of the report. Pagination will not be considered a transcribed line unless located on a line with other transcribed material.

At the opening of each deposition, the Stenographer shall record and insert, in a location as directed by NYSIF, the names and addresses of persons representing parties and participants in the deposition.

After an extended recess, the Stenographer will be responsible for documenting the cumulative list of appearances up to and including that day on the transcript.

Each transcript for a deposition shall include a table of contents or index indicating page numbers of opening statements and closing arguments by counsel, lists of witnesses testifying at the deposition and all persons making statements. The table of contents or index shall also include a tabulation consisting of the number and description of each exhibit marked for identification with the page number on which the exhibit is marked for identification, and in due course, the page on which it is either received in evidence, withdrawn or rejected. The index shall also include separate tabulations consisting of a description of each document offered in reference, public documents and matters to be officially noted, and the page on which each item or document was marked for identification or received in evidence. The table of contents or index shall note the page where offers of proof were made and such other matters as the presiding officer directs.

**III.5 ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION SPECIFICATIONS**

An electronic PDF version of each transcript shall be electronically transmitted to NYSIF through a secure file transfer protocol (FTP) site maintained by NYSIF within the agreed upon completion time frames. Additional hard copies may be required if requested by NYSIF.

The file shall be computer readable identical copy of original transcript including pagination, 100 percent equivalent upper/lower case text and matching page and line numbers in the same sequential order.

**III.6 CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS**

All recorded and hard copy testimony and material will remain the property of NYSIF. The Contractor shall maintain the confidentiality of all material, identity of any parties and content of any material related to the case.

Any requests for information on any cases from third parties shall be reported to NYSIF in writing within twenty-four hours of the request.

All original notes or other records taken in connection with a deposition shall be held in security by the Contractor for a period of time as designated by NYSIF, not to exceed one year.

NYSIF or any other purchaser of transcript may duplicate or otherwise reproduce any document for their own use, except for sale to other prospective purchasers, without compensation to the Contractor. Any transcript or documents received by NYSIF are public documents accessible for public inspection and copying under the terms and provisions of NYS Public Officers Law §87.

Awardees must be willing to enter into a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA). (Please see Appendix W sample)

**III.7 DEPOSITION DETAILS**

The following is a breakdown of the estimated number of depositions per year and region used by NYSIF. The information and volumes provided are estimated volumes for evaluation purposes only. NO guarantee of actual volume is implied and may vary.

<b>Estimated Number of Telephonic Depositions</b>	
<b>Region</b>	<b>Depositions per year</b>
1	2700
2	800
3	1200
4	900
5	250
6	100
7	200
8	400

<b>Estimated Number of In-Person Depositions</b>	
<b>Region</b>	<b>Depositions per year</b>
1	70
2	20
3	30
4	25
5	10
6	10
7	10
8	20

The average number of pages per deposition transcription is estimated at 20 pages. The following percentages make up the estimated total of depositions that will require each completion type:

<b>Completion Rates</b>	<b>% of Total Depositions</b>
Normal Completion (7 days)	85%
Priority Completion (3 days)	10%
Overnight Completion (next day)	4%
Immediate Completion (same day)	1%

Additional Deposition Information:

- Depositions will be scheduled with contractor via e-mail.
- A typical deposition lasts 30 minutes; however, the stenographer must allocate at least 1 hour per deposition.

**III.8 COST**

The bidder must complete the Fee Proposal (Appendix Z) in its entirety. A separate Appendix Z must be completed for each region Bidders are seeking a contract for. The rates proposed must include all expenses because, travel and incidental/administrative expenses will not be reimbursed. Bidders must provide an all-inclusive pricing matrix for both in-person and telephonic services as specified in this IFB. The information and volumes provided are estimated volumes for evaluation purposes only. NO guarantee of actual volume is implied and may vary.

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**SECTION IV – CONTRACT PROVISIONS**

**IV.1 CONTRACT PERIOD**

A 5-year contract covering the services detailed in this IFB is anticipated.

**IV.2 PENALTIES**

Notwithstanding any other provisions, NYSIF reserves the right to penalize the contractor including termination of the contract if the contractor fails to live up to any or all of the requirements of this contract.

To gain a measure of assurance that the bidder selected will comply with all of the requirements of this contract, NYSIF reserves the right to invoke penalties including, but not limited to, withholding payment, in whole or in part, at NYSIF's discretion, in any case where a question of non-performance arises.

**IV.3 REGIONS**

**Bidder: Please indicate in which of the regions below you are bidding to practice.**

**Region 1** New York City: counties of New York, Bronx, Kings, Queens, and Richmond.

**Region 2** Long Island: counties of Nassau and Suffolk.

**Region 3** White Plains: counties of Orange, Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester.

**Region 4** Albany: counties of Albany, Columbia, Clinton, Dutchess, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington, and Ulster.

**Region 5** Syracuse: counties of Cayuga, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, and St. Lawrence.

**Region 6** Rochester: counties of Allegany, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming; and Yates.

**Region 7** Binghamton: counties of Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schuyler, Sullivan, Tioga; and Tompkins.

**Region 8** Buffalo: counties of Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie; and Niagara.

**IV.4 LOCATION AND TRAVEL**

Travel and incidental hotel and meal expenses between the firm's office and NYSIF's deposition schedule shall not be reimbursed. Time spent by the firm's staff during normal work hours for authorized travel between NYSIF offices and on site visits will be considered a normal work assignment and must be included in the annual and hourly rates bid in the Fee Schedule.

**No fees beyond those provided in the Fee Schedule Proposal will be allowed.**

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**SECTION V – ADMINISTRATIVE**

**V.1 BID FORMAT**

Bids are to be submitted with each numbered item listed below as a separate section. Each proposal must follow the provided format, or the bid may be deemed non-responsive. Appendices do not need to be numbered. Addenda and Technical Publications should be included at the end of the bid.

**A. Bidder Certification**

Each Bidder is required to submit the Bidder Certifications form, found after Section 4 of the IFB.

**B. Company Background / Technical Experience**

Provide a background description of the bidder, including, but not limited to, the date the company was organized; and, if a corporation, when and where incorporated.

Include the size and number of staff in the company. Briefly describe any prior experience in performing similar assignments and your staffing capability and competency to complete the work within established deadlines. Include the following information for the bidder and all subcontractors:

1. Name and address of bidder's firm, other affiliates, other locations.
2. Name, title, address and telephone number of primary contact person at bidder.
3. Length of time providing stenography services.
4. Other city, state or federal government agencies previously under contract with the bidder for the past five years.
5. Other city, state or federal government agencies currently under contract with the bidder.
6. If requested, bidder must document its ability to service a contract with dollar sales volume similar in scope to this bid through submission of financial statements documenting past sales history. The bidder must be financially stable and able to substantiate the financial statements of its company. In addition to sales history, current financial statements may be requested and must be provided within five business days. NYSIF reserves the right to request additional documentation from the bidder and to request reports on financial stability from independent financial rating services. NYSIF reserves the right to reject any bidder who does not demonstrate financial stability sufficient for the scope of this bid.

**V.2 REQUIRED APPENDICES**

The following appendices must be completed and returned with your proposal.

- *MacBride Questionnaire, Appendix D*
- *Contractor Responsibility Questionnaire, Appendix E*
- *Bidder Questionnaire, Appendix F*
- *Encouraging Use of NYS Businesses in Contract Performance, Appendix G*
- *Procurement Lobbying Legislation, Appendix H*

- *Bidder References, Appendix I*
- *MWBE and EEO Requirements and Procedures, Exhibit M. This appendix requires Bidders to submit (i) form 101; (ii) form 103 or a copy of bidders current NYSDED MWBE certification; and (iii) form 106 or a copy of bidders EEO policy*
- *Use of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises in Contract Performance, Appendix S*
- *Vendor Security Survey, Appendix T*
- *Fee Schedule, Appendix Z*

Exhibits A, B and C should be retained by the Bidder for future reference. Do not return to NYSIF as part of the bid submission.

Any other appendices referenced in this IFB but not indicated above as being required at time of submission are included for informational purposes only. The awarded contractor(s) will be required to complete these forms prior to contract execution.

### **V.3 BID SUBMISSION AND DELIVERY**

**One (1) exact hard copy of the bid**, including **everything** (forms, text and narrative sections and **all** required attachments) are to be submitted. Submission must also include **one (1) exact electronic copy** (CD/DVD-rom or USB flash drive) of the bid.

**NOTE: Electronic copy of the Appendix Z fee schedule must be submitted in both Excel and PDF format.**

The bid and all copies must be submitted in a **sealed** envelope or other container and **MUST** be clearly addressed as follows:

IFB 2016-25-CL, FORMAL BID  
NYSIF – Procurement Unit  
15 Computer Drive West  
Albany, NY 12205-1690

**To be considered**, bids must be received by the date and time indicated in the *IFB Calendar*. Bidders are responsible for seeing that bids are submitted and delivered on time. Consideration will be given only to complete and timely bids. NYSIF is not responsible for delays in the U.S. Postal Service or any other courier or paid priority shipping firm. Faxed/emailed bids will **NOT** be accepted.

### **V.4 NOTIFICATION OF AWARD**

The results of the bid will be posted on the NYSIF procurement page. A contract of work will be offered only upon successful completion of NYSIF's approval process.

## BIDDER CERTIFICATION

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*Please initial where indicated for each item. Failure to complete and return this form will result in your bid being deemed non-responsive.*

### Certifications:

\_\_\_\_\_ The person or persons signing below are duly authorized to sign the proposal and the contract, and is (are) identified on the *Title Page*.

\_\_\_\_\_ Bidder is willing to enter into a contractual agreement containing, at a minimum, those terms and provisions identified in this IFB. *Any exceptions to these terms and conditions must be explicitly stated in a separate section of the proposal.*

\_\_\_\_\_ The Bidder agrees to comply with all terms of Exhibit A, Standard Clauses.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Bidder is in compliance with or meets all Bidder Certification Requirements (Appendix B, #39)

\_\_\_\_\_ The fee(s) quoted in the Fee Proposal Schedule is a firm and irrevocable offer for 180 days.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Bidder meets or exceeds all Mandatory Bidder Qualifications and has provided evidence of such in its bid/proposal.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Bidder understands the work to be done, and is committed to performing the work as expeditiously as possible.

### Freedom of Information Law (FOIL):

Please indicate whether you believe that any of the information supplied herein constitutes a trade secret or that disclosure of the information would cause substantial injury to the Bidder's competitive position and should be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Law (see Appendix B, clause 15 for additional information):

No

Yes

### Non-collusion:

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby attest that I am the person responsible within my firm for the final decision as to the price(s) and amount of this bid or, if not, that I have written authorization, enclosed herewith, from that person to make the statements set out below on his or her behalf and on behalf of my firm:

- \_\_\_\_\_1. The price(s) and amount of this bid have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication or agreement for the purpose of restricting competition with any other contractor, bidder or potential bidder.
- \_\_\_\_\_2. Neither the price(s) nor the amount of this bid have been disclosed to any other firm or person who is a bidder or potential bidder on this project, and will not be disclosed prior to bid opening.

**BIDDER CERTIFICATION**

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- \_\_\_\_\_3. No attempt has been made nor will be made to solicit, cause or induce any firm or person to refrain from bidding on this project, or to submit a bid higher than the bid of this firm, or any intentionally high or non-competitive bid, or other form of complementary bid.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_4. The bid of my firm is made in good faith and not pursuant to any agreement or discussion with, or inducement from, any firm or person to submit a complementary bid.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_5. My firm has not offered nor entered into a subcontract or agreement regarding the purchase of materials or services from any firm or person, or offered, promised or paid cash or anything of value to any firm or person, whether in connection with this or any other project, in consideration for an agreement or promise by any firm or person to refrain from bidding or to submit a complementary bid on this project.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_6. My firm has not accepted nor been promised any subcontract or agreement regarding the sale of materials or services to any firm or person, and has not been promised or paid cash or anything of value by any firm or person, whether in connection with this or any other project, in consideration for my firm's submitting a complementary bid, or agreeing to do so, on this project.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_7. I have made a diligent inquiry of all members, officers, employees and agents of my firm with responsibilities relating to the preparation, approval or submission of my firm's bid on this project and have been advised by each of them that he or she has not participated in any communication, consultation, discussion, agreement, collusion, act or other conduct inconsistent with any of the statements and representations made in this affidavit.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Typed Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Company Position**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Company Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date Signed**

**Sworn to before me this**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Day of** \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Notary Public**

**NYSIF EXHIBIT A**

**STANDARD CLAUSES**

PLEASE RETAIN THIS DOCUMENT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

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**STANDARD CLAUSES FOR NYS CONTRACTS**

The parties to the attached contract, license, lease, amendment or other agreement of any kind (hereinafter, "the contract" or "this contract") agree to be bound by the following clauses which are hereby made a part of the contract (the word "Contractor" herein refers to any party other than the State, whether a contractor, licensor, licensee, lessor, lessee or any other party):

**1. EXECUTORY CLAUSE.** In accordance with Section 41 of the State Finance Law, the State shall have no liability under this contract to the Contractor or to anyone else beyond funds appropriated and available for this contract.

**2. NON-ASSIGNMENT CLAUSE.** In accordance with Section 138 of the State Finance Law, this contract may not be assigned by the Contractor or its right, title or interest therein assigned, transferred, conveyed, sublet or otherwise disposed of without the State's previous written consent, and attempts to do so are null and void. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such prior written consent of an assignment of a contract let pursuant to Article XI of the State Finance Law may be waived at the discretion of the contracting agency and with the concurrence of the State Comptroller where the original contract was subject to the State Comptroller's approval, where the assignment is due to a reorganization, merger or consolidation of the Contractor's business entity or enterprise. The State retains its right to approve an assignment and to require that any Contractor demonstrate its responsibility to do business with the State. The Contractor may, however, assign its right to receive payments without the State's prior written consent unless this contract concerns Certificates of Participation pursuant to Article 5-A of the State Finance Law.

**3. WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS.** In accordance with Section 142 of the State Finance Law, this contract shall be void and of no force and effect unless the Contractor shall provide and maintain coverage during the life of this contract for the benefit of such employees as are required to be covered by the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Law.

**4. NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS.** To the extent required by Article 15 of the Executive Law (also known as the Human Rights Law) and all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, sex (including gender identity or expression), national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, marital status or domestic violence victim status. Furthermore, in accordance with Section 220-e of the Labor Law, if this is a contract for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work or for the manufacture, sale or distribution of materials, equipment or supplies, and to the extent that this contract shall be performed within the State of New York, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall, by reason of race, creed, color, disability, sex, or national origin: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract. If this is a building service contract as defined in Section 230 of the Labor Law, then, in accordance with Section 239 thereof, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or disability: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract. Contractor is subject to fines of \$50.00 per person per day for any violation of Section 220-e or Section 239 as well as possible termination of this contract and forfeiture of all moneys due hereunder for a second or subsequent violation.

**5. WAGE AND HOURS PROVISIONS.** If this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law or a building service contract covered by Article 9 thereof, neither Contractor's employees nor the employees of its subcontractors may be required or permitted to work more than the number of hours or days stated in said statutes, except as otherwise provided in the Labor Law and as set forth in prevailing wage and supplement schedules issued by the State Labor Department. Furthermore, Contractor and its subcontractors must pay at least the prevailing wage rate and pay or provide the prevailing supplements, including the premium rates for overtime pay, as determined by the State Labor Department in accordance with the Labor Law. Additionally, effective April 28, 2008, if this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law, the Contractor understands and agrees that the filing of payrolls in a manner consistent with Subdivision 3-a of Section 220 of the Labor Law shall be a condition precedent to payment by the State of any State approved sums due and owing for work done upon the project.

**6. NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATION.** In accordance with Section 139-d of the State Finance Law, if this contract was awarded based upon the submission of bids, Contractor affirms, under penalty of perjury, that its bid was arrived at independently and without collusion aimed at restricting competition. Contractor further affirms that, at the time Contractor submitted its bid, an authorized and responsible person executed and delivered to the State a non-collusive bidding certification on Contractor's behalf.

**7. INTERNATIONAL BOYCOTT PROHIBITION.** In accordance with Section 220-f of the Labor Law and Section 139-h of the State Finance Law, if this contract exceeds \$5,000, the Contractor agrees, as a material condition of the contract, that neither the

Contractor nor any substantially owned or affiliated person, firm, partnership or corporation has participated, is participating, or shall participate in an international boycott in violation of the federal Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 USC App. Sections 2401 et seq.) or regulations thereunder. If such Contractor, or any of the aforesaid affiliates of Contractor, is convicted or is otherwise found to have violated said laws or regulations upon the final determination of the United States Commerce Department or any other appropriate agency of the United States subsequent to the contract's execution, such contract, amendment or modification thereto shall be rendered forfeit and void. The Contractor shall so notify the State Comptroller within five (5) business days of such conviction, determination or disposition of appeal (2NYCRR 105.4).

**8. SET-OFF RIGHTS.** The State shall have all of its common law, equitable and statutory rights of set-off. These rights shall include, but not be limited to, the State's option to withhold for the purposes of set-off any moneys due to the Contractor under this contract up to any amounts due and owing to the State with regard to this contract, any other contract with any State department or agency, including any contract for a term commencing prior to the term of this contract, plus any amounts due and owing to the State for any other reason including, without limitation, tax delinquencies, fee delinquencies or monetary penalties relative thereto. The State shall exercise its set-off rights in accordance with normal State practices including, in cases of set-off pursuant to an audit, the finalization of such audit by the State agency, its representatives, or the State Comptroller.

**9. RECORDS.** The Contractor shall establish and maintain complete and accurate books, records, documents, accounts and other evidence directly pertinent to performance under this contract (hereinafter, collectively, "the Records"). The Records must be kept for the balance of the calendar year in which they were made and for six (6) additional years thereafter. The State Comptroller, the Attorney General and any other person or entity authorized to conduct an examination, as well as the agency or agencies involved in this contract, shall have access to the Records during normal business hours at an office of the Contractor within the State of New York or, if no such office is available, at a mutually agreeable and reasonable venue within the State, for the term specified above for the purposes of inspection, auditing and copying. The State shall take reasonable steps to protect from public disclosure any of the Records which are exempt from disclosure under Section 87 of the Public Officers Law (the "Statute") provided that: (i) the Contractor shall timely inform an appropriate State official, in writing, that said records should not be disclosed; and (ii) said records shall be sufficiently identified; and (iii) designation of said records as exempt under the Statute is reasonable. Nothing contained herein shall diminish, or in any way adversely affect, the State's right to discovery in any pending or future litigation.

**10. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND PRIVACY NOTIFICATION.** (a) Identification Number(s). Every invoice or New York State Claim for Payment submitted to a New York State agency by a payee, for payment for the sale of goods or services or for transactions (e.g., leases, easements, licenses, etc.) related to real or personal property must include the payee's identification number. The number is any or all of the following: (i) the payee's Federal employer identification number, (ii) the payee's Federal social security number, and/or (iii) the payee's Vendor Identification Number assigned by the Statewide Financial System. Failure to include such number or numbers may delay payment. Where the payee does not have such number or numbers, the payee, on its invoice or Claim for Payment, must give the reason or reasons why the payee does not have such number or numbers.

(b) Privacy Notification. (1) The authority to request the above personal information from a seller of goods or services or a lessor of real or personal property, and the authority to maintain such information, is found in Section 5 of the State Tax Law. Disclosure of this information by the seller or lessor to the State is mandatory. The principal purpose for which the information is collected is to enable the State to identify individuals, businesses and others who have been delinquent in filing tax returns or may have understated their tax liabilities and to generally identify persons affected by the taxes administered by the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance. The information will be used for tax administration purposes and for any other purpose authorized by law. (2) The personal information is requested by the purchasing unit of the agency contracting to purchase the goods or services or lease the real or personal property covered by this contract or lease. The information is maintained in the Statewide Financial System by the Vendor Management Unit within the Bureau of State Expenditures, Office of the State Comptroller, 110 State Street, Albany, New York 12236.

**11. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN.** In accordance with Section 312 of the Executive Law and 5 NYCRR 143, if this contract is: (i) a written agreement or purchase order instrument, providing for a total expenditure in excess of \$25,000.00, whereby a contracting agency is committed to expend or does expend funds in return for labor, services, supplies, equipment, materials or any combination of the foregoing, to be performed for, or rendered or furnished to the contracting agency; or (ii) a written agreement in excess of \$100,000.00 whereby a contracting agency is committed to expend or does expend funds for the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or renovation of real property and improvements thereon; or (iii) a written agreement in excess of \$100,000.00 whereby the owner of a State assisted housing project is committed to expend or does expend funds for the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or renovation of real property

and improvements thereon for such project, then the following shall apply and by signing this agreement the Contractor certifies and affirms that it is Contractor's equal employment opportunity policy that:

(a) The Contractor will not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on State contracts and will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination. Affirmative action shall mean recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgradings, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation;

(b) at the request of the contracting agency, the Contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the Contractor's obligations herein; and

(c) the Contractor shall state, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.

Contractor will include the provisions of "a", "b", and "c" above, in every subcontract over \$25,000.00 for the construction, demolition, replacement, major repair, renovation, planning or design of real property and improvements thereon (the "Work") except where the Work is for the beneficial use of the Contractor. Section 312 does not apply to: (i) work, goods or services unrelated to this contract; or (ii) employment outside New York State. The State shall consider compliance by a contractor or subcontractor with the requirements of any federal law concerning equal employment opportunity which effectuates the purpose of this section. The contracting agency shall determine whether the imposition of the requirements of the provisions hereof duplicate or conflict with any such federal law and if such duplication or conflict exists, the contracting agency shall waive the applicability of Section 312 to the extent of such duplication or conflict. Contractor will comply with all duly promulgated and lawful rules and regulations of the Department of Economic Development's Division of Minority and Women's Business Development pertaining hereto.

**12. CONFLICTING TERMS.** In the event of a conflict between the terms of the contract (including any and all attachments thereto and amendments thereof) and the terms of this Exhibit A, the terms of this Exhibit A shall control.

**13. GOVERNING LAW.** This contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York except where the Federal supremacy clause requires otherwise.

**14. LATE PAYMENT.** Timeliness of payment and any interest to be paid to Contractor for late payment shall be governed by Article 11-A of the State Finance Law to the extent required by law.

**15. NO ARBITRATION.** Disputes involving this contract, including the breach or alleged breach thereof, may not be submitted to binding arbitration (except where statutorily authorized), but must, instead, be heard in a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of New York.

**16. SERVICE OF PROCESS.** In addition to the methods of service allowed by the State Civil Practice Law & Rules ("CPLR"), Contractor hereby consents to service of process upon it by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. Service hereunder shall be complete upon Contractor's actual receipt of process or upon the State's receipt of the return thereof by the United States Postal Service as refused or undeliverable. Contractor must promptly notify the State, in writing, of each and every change of address to which service of process can be made. Service by the State to the last known address shall be sufficient. Contractor will have thirty (30) calendar days after service hereunder is complete in which to respond.

**17. PROHIBITION ON PURCHASE OF TROPICAL HARDWOODS.** The Contractor certifies and warrants that all wood products to be used under this contract award will be in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and provisions of Section 165 of the State Finance Law, (Use of Tropical Hardwoods) which prohibits purchase and use of tropical hardwoods, unless specifically exempted, by the State or any governmental agency or political subdivision or public benefit corporation. Qualification for an exemption under this law will be the responsibility of the contractor to establish to meet with the approval of the State.

In addition, when any portion of this contract involving the use of woods, whether supply or installation, is to be performed by any subcontractor, the prime Contractor will indicate and certify in the submitted bid proposal that the subcontractor has been informed and is in compliance with specifications and provisions regarding use of tropical hardwoods as detailed in §165 State Finance Law. Any such use must meet with the approval of the State; otherwise, the bid may not be considered responsive. Under bidder certifications, proof of qualification for exemption will be the responsibility of the Contractor to meet with the approval of the State.

**18. MACBRIDE FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRINCIPLES.** In accordance with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles (Chapter 807 of the Laws of 1992), the Contractor hereby stipulates that the Contractor either (a) has no business operations in Northern Ireland, or (b) shall take lawful steps in good faith to conduct any business operations in Northern Ireland in accordance with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles (as described in Section 165 of the New York State Finance Law), and shall permit independent monitoring of compliance with such principles.

**19. OMNIBUS PROCUREMENT ACT OF 1992.** It is the policy of New York State to maximize opportunities for the participation of New York State business enterprises, including minority and women-owned business enterprises as bidders, subcontractors and suppliers on its procurement contracts.

Information on the availability of New York State subcontractors and suppliers is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development  
Division for Small Business  
Albany, New York 12245  
Telephone: 518-292-5100  
Fax: 518-292-5884  
email: [opa@esd.ny.gov](mailto:opa@esd.ny.gov)

A directory of certified minority and women-owned business enterprises is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development  
Division of Minority and Women's Business Development  
633 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-803-2414  
email: [mwb certification@esd.ny.gov](mailto:mwb certification@esd.ny.gov)  
<https://ny.newnycontracts.com/FrontEnd/ VendorSearchPublic.asp>

The Omnibus Procurement Act of 1992 requires that by signing this bid proposal or contract, as applicable, Contractors certify that whenever the total bid amount is greater than \$1 million:

- (a) The Contractor has made reasonable efforts to encourage the participation of New York State Business Enterprises as suppliers and subcontractors, including certified minority and women-owned business enterprises, on this project, and has retained the documentation of these efforts to be provided upon request to the State;
- (b) The Contractor has complied with the Federal Equal Opportunity Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-261), as amended;
- (c) The Contractor agrees to make reasonable efforts to provide notification to New York State residents of employment opportunities on this project through listing any such positions with the Job Service Division of the New York State Department of Labor, or providing such notification in such manner as is consistent with existing collective bargaining contracts or agreements. The Contractor agrees to document these efforts and to provide said documentation to the State upon request; and
- (d) The Contractor acknowledges notice that the State may seek to obtain offset credits from foreign countries as a result of this contract and agrees to cooperate with the State in these efforts.

**20. RECIPROCITY AND SANCTIONS PROVISIONS.** Bidders are hereby notified that if their principal place of business is located in a country, nation, province, state or political subdivision that penalizes New York State vendors, and if the goods or services they offer will be substantially produced or performed outside New York State, the Omnibus Procurement Act 1994 and 2000 amendments (Chapter 684 and Chapter 383, respectively) require that they be denied contracts which they would otherwise obtain.

NOTE: As of May 15, 2002, the list of discriminatory jurisdictions subject to this provision includes the states of South Carolina, Alaska, West Virginia, Wyoming, Louisiana and Hawaii. Contact NYS Department of Economic Development for a current list of jurisdictions subject to this provision.

**21. COMPLIANCE WITH NEW YORK STATE INFORMATION SECURITY BREACH AND NOTIFICATION ACT.**

Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the New York State Information Security Breach and Notification Act (General Business Law Section 899-aa; State Technology Law Section 208).

**22. COMPLIANCE WITH CONSULTANT DISCLOSURE LAW.** If this is a contract for consulting services, defined for purposes of this requirement to include analysis, evaluation, research, training, data processing, computer programming, engineering, environmental, health, and mental health services, accounting, auditing, paralegal, legal or similar services, then, in accordance with Section 163 (4-g) of the State Finance Law (as amended by Chapter 10 of the Laws of 2006), the Contractor shall timely, accurately and properly comply with the requirement to submit an annual employment report for the contract to the agency that awarded the contract, the Department of Civil Service and the State Comptroller.

**23. PROCUREMENT LOBBYING.** To the extent this agreement is a "procurement contract" as defined by State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k, by signing this agreement the contractor certifies and affirms that all disclosures made in accordance with State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k are complete, true and accurate. In the event such certification is found to be intentionally false or intentionally incomplete, the State may terminate the agreement by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

**24. CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION TO COLLECT SALES AND COMPENSATING USE TAX BY CERTAIN STATE CONTRACTORS, AFFILIATES AND SUBCONTRACTORS.**

To the extent this agreement is a contract as defined by Tax Law Section 5-a, if the contractor fails to make the certification required by Tax Law Section 5-a or if during the term of the contract, the Department of Taxation and Finance or the covered agency, as defined by Tax Law 5-a, discovers that the certification, made under penalty of perjury, is false, then such failure to file or false certification shall be a material breach of this contract and this contract may be terminated, by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement, if the covered agency determines that such action is in the best interest of the State.

**25. IRAN DIVESTMENT ACT.** By entering into this Agreement, Contractor certifies in accordance with State Finance Law §165-a that it is not on the "Entities Determined to be Non-Responsive Bidders/Offerers pursuant to the New York State Iran Divestment Act of 2012" ("Prohibited Entities List") posted at: <http://www.ogs.ny.gov/about/regs/docs/ListofEntities.pdf>

Contractor further certifies that it will not utilize on this Contract any subcontractor that is identified on the Prohibited Entities List. Contractor agrees that should it seek to renew or extend this Contract, it must provide the same certification at the time the Contract is renewed or extended. Contractor also agrees that any proposed Assignee of this Contract will be required to certify that it is not on the Prohibited Entities List before the contract assignment will be approved by the State.

During the term of the Contract, should the state agency receive information that a person (as defined in State Finance Law §165-a) is in violation of the above-referenced certifications, the state agency will review such information and offer the person an opportunity to respond. If the person fails to demonstrate that it has ceased its engagement in the investment activity which is in violation of the Act within 90 days after the determination of such violation, then the state agency shall take such action as may be appropriate and provided for by law, rule, or contract, including, but not limited to, imposing sanctions, seeking compliance, recovering damages, or declaring the Contractor in default.

The state agency reserves the right to reject any bid, request for assignment, renewal or extension for an entity that appears on the Prohibited Entities List prior to the award, assignment, renewal or extension of a contract, and to pursue a responsibility review with respect to any entity that is awarded a contract and appears on the Prohibited Entities list after contract award.

**NYSIF EXHIBIT B**

**GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS**

**PLEASE RETAIN THIS DOCUMENT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE**

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**GENERAL****1. APPLICABILITY**

The terms and conditions set forth in this NYSIF Exhibit B are expressly incorporated in and applicable to the resulting procurement contracts let by NYSIF where incorporated by reference in its Bid Documents. Captions are intended as descriptive and are not intended to limit or otherwise restrict the terms and conditions set forth herein.

**2. GOVERNING LAW**

This procurement, the resulting contract and any purchase orders issued hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York except where the Federal supremacy clause requires otherwise, and actions or proceedings arising from the contract shall be heard in a court of competent jurisdiction in the State of New York.

**3. ETHICS COMPLIANCE**

All Bidders/Contractors and their employees must comply with the requirements of Sections 73 and 74 of the Public Officers Law, other State codes, rules, regulations and executive orders establishing ethical standards for the conduct of business with New York State. In signing the Bid, Bidder certifies full compliance with those provisions for any present or future dealings, transactions, sales, contracts, services, offers, relationships, etc., involving New York State and/or its employees. Failure to comply with those provisions may result in disqualification from the Bidding process, termination of contract, and/or other civil or criminal proceedings as required by law.

**4. CONFLICT OF TERMS**

Unless otherwise set forth in the procurement or contract documents, conflicts among documents shall be resolved in the following order of precedence:

- a. **NYSIF Exhibit A** Standard Clauses
- b. **Contract and other writing(s)** setting forth the final agreements, clarifications and terms between the Bid Documents and Contractor's Bid. Clarifications must be specifically noted in writing as to what was offered by the Contractor and what was accepted by the State. If not, such clarifications shall be considered last in the order of precedence under this paragraph.
- c. **Bid Documents** (Other than Appendix A).
- d. **NYSIF Exhibit B** (General Specifications).
- e. **Contractor's Bid or Proposal**.

**BID SUBMISSION****5. NOTIFICATION TO ALL BIDDERS**

NYSIF is responsible for providing addenda or responding to questions from prospective Bidders. If it is necessary to revise the Bid Documents before the due date for bids, amendments will be posted on NYSIF's website: [www.nysif.com/procurement](http://www.nysif.com/procurement).

By submitting a bid, Bidders are certifying they are qualified to perform the proposed work. Bidders shall have the necessary staff, equipment, compliance, etc. as set forth in the Bid Documents.

**6. INTERNATIONAL BIDDING**

All offers (tenders), and all information and Product required by the solicitation or provided as explanation thereof, shall be submitted in English. All prices shall be expressed, and all payments shall be made, in United States Dollars (\$US). Any offers (tenders) submitted which do not meet the above criteria will be rejected.

**7. BID OPENING**

Bids may, as applicable, be opened publicly. NYSIF reserves the right at any time to postpone or cancel a scheduled Bid opening.

**8. BID SUBMISSION**

All Bids are to be packaged, sealed and submitted to the location stated in the Bid Specifications. Bidders are solely responsible for timely delivery of their Bids to the location set forth in the Bid Specifications prior to the stated Bid opening date and time.

In the event that a Bidder fails to provide such information on the return Bid envelope or shipping material, the receiving entity reserves the right to open the shipping package or envelope to determine the proper Bid number or Product group, and the date and time of Bid opening. Bidder shall have no claim against the receiving entity arising from such opening and such opening shall not affect the validity of the Bid or the procurement.

Notwithstanding the receiving agency's right to open a Bid to ascertain the foregoing information, Bidder assumes all risk of late delivery associated with the Bid not being identified, packaged or labeled in accordance with the foregoing requirements.

All Bids must be signed by a person authorized to commit the Bidder to the terms of the Bid Documents and the content of the Bid (offer).

## 9. LATE BIDS

For purposes of Bid openings held and conducted by NYSIF, a Bid must be received in such place as may be designated in the Bid Documents at or before the date and time established in the Bid Specifications for the Bid opening.

Any Bid received at the specified location after the time specified will be considered a late Bid. A late Bid shall not be considered for award unless: (i) no timely Bids meeting the requirements of the Bid Documents are received or, (ii) in the case of a multiple award, an insufficient number of timely Bids were received to satisfy the multiple awards; and acceptance of the late Bid is in the best interests of NYSIF. Bids submitted for continuous or periodic recruitment contract awards must meet the submission requirements associated with their specifications. Delays in United States mail deliveries or any other means of transmittal, including couriers or agents of NYSIF shall not excuse late Bid submissions. Similar types of delays, including but not limited to, bad weather or security procedures for parking and building admittance shall not excuse late Bid submissions. Determinations by NYSIF relative to Bid timeliness shall be final.

## 10. BID CONTENTS

Bids must be complete and legible. All Bids must have original signatures. All information required by the Bid Specifications must be supplied by the Bidder on the forms or in the format specified. No alteration, erasure or addition is to be made to the Bid Documents. Changes may be ignored by NYSIF or may be grounds for rejection of the Bid. Changes, corrections and/or use of white-out in the Bid or Bidder's response portion of the Bid Document must be initialed by an authorized representative of the Bidder. Bidders are cautioned to verify their Bids before submission, as amendments to Bids or requests for withdrawal of Bids received by NYSIF after the time specified for the Bid opening, will not be considered.

## 11. ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

If a Bidder discovers any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission or other error in Bid Documents, immediately notify one of the Designated Contacts of such error and request the clarification or modification thereof. Notice to NYSIF of any problems described above must be made in writing and received at NYSIF on or before the date and time shown as the final date for Bidder inquiries. Any modifications deemed necessary by NYSIF shall be given by written notice and posted on NYSIF's Procurement website ([www.nysif.com/procurement](http://www.nysif.com/procurement)).

If prior to the final filing date for submission of a bid, a Bidder fails to notify NYSIF of a known error or an error that reasonably should have been known, the Bidder shall assume the risk. If awarded the contract, the Bidder shall not be entitled to additional compensation or time by reason of the error or its late correction.

## 12. EXTRANEOUS TERMS

Bids must conform to the terms set forth in the Bid Documents, as extraneous terms or material deviations (including additional, inconsistent, conflicting or alternative terms) may render the Bid non-responsive and may result in rejection of the Bid.

Extraneous term(s) submitted on standard, pre-printed forms (including but not limited to: product literature, order forms, license agreements, contracts or other documents) that are attached or referenced with submissions shall not be considered part of the Bid or resulting Contract, but shall be deemed included for informational or promotional purposes only.

Only those extraneous terms that meet all the following requirements may be considered as having been submitted as part of the Bid:

- a. Each proposed extraneous term must be specifically enumerated in the "Comments and Limitations" section of the proposer's bid response; and
- b. The Bidder must identify the particular specification requirement (if any) that Bidder rejects or proposes to modify by inclusion of the extraneous term; and

- c. The Bidder shall enumerate the proposed addition, deletion, counter-offer, modification or deviation from the Bid Document, and the reasons therefore.

No extraneous term(s), whether or not deemed “material,” shall be incorporated into a Contract or Purchase Order unless submitted in accordance with the above and NYSIF expressly accepts each such term(s) in writing. Acceptance and/or processing of the Bid shall not constitute such written acceptance of Extraneous Term(s).

### 13. CONFIDENTIAL/TRADE SECRET MATERIALS

Trade secret or proprietary materials as defined by the laws of the State of New York must be clearly marked and identified as such upon submission by the Bidder. Marking the Bid as “confidential” or “proprietary” on its face or in the document header or footer shall not be considered by NYSIF to be sufficient without specific justification as to why disclosure of particular information in the Bid would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the Bidder. Bidders/Contractors intending to seek an exemption from disclosure of these materials under the Freedom of Information Law must request the exemption in writing at the time of bid submission, setting forth the reasons for the claimed exemption. Acceptance of the claimed materials does not constitute a determination on the exemption request, which determination will be made in accordance with statutory procedures. Properly identified information that has been designated confidential, trade secret, or proprietary by the Bidder will not be disclosed except as may be required by the Freedom of Information Law or other applicable State and federal laws.

Contractor further warrants, covenants and represents that any confidential information obtained by Contractor, its agents, Subcontractors, officers, distributors, resellers or employees in the course of performing its obligations, including without limitation, security procedures, business operations information, or commercial proprietary information in the possession of the State or NYSIF hereunder or received from another third party, will not be divulged to any third parties. Contractor shall not be required to keep confidential any such material that is publicly available through no fault of Contractor, independently developed by Contractor without reliance on confidential information of NYSIF, or otherwise obtained under the Freedom of Information Act or other applicable New York State laws and regulations. This warranty shall survive termination of this Contract. Contractor further agrees to take appropriate steps as to its agents, Subcontractors, officers, distributors, resellers or employees regarding the obligations arising under this clause to insure such confidentiality.

### 14. RELEASE OF BID EVALUATION MATERIALS

Requests concerning the evaluation of Bids may be submitted under the Freedom of Information Law. Information, other than statistical or factual tabulations or data such as the Bid Tabulation, shall only be released as required by law after Contract award. Bid Tabulations are not maintained for all procurements. Names of Bidders may be disclosed after Bid opening upon request. Written requests should be directed to [contracts@nysif.com](mailto:contracts@nysif.com).

### 15. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW

During the evaluation process, the content of each Bid will be held in confidence and details of any Bid will not be revealed (except as may be required under the Freedom of Information Law or other State law). The Freedom of Information Law provides for an exemption from disclosure for trade secrets or information the disclosure of which would cause injury to the competitive position of commercial enterprises. This exception would be effective both during and after the evaluation process. If the Bid contains any such trade secret or proprietary information, a written request to NYSIF to not disclose such information must accompany the Bid. Such request must state with particularity the reasons why the information should not be available for disclosure and must be provided at the time of submission of the Bid. Notations in the header, footer or watermark of the Bid Document will not be considered sufficient to constitute a request for non-disclosure of trade secret or proprietary information. Where a Freedom of Information request is made for a trade secret or proprietary information, NYSIF reserves the right to determine upon written notice to the Bidder whether such information qualifies for the exemption for disclosure under the law. Notwithstanding the above, where a Bid tabulation is prepared and Bids publicly opened, such Bid tabulation shall be available upon request.

### 16. PREVAILING WAGE RATES - PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDING SERVICES CONTRACTS

If any portion of work being Bid is subject to the prevailing wage rate provisions of the Labor Law, the following shall apply:

#### a. “Public Works” and “Building Services” - Definitions

- i. **Public Works** Labor Law Article 8 applies to contracts for public improvement in which laborers, workers or mechanics are employed on a “public works” project (distinguished from public “procurement” or “service” contracts). The State, a public benefit corporation, a municipal corporation (including a school district), or a commission appointed by law must be a party to the Contract. The wage and hours provision applies to any work performed by Contractor or Subcontractors.
- ii. **Building Services** Labor Law Article 9 applies to Contracts for building service work over \$1,500 with a public agency, that: (i) involve the care or maintenance of an existing building, or (ii) involve the transportation of office furniture or

equipment to or from such building, or (iii) involve the transportation and delivery of fossil fuel to such building, and (iv) the principal purpose of which is to furnish services through use of building service employees.

- b. **Prevailing Wage Rate Applicable to Bid Submissions** A copy of the applicable prevailing wage rates to be paid or provided are annexed to the Bid Documents. Bidders must submit Bids which are based upon the prevailing hourly wages, and supplements in cash or equivalent benefits (i.e., fringe benefits and any cash or non-cash compensation which are not wages, as defined by law) that equal or exceed the applicable prevailing wage rate(s) for the location where the work is to be performed. Bidders may not submit Bids based upon hourly wage rates and supplements below the applicable prevailing wage rates as established by the New York State Department of Labor. Bids that fail to comply with this requirement will be disqualified.
- c. **Wage Rate Payments / Changes During Contract Term** The wages to be paid under any resulting Contract shall not be less than the prevailing rate of wages and supplements as set forth by law. It is required that the Contractor keep informed of all changes in the Prevailing Wage Rates during the Contract term that apply to the classes of individuals supplied by the Contractor on any projects resulting from this Contract, subject to the provisions of the Labor Law. Contractor is solely liable for and must pay such required prevailing wage adjustments during the Contract term as required by law.
- d. **Public Posting & Certified Payroll Records** In compliance with Article 8, Section 220 of the New York State Labor Law:
- i. **Posting** The Contractor must publicly post on the work site, in a prominent and accessible place, a legible schedule of the prevailing wage rates and supplements.
  - ii. **Payroll Records** Contractors and Subcontractors must keep original payrolls or transcripts subscribed and affirmed as true under the penalties of perjury as required by law. For public works contracts over \$25,000 where the Contractor maintains no regular place of business in New York State, such records must be kept at the work site. For building services contracts, such records must be kept at the work site while work is being performed.
  - iii. **Submission of Certified Payroll Transcripts for Public Works Contracts Only** Contractors and Subcontractors on public works projects must submit monthly payroll transcripts to NYSIF that has prepared or directs the preparation of the plans and specifications for a public works project, as set forth in the Bid Specifications. For Mini-Bid solicitations, the payroll records must be submitted to the entity preparing the agency Mini-Bid project specification. For “agency specific” Bids, the payroll records should be submitted to the entity issuing the purchase order. For all other OGS Centralized Contracts, such records should be submitted to the individual agency issuing the purchase order(s) for the work. Upon mutual agreement of the Contractor and NYSIF, the form of submission may be submitted in a specified disk format acceptable to the Department of Labor provided: 1) the Contractor/Subcontractor retains the original records; and, (2) an original signed letter by a duly authorized individual of the Contractor or Subcontractor attesting to the truth and accuracy of the records accompanies the disk. This provision does not apply to Article 9 of the Labor Law building services contracts.
  - iv. **Records Retention** Contractors and Subcontractors must preserve such certified transcripts for a period of three years from the date of completion of work on the awarded contract.

**Day’s Labor** Eight hours shall constitute a legal day's work for all classes of employees in this state except those engaged in farm and domestic service unless otherwise provided by law.

No laborers, workmen or mechanics in the employ of the Contractor, Subcontractor or other person doing or contracting to do all or part of the work contemplated by the Contract shall be permitted or required to work more than eight hours in any one calendar day or more than five calendar days in any one week except in cases of extraordinary emergency including fire, flood or danger to life or property. “Extraordinary emergency” shall be deemed to include situations in which sufficient laborers, workers and mechanics cannot be employed to carry on public work expeditiously as a result of such restrictions upon the number of hours and days of labor and the immediate commencement or prosecution or completion without undue delay of the public work is necessary, in the judgment of the NYS Commissioner of Labor, for the preservation of the Contract site or for the protection of the life and limb of the persons using the Contract site.

## 17. TAXES

- a. Unless otherwise specified in the Bid Specifications or Contract, the quoted Bid price includes all taxes applicable to the transaction.
- b. Purchases made by NYSIF are exempt from New York State and local sales taxes and, with certain exceptions, federal excise taxes. To satisfy the requirements of the New York State Sales tax exemption, either the Purchase Order issued by NYSIF or the invoice forwarded to authorize payment for such purchases will be sufficient evidence that the sale by the Contractor was made to the State, an exempt organization under Section 1116 (a) (1) of the Tax Law. No person, firm or corporation is, however, exempt from paying the State Truck Mileage and Unemployment Insurance or Federal Social Security taxes, which remain the sole responsibility of the Bidder/Contractor.

- c. Pursuant to Revised Tax Law 5-a, Contractor will be required to furnish sales tax certification on its behalf and for its affiliates, and subcontractors for Contracts with a value greater than \$100,000 in accordance with provisions of the law.

## 18. EXPENSES PRIOR TO CONTRACT EXECUTION

NYSIF is not liable for any costs incurred by a Vendor, Bidder or Contractor in the preparation and production of a Bid, Mini-Bid or best-and-final offers or for any work performed prior to Contract execution.

## 19. ADVERTISING RESULTS

The prior written approval of NYSIF is required in order for results of the Bid to be used by the Contractor as part of any commercial advertising. The Contractor shall also obtain the prior written approval of NYSIF relative to the Bid or Contract for press or other media releases.

## 20. PRODUCT REFERENCES

- a. **“Or Equal”** In all Bid Specifications the words “or equal” are understood to apply where a copyrighted, brand name, trade name, catalog reference, or patented Product is referenced. References to such specific Product are intended as descriptive, not restrictive, unless otherwise stated. Comparable Product will be considered if proof of compatibility is provided, including appropriate catalog excerpts, descriptive literature, specifications and test data, etc. NYSIF’s decision as to acceptance of the Product as equal shall be final.
- b. **Discrepancies in References** In the event of a discrepancy between the model number referenced in the Bid Specifications and the written description of the Products which cannot be reconciled, with respect to such discrepancy, then the written description shall prevail.

## 21. REMANUFACTURED, RECYCLED, RECYCLABLE OR RECOVERED MATERIALS

Upon the conditions specified in the Bid Specifications and in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, Contractors are encouraged to use recycled, recyclable or recovered materials in the manufacture of Products and packaging to the maximum extent practicable without jeopardizing the performance or intended end use of the Product or packaging unless such use is precluded due to health, welfare, safety requirements or in the Bid Specifications. Contractors are further encouraged to offer remanufactured Products to the maximum extent practicable without jeopardizing the performance or intended end use of the Product and unless such use is precluded due to health, welfare, safety requirements or by the Bid Specifications. Where such use is not practical, suitable, or permitted by the Bid Specifications, Contractor shall deliver new materials in accordance with the “Warranties” set forth below.

Items with recycled, recyclable, recovered, refurbished or remanufactured content must be identified in the Bid or Bidder will be deemed to be offering new Product.

## 22. WARRANTIES

Where Contractor, product manufacturer or service provider generally offers additional or more advantageous warranties than set forth below, Contractor shall offer or pass through any such warranties to NYSIF. Contractor hereby warrants and represents:

- a. **Product Performance** Contractor warrants and represents that Products delivered pursuant to this Contract conform to the manufacturer's specifications, performance standards and documentation, and the documentation fully describes the proper procedure for using the Products.
- b. **Title and Ownership Warranty** Contractor warrants, represents and conveys (i) full ownership, clear title free of all liens, or (ii) the right to transfer or deliver perpetual license rights to any Products transferred to NYSIF under this Contract. Contractor shall be solely liable for any costs of acquisition associated therewith. Contractor fully indemnifies the NYSIF for any loss, damages or actions arising from a breach of said warranty without limitation.
- c. **Contractor Compliance** Contractor represents and warrants to pay, at its sole expense, for all applicable permits, licenses, tariffs, tolls and fees to give all notices and comply with all laws, ordinances, rules and regulations of any governmental entity in conjunction with the performance of obligations under the Contract. Prior to award and during the Contract term and any renewals thereof, Contractor must establish to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that it meets or exceeds all requirements of the Bid/Contract and any applicable laws, including but not limited to, permits, insurance coverage, licensing, proof of coverage for worker’s compensation and disability benefits (form C-105.2 and form DB-120.1, respectively), and shall provide such proof as required by the Commissioner. Failure to do so may constitute grounds for the Commissioner to cancel or suspend this Contract, in whole or in part, or to take any other action deemed necessary by the Commissioner.

- d. **Product Warranty** Unless recycled or recovered materials are available in accordance with the “Recycled or Recovered Materials” clause herein, Product offered shall be standard new equipment, current model or most recent release of regular stock product with all parts regularly used with the type of equipment offered; and no attachment or part has been substituted or applied contrary to the manufacturer’s recommendations and standard practice.

Contractor further warrants and represents that components or deliverables specified and furnished by or through Contractor shall individually, and where specified and furnished as a system, be substantially uninterrupted or error-free in operation and guaranteed against faulty material and workmanship for the warranty period, or for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of acceptance, whichever is longer (“Project warranty period”). During the Project warranty period, defects in the materials or workmanship of components or deliverables specified and furnished by or through Contractor shall be repaired or replaced by Contractor at no cost or expense to NYSIF. Contractor shall extend the Project warranty period for individual component(s), or for the System as a whole, as applicable, by the cumulative period(s) of time, after notification, during which an individual component or the System requires servicing or replacement (down time) or is in the possession of the Contractor, its agents, officers, Subcontractors, distributors, resellers or employees (“extended warranty”).

Where Contractor, the Independent Software Vendor (“ISV”), or other third party manufacturer markets any Project Deliverable delivered by or through Contractor with a standard commercial warranty, such standard warranty shall be in addition to, and not relieve the Contractor from, Contractor’s warranty obligations during the project warranty and extended warranty period(s). Where such standard commercial warranty covers all or some of the Project warranty or extended warranty period(s), Contractor shall be responsible for the coordination during the Project warranty or extended warranty period(s) with ISV or other third party manufacturer(s) for warranty repair or replacement of ISV or other third party manufacturer’s Product.

Where Contractor, ISV or other third party manufacturer markets any Project Deliverable with a standard commercial warranty which goes beyond the Project warranty or extended warranty period(s), Contractor shall notify NYSIF and pass through the manufacturer’s standard commercial warranty to NYSIF at no additional charge; provided, however, that Contractor shall not be responsible for coordinating services under the third party extended warranty after expiration of the Project warranty and extended warranty period(s).

- e. **Replacement Parts Warranty** If during the regular or extended warranty period’s faults develop, the Contractor shall promptly repair or, upon demand, replace the defective unit or component part affected. All costs for labor, material and transportation incurred to repair or replace defective Product during the warranty period shall be borne solely by the Contractor, and the State or NYSIF shall in no event be liable or responsible for such costs.

Any part of component replaced by the Contractor under the Contract warranty shall be replaced at no cost to NYSIF and guaranteed for the greater of: a) the warranty period under paragraph (d) above; or b) if a separate warranty for that part or component is generally offered by the manufacturer, the standard commercial warranty period offered by the manufacturer for the individual part or component.

- f. **Virus Warranty** The Contractor represents and warrants that Licensed Software contains no known viruses. Contractor is not responsible for viruses introduced at Licensee’s site.

- g. **Date/Time Warranty** Contractor warrants that Product(s) furnished pursuant to this Contract shall, when used in accordance with the Product documentation, be able to accurately process date/time data (including, but not limited to, calculating, comparing, and sequencing) transitions, including leap year calculations. Where a Contractor proposes or an acquisition requires that specific Products must perform as a package or system, this warranty shall apply to the Products as a system.

Where Contractor is providing ongoing services, including but not limited to: i) consulting, integration, code or data conversion, ii) maintenance or support services, iii) data entry or processing, or iv) contract administration services (e.g., billing, invoicing, claim processing), Contractor warrants that services shall be provided in an accurate and timely manner without interruption, failure or error due to the inaccuracy of Contractor’s business operations in processing date/time data (including, but not limited to, calculating, comparing, and sequencing) various date/time transitions, including leap year calculations. Contractor shall be responsible for damages resulting from any delays, errors or untimely performance resulting therefrom, including but not limited to the failure or untimely performance of such services.

This Date/Time Warranty shall survive beyond termination or expiration of this contract through: a) ninety (90) days or b) the Contractor’s or Product manufacturer/developer’s stated date/time warranty term, whichever is longer. Nothing in this warranty statement shall be construed to limit any rights or remedies otherwise available under this Contract for breach of warranty.

- h. **Workmanship Warranty** Contract warrants that all components or deliverables specified and furnished by or through Contractor under the Project Definition/Work Order meet the completion criteria set forth in the Project Definition/Work Order and any subsequent statement(s) of work, and that services will be provided in a workmanlike manner in accordance with industry standards.
- i. **Survival of Warranties** All warranties contained in this Contract shall survive the termination of this Contract.

### 23. PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Bids offering Products that are manufactured or produced in public institutions will be rejected.

### 24. PRICING

- a. **Unit Pricing** If required by the Bid Specifications, the Bidder should insert the price per unit specified and the price extensions in decimals, not to exceed four places for each item unless otherwise specified, in the Bid. In the event of a discrepancy between the unit price and the extension, the unit price shall govern unless, in the sole judgment of NYSIF, such unit pricing is obviously erroneous.
- b. **Net Pricing** Unless otherwise required by the Bid Specifications, prices shall be net, including transportation, customs, tariff, delivery and other charges fully prepaid by the Contractor to the destination(s) indicated in the Bid Specifications, subject to the cash discount.
- c. **“No Charge” Bid** When Bids are requested on a number of Products as a Group or Lot, a Bidder desiring to Bid “no charge” on a Product in the Group or Lot must clearly indicate such. Otherwise, such Bid may be considered incomplete and be rejected, in whole or in part, at the discretion of NYSIF.
- d. **Third Party Financing** If Product acquisitions are financed through any third party financing, Contractor may be required as a condition of Contract Award to agree to the terms and conditions of a “Consent & Acknowledgment Agreement” in a form acceptable to NYSIF.
- e. **Best Pricing Offer** During the Contract term, if substantially the same or a smaller quantity of a Product is sold by the Contractor outside of this Contract upon the same or similar terms and conditions as that of this Contract at a lower price to a federal, state or local governmental entity, the price under this Contract, at the discretion of NYSIF, shall be immediately reduced to the lower price.
- f. **Price Decreases** Price decreases shall take effect automatically during the Contract term and apply to Purchase Orders submitted on or after:
  - i. **GSA Changes**: Where NYS Net Prices are based on an approved GSA Schedule, the date the approved GSA Schedule pricing decreases during the Contract term; or
  - ii. **Commercial Price List Reductions**: Where NYS Net Prices are based on a discount from Contractor’s list prices, the date Contractor lowers its pricing to its customers generally or to similarly situated government customers during the Contract term; or

Unless otherwise specified in the Bid Specifications, Contractor may offer lower prices or better terms (see Modification of Contract Terms) on any specific Purchase Order(s) without being in conflict with, or obligation to comply on a global basis, with the terms of this clause.

- g. **Best and Final Prices** As specified in the Bid Documents and Contract, a Contractor may be solicited at the time of issuance of a Purchase Order or Mini-Bid award for best and final pricing for the Product or service to be delivered. Contractors are encouraged to reduce their pricing upon receipt of such request.

### 25. DRAWINGS

- a. **Drawings Submitted With Bid** When the Bid Specifications require the Bidder to furnish drawings and/or plans, such drawings and/or plans shall conform to the mandates of the Bid Documents and shall, when approved by NYSIF, be considered a part of the Bid and of any resulting Contract. All symbols and other representations appearing on the drawings shall be considered a part of the drawing.
- b. **Drawings Submitted During the Contract Term** Where required to develop, maintain and deliver diagrams or other technical schematics regarding the scope of work, Contractor shall do so on an ongoing basis at no additional charge, and must, as a condition of payment, update drawings and plans during the Contract term to reflect additions, alterations, and deletions. Such drawings and diagrams shall be delivered to the Commissioner’s representative.

- c. **Accuracy of Drawings Submitted** All drawings shall be neat and professional in manner and shall be clearly labeled as to locations and type of product, connections and components. Drawings and diagrams are to be in compliance with accepted drafting standards. Acceptance or approval of such plans shall not relieve the Contractor from responsibility for design or other errors of any sort in the drawings or plans, or from its responsibility for performing as required, furnishing product, services or installation, or carrying out any other requirements of the intended scope of work.

## 26. SITE INSPECTION

Where a site inspection is required by the Bid Specifications or Project Definition, Bidder shall be required to inspect the site, including environmental or other conditions for pre-existing deficiencies that may affect the installed Product, equipment, or environment or services to be provided and, which may affect Bidder's ability to properly deliver, install or otherwise provide the required Product/Services. All inquiries regarding such conditions shall be made in writing. Bidder shall be deemed to have knowledge of any deficiencies or conditions which such inspection or inquiry might have disclosed. Bidder must provide a detailed explanation with its Bid if additional work is required under this clause in order to properly complete the delivery and installation of the required Product or provide the requested service.

## 27. SAMPLES

- a. **Standard Samples** Bid Specifications may indicate that the Product to be purchased must be equal to a standard sample on display in a place designated by NYSIF and such sample will be made available to the Bidder for examination prior to the opening date. Failure by the Bidder to examine such sample shall not entitle the Bidder to any relief from the conditions imposed by the Bid Specifications.

- b. **Bidder Supplied Samples** NYSIF reserves the right to request from the Bidder/Contractor a representative sample(s) of the Product offered at any time prior to or after award of a contract. Unless otherwise instructed, samples shall be furnished within the time specified in the request. Untimely submission of a sample may constitute grounds for rejection of Bid or cancellation of the Contract. Samples must be submitted free of charge and be accompanied by the Bidder's name and address, any descriptive literature relating to the Product and a statement indicating how and where the sample is to be returned. Where applicable, samples must be properly labeled with the appropriate Bid or Contract reference.

A sample may be held by NYSIF during the entire term of the Contract and for a reasonable period thereafter for comparison with deliveries. At the conclusion of the holding period the sample, where feasible, will be returned as instructed by the Bidder, at the Bidder's expense and risk. Where the Bidder has failed to fully instruct NYSIF as to the return of the sample (i.e., mode and place of return, etc.) or refuses to bear the cost of its return, the sample shall become the sole property of the receiving entity at the conclusion of the holding period.

- c. **Enhanced Samples** When an approved sample exceeds the minimum specifications, all Product delivered must be of the same enhanced quality and identity as the sample. Thereafter, in the event of a Contractor's default, NYSIF may procure a Product substantially equal to the enhanced sample from other sources, charging the Contractor for any additional costs incurred.
- d. **Conformance with Sample(s)** Submission of a sample (whether or not such sample is tested by, or for, NYSIF) and approval thereof shall not relieve the Contractor from full compliance with all terms and conditions, performance related and otherwise, specified in the Bid Specifications. If in the judgment of NYSIF the sample or product submitted is not in accordance with the specifications or testing requirements prescribed in the Bid Specifications, NYSIF may reject the Bid. If an award has been made, NYSIF may cancel the Contract at the expense of the Contractor.
- e. **Testing** All samples are subject to tests in the manner and place designated by NYSIF, either prior to or after Contract award. Unless otherwise stated in the Bid Specifications, Bidder samples consumed or rendered useless by testing will not be returned to the Bidder. Testing costs for samples that fails to meet Contract requirements may be at the expense of the Contractor.

## **BID EVALUATION**

### 28. BID EVALUATION

NYSIF reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bids, or separable portions of offers, and waive technicalities, irregularities, and omissions if NYSIF determines the best interests of the State will be served. NYSIF, in its sole discretion, may accept or reject illegible, incomplete or vague Bids and its decision shall be final. A conditional or revocable Bid which clearly communicates the terms or limitations of acceptance may be considered, and Contract award may be made in compliance with the Bidder's conditional or revocable terms in the offer.

### 29. CONDITIONAL BID

Unless the Bid Specifications provides otherwise, a Bid is not rendered non-responsive if the Bidder specifies that the award will be accepted only on all or a specified group of items or Product included in the specification. It is understood that nothing herein shall be deemed to change or alter the method of award contained in the Bid Documents.

### **30. CLARIFICATIONS / REVISIONS**

Prior to award, NYSIF reserves the right to seek clarifications from Bidders on the contents of the bid/proposals. Other than to provide such information as may be requested by NYSIF, no Bidder will be allowed to alter its proposal or add new information after the final filing date and time. Failure to provide requested information may result in rejection of the Bid.

### **31. PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNTS**

While prompt payment discounts will not be considered in determining the low Bid, NYSIF may consider any prompt payment discount in resolving Bids which are otherwise tied. However, any notation indicating that the price is net, (e.g., net 30 days), shall be understood to mean only that no prompt payment discount is offered by the Bidder. The imposition of service, interest, or other charges, except pursuant to the provisions of Article 11-A of the State Finance Law, which are applicable in any case, may render the Bid non-responsive and may be cause for its rejection.

### **32. EQUIVALENT OR IDENTICAL BIDS**

In the event two offers are found to be substantially equivalent, price shall be the basis for determining the award recipient. If two or more Bidders submit substantially equivalent Bids as to pricing or other factors, the decision of NYSIF to award a Contract to one or more of such Bidders shall be final.

### **33. PERFORMANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY QUALIFICATIONS**

NYSIF reserves the right to investigate or inspect at any time whether or not the Product, services, qualifications or facilities offered by the Bidder/Contractor meet the requirements set forth in the Bid Specifications/Contract or as set forth during Contract negotiations. Contractor shall at all times during the Contract term remain responsible and responsive. A Bidder/Contractor must be prepared to present evidence of legal authority to do business in New York State, integrity, experience, ability, prior performance, organizational and financial capacity as well as where applicable, a statement as to supply, plant, machinery and capacity of the manufacturer or source for the production, distribution and servicing of the Product offered/Bid. If NYSIF determines that the conditions and terms of the Bid Documents, Bid Specifications or Contract are not complied with, or that items, services or Product proposed to be furnished do not meet the specified requirements, or that the legal authority, integrity experience, ability, prior performance, organization and financial capacity or facilities are not satisfactory, NYSIF may reject such Bid or terminate the Contract.

### **34. DISQUALIFICATION FOR PAST PERFORMANCE AND FINDINGS OF NON-RESPONSIBILITY**

Bidder may be disqualified from receiving awards if Bidder, or anyone in Bidder's employment, has previously failed to perform satisfactorily in connection with public bidding or contracts or is deemed non-responsive.

### **35. QUANTITY CHANGES PRIOR TO AWARD**

NYSIF reserves the right, at any time prior to the award of a specific quantity Contract, to alter in good faith the quantities listed in the Bid Specifications. In the event such right is exercised, the lowest responsible Bidder meeting Bid Specifications will be advised of the revised quantities and afforded an opportunity to extend or reduce its Bid price in relation to the changed quantities. Refusal by the low Bidder to so extend or reduce its Bid price may result in the rejection of its Bid and the award of such Contract to the lowest responsible Bidder who accepts the revised qualifications.

### **36. TIMEFRAME FOR OFFERS**

NYSIF reserves the right to make awards within one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of the Bid opening or such other period of time as set forth in the Bid Documents, during which period, Bids must remain firm and cannot be withdrawn. Pursuant to Section 163(9)(e) of the State Finance Law and Section 2-205 of the Uniform Commercial Code when applicable, where an award is not made within the one hundred eighty (180) day period or other time specified as set forth in the Bid Documents, the Bids shall remain firm until such later time as either a Contract is awarded or the Bidder delivers to NYSIF written notice of the withdrawal of its Bid. Any Bid which expressly states therein that acceptance must be made within a shorter specified time, may at the sole discretion of NYSIF, be accepted or rejected.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE**

**37. NYSIF PREROGATIVES**

The contract award is subject to the availability of funds. Moreover, NYSIF is not liable for any costs incurred by any firm for work performed to prepare its proposal or for any travel and/or other expenses incurred in the preparation and/or submission of its proposal or with respect to any presentation/interview that may be required by NYSIF. Further, NYSIF is not liable for any costs incurred by the successful Bidder for services performed or costs incurred until the contracting process has been completed and all required approvals obtained.

NYSIF reserves the right to exercise the following:

- a. Withdraw the IFB/RFP at any time, at NYSIF's sole discretion;
- b. Make an award under the IFB/RFP in whole or in part;
- c. Reject any or all bids received in response to the solicitation;
- d. Cancel or limit the scope of the contract for any reason;
- e. To not award a contract;
- f. Seek clarifications and revisions of proposals;
- g. Accept a bid for the contract other than the lowest cost;
- h. Make multiple contract awards pursuant to the solicitation;
- i. Waive any requirements that are not material;
- j. Eliminate mandatory requirements unmet by all Bidders;
- k. Change any of the scheduled dates;
- l. Waive or modify minor irregularities in bids received after prior notification to the Bidder;
- m. Consider modifications to bids at any time before the award is made, if such action is in the best interest of NYSIF;
- n. Amend and modify the specifications after their release and post to NYSIF's procurement website ([www.nysif.com/procurement](http://www.nysif.com/procurement));
- o. Disqualify any Bidder whose conduct and/or proposal fails to conform to the requirements of the IFB/RFP;
- p. Reject/disqualify a bid if, in NYSIF's sole opinion, the bid price is determined to be excessive;
- q. Require clarification at any time during the procurement process and/or require correction of arithmetic or other apparent errors for the purpose of assuring a full and complete understanding of a Bidder's proposal and/or to determine a Bidder's compliance with the requirements of the solicitation;
- r. Use proposal information obtained through site visits, management interviews and the state's investigation of a Bidder's qualifications, experience, ability or financial standing, and any material or information submitted by the Bidder in response to the agency's request for clarifying information in the course of evaluation and/or selection under the IFB/RFP
- s. Review Bidder's records used in determining bid;
- t. Require the Bidder to demonstrate to the satisfaction of NYSIF any feature(s) presented as a part of its bid;
- u. Investigate or make any inquiry into the capabilities of any Bidder to properly perform under any resultant contract;
- v. Make inquiries, at NYSIF's discretion and by means which it may choose, into the Bidder's background or statements made in the bid to determine the truth and accuracy of all statements made therein;
- w. Adjust or correct Bidders' mathematical errors and waive or modify other minor irregularities in proposals received, after prior notification to the Bidder;
- x. Request any additional information deemed necessary for proper evaluation of bids;
- y. Adopt as NYSIF property all submitted bids and to use any portions thereafter which are not specifically noted as proprietary by the submitting firms;
- z. Utilize any and all ideas submitted in the proposals received;
- aa. Adopt all or any part of a Bidder's proposal in selecting the optimum configuration;
- bb. In any case where a question of non-performance of a contract arises, payment may be withheld in whole or in part at the

- discretion of NYSIF. Should the amount withheld be finally paid, a cash discount originally offered may be taken by NYSIF as if no delay in payment had occurred;
- cc. Submission of an invoice and payment, or electronic transmission, thereof by NYSIF shall not preclude NYSIF from obtaining reimbursement or demanding a price adjustment in any case where the service delivered is found to deviate from the terms and conditions of the bid and award documents. Any delivery made which does not meet such terms and conditions may be rejected, or accepted on an adjusted price basis as may be determined by NYSIF;
  - dd. Reject an obviously unbalanced bid or to make "NO AWARD" on individual listings or sub-items if individual bid prices are deemed to be unbalanced or excessive or if an error in the solicitation becomes evident. In such case, ranking and evaluation of bids may be made on remaining items. Award would be made on the remaining items. The determination of an unbalanced bid shall be at the sole discretion of NYSIF. Options contained in this paragraph shall also be at NYSIF's sole discretion;
  - ee. Terminate the contract(s) if it deems the price adjustment pursuant to the solicitation or contract is not in the best interests of NYSIF or the State;
  - ff. Implement changes in price based on unforeseen factors such as dramatic changes in availability, delivery, costs, etc., for product, supplies, etc., that substantively affect the contractor's business processes or that may impact contract pricing. Such changes may be based on information from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, industry data, or other sources;
  - gg. After an unsuccessful attempt to speak with the contact person noted on the reference form, survey another person knowledgeable and familiar with the Bidder from the submitted reference due to time constraints;
  - hh. Review and consider other known clients of the Bidder in addition to those provided, including NYSIF, and to disqualify based on unsatisfactory reports and/or records of services provided;
  - ii. Reject all bids which do not comply with the bid specifications. However, NYSIF may elect to award to the Bidder who receives the highest overall combined evaluation score providing that the Bidder's non-compliance is deemed by NYSIF to be non-material to overall performance of the services;
  - jj. Invalidate a Bidder's scores at any time during the evaluation process if the Bidder's bid is deemed non-responsive or is disqualified;
  - kk. Evaluate, accept and/or reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, and waive technicalities, irregularities and omissions if, in NYSIF's considered judgment, the best interests of NYSIF will be served. Separable portions of offers may also be accepted or rejected. In the event compliant bids are not received, NYSIF reserves the right to consider late or non-conforming bids as offers;
  - ll. Stop the work covered by this solicitation and any contract(s) resulting there from at any time that it is deemed the successful Bidder is unable or incapable of performing the work to NYSIF's satisfaction;
  - mm. Disqualify a Bidder from receiving the award if the Bidder, or anyone in the Bidder's employ, has previously failed to perform satisfactorily in connection with public bidding or contracts;
  - nn. Negotiate with Bidders to serve the best interests of the State and NYSIF;
  - oo. Begin contract negotiations with another Bidder in order to serve the best interests of NYSIF in the event that NYSIF is unsuccessful in negotiating a contract with the selected Bidder;
  - pp. Split the contract between several Bidders;
  - qq. If a contract is not approved by the State Comptroller or the Department of Financial Services, where applicable, or if a contract is awarded but terminated within 120 days, NYSIF reserves the right to contract with the next lowest Bidder (IFB)/next highest ranking offer (RFP);
  - rr. If two or more bids are found to be substantially equivalent, NYSIF, at its sole discretion, will determine award;
  - ss. Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, every offer is firm and not revocable for a period of 180 days from the bid opening;
  - tt. Accept or reject any of the Bidder's employees assigned to this contract and to require their replacement at any time
  - uu. Consider amendments which are not specifically covered by the terms of the contract but are judged to be in the best interest of NYSIF and/or the State;
  - vv. Have any service completed via separate competitive bid or other means, as determined to be in the best interest of NYSIF;
  - ww. Adjust any Bidder's expected costs of the bid price based on a determination of the evaluation committee that the selection of the said Bidder will cause the State to incur additional costs.

**38. NEW YORK STATE PROCUREMENT RIGHTS**

To enable the State to acquire commodities, technology and services at the lowest price or best value from responsible and responsive bids, the State reserves the rights to:

- a. Define requirements to meet Agency needs and to modify, correct and clarify requirements at any time during the process provided the changes are justified and maintain fairness in contracting with the business community;
- b. Accept and/or reject any or all bids, and waive technicalities or portions of the bids in the best interest of the State;
- c. Establish terms and conditions which must be met by all Bidders and/or, where permitted by the solicitation, eliminate mandatory requirements that are not met by any Bidder;
- d. Establish, where permitted by solicitation, conditions under which the scope of the contract can be expanded and criteria for price increases or decreases during the contract period;
- e. Award contracts for any or all parts of the bid solicitation in accordance with the Method of Award;
- f. Consider every bid as firm and not revocable for a period of up to one hundred eighty (180) days from the bid opening or such other period of time specified in the solicitation. Subsequent to such one hundred eighty (180) day or other specified period, a bid may be withdrawn in writing.
- g. Have the option to require a bond or other guarantee of performance, and to approve the amount, form and sufficiency thereof.

**39. BIDDER CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Any company submitting a bid in response to this solicitation *must certify in writing* acceptance of the following contract conditions which relate to consideration of the bid:

- a. NYSIF reserves the sole right of judgment and acceptance of a company's written bid.
- b. The submitted bid must remain in effect for one hundred-eighty (180) days from the bidding deadline. However, a non-successful Bidder may withdraw its bid any time after the selection of the successful Bidder, upon written notice to NYSIF. Bidders whose bids have been rejected by NYSIF shall be notified of such rejection.
- c. Compensation shall be paid by the State of New York, in accordance with its standard payment practices.
- d. The Bidder certifies that, if selected, all services described in the bid document can and will be provided.
- e. The successful Bidder agrees to submit an Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement and Staffing Plan to NYSIF, upon request, as outlined under Participation of New York State Business Enterprises.
- f. The Bidder warrants that, if selected, it will not delegate, assign, encumber or subcontract, in whole or in part, its agreement and/or its responsibilities under the contract without prior written approval from NYSIF.

For any bid that includes services to be provided by subcontract with a third party, the Bidder will be responsible for the conduct and performance of the third party. NYSIF will consider the Bidder to be the prime contractor and the sole point of contact in regard to any contractual items specified or required in the bid documents.

The Bidder should obtain the consent of the proposed subcontractor and include it in the bid.

- g. The Bidder warrants that all information provided by it in connection with this bid is true and accurate.
- h. The Bidder agrees not to make any claims for or have any right to damages because of any misinterpretation or misunderstanding of the specifications or because of any lack of information.
- i. The Bidder warrants that the prices in this bid have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other Bidder or with any competitor. Unless otherwise required by law, the Bidder certifies that the prices which have been quoted in this bid have not been knowingly disclosed by the Bidder and will not knowingly be disclosed by the Bidder prior to the opening, directly or indirectly, to any Bidder or competitor and no attempt has been made or will be made by the Bidder to induce any other person, partnership, or corporation to submit or not submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition. In addition, a Bidder is prohibited from making multiple bids in a different form, e.g., as prime Bidder and as a subcontractor to another prime Bidder.

A Bidder must include a statement in the bid describing all actual or potential relationships which may be considered to be a "conflict of interest." The "conflict of interest" will be taken under consideration by NYSIF's Bid Evaluation Committee. The Committee's determination of a disqualifying "conflict of interest" is final.

- j. The Bidder will conform to all provisions of NYSIF Exhibit A, *Standard Clauses*.

- k. The Bidder agrees that no New York State or local sales tax, transportation tax or Federal excise tax will be charged on any part of this project since NYSIF is an agency of the State of New York and tax exempt by statute.
- l. The Bidder will save and hold harmless NYSIF and its management from all claims, suits, litigation and legal liability from any acts or omissions committed by the Bidder during the course of the contract.
- m. The contractor is an independent contractor of the State and may not hold itself out nor claim to be an officer, employee or subdivision of the State nor may contractor make any claim, demand or application to or for any right based upon any different status.
- n. Contractor represents and warrants that it shall secure all notices and comply with all laws, ordinances, rules and regulations of any governmental entity in conjunction with the performance of obligations under the Contract, at the contractor's expense. Prior to award and during the Contract term and any renewals thereof, Contractor must establish to the satisfaction of NYSIF that it meets or exceeds all requirements of the Bid and Contract and any applicable laws, including but not limited to, permits, licensing, and shall provide such proof as required by NYSIF. Failure to comply or failure to provide proof may constitute grounds for NYSIF to cancel or suspend the Contract, in whole or in part, or to take any other action deemed necessary by NYSIF. Contractor also agrees to disclose information and provide affirmations and certifications to comply with Sections 139-j and 139-k of the State Finance Law
- o. All contractors and contractor employees must be aware of and comply with the requirements of the New York State Public Officers Law, all other appropriate provisions of New York State Law, and all resultant codes, rules and regulations from State laws establishing the standards for business and professional activities of State employees, and governing the conduct of employees of firms, associations and corporations in business with the State. In signing the bid, each Bidder has guaranteed knowledge and full compliance with those provisions for this and any other dealings, transactions, sales, contracts, services, offers or relationships involving the State and/or State employees. Failure to comply with those provisions may result in disqualification from the bidding process and in other civil or criminal proceedings as required by law.
- p. If NYSIF impedes or causes any delay in the completion of the Contractor's work, then NYSIF should be notified immediately in writing of the delay and the reason(s) for such delay.
- q. Tax Law 5-a is in effect for all solicitations to purchase issued by covered agencies on or after January 1, 2005. It applies to contracts where (1) the total amount of such persons' sales delivered into New York State are in excess of \$300,000 for the four quarterly periods immediately preceding the quarterly period in which the certification is made, and with respect to any affiliates, subcontractors, or affiliates of subcontractors whose sales delivered into New York State exceeded \$300,000 for the four quarterly periods immediately preceding the quarterly period in which the certification is made, and (2) the contracts or agreements with state agencies or public authorities for the sale of commodities or services having a value in excess of \$100,000. The law imposes upon certain contractors the obligation to certify whether or not the contract, its affiliates, its subcontractors and affiliates of the subcontractors are required to register to collect state sales and compensating use tax.
- r. Pursuant to State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k, this solicitation includes and imposes certain restrictions on communications between NYSIF and a Bidder during the procurement process. A Bidder is restricted from making contacts from the earliest notice of a solicitation release through final award and approval of the Procurement Contract by NYSIF and, if applicable, Office of the State Comptroller or Department of Financial Services ("restricted period") to other than designated staff unless it is a contact that is included among certain statutory exceptions set forth in State Finance Law Section 139-j (3)(a). Designated staff, as of the date hereof, is identified in the solicitation document (see INQUIRIES/ISSUING OFFICE/DESIGNATED CONTACT). NYSIF employees are also required to obtain certain information when contacted during the restricted period and make a determination of the responsibility of the Bidder pursuant to these two statutes. Certain findings of non-responsibility can result in rejection for contract award, and in the event there are two findings within a 4 year-period, the Bidder is debarred from obtaining governmental Procurement Contracts.

#### 40. PARTICIPATION OF NYS BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

It is the policy of New York State to maximize the opportunities for the participation of New York State business enterprises, including minority and women-owned business enterprises, as Bidders, subcontractors and suppliers on its procurement contracts.

For all contracts estimated to be \$25,000 or more:

- a. Contractors and subcontractors shall undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status. For these purposes, affirmative action shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.

- b. Prior to the award of a State contract, the contractor shall submit an Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement to NYSIF within the time frame established by NYSIF.
- c. The contractor's EEO Policy Statement shall contain, but not necessarily be limited to, and the contractor, as a precondition to entering into a valid and binding State contract, shall, during the performance of the State contract, agree to the following:
  - i. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on State contracts.
  - ii. The contractor shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.
  - iii. At the request of NYSIF, the contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the contractor's obligations herein.
- d. Except for construction contracts, prior to award of a State contract, the contractor shall submit to NYSIF a staffing plan of the anticipated work force to be utilized on the State contract or, where required, information on the contractor's total work force, including apprentices, broken down by specified ethnic background, gender and Federal Occupational Categories or other appropriate categories specified by NYSIF. The form of the staffing plan shall be supplied by NYSIF.
- e. After an award of a State contract, the contractor shall submit to the contracting agency a work force utilization report, in a form and manner required by the agency, of the work force actually utilized on the State contract, broken down by specified ethnic background, gender and Federal Occupational Categories or other appropriate categories specified by the contracting agency.

**(Note: The contractor shall include the language of the above provisions in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the State contract. This includes the requirement that subcontractors shall undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and, when requested, provide to the contractor information on the ethnic background, gender and Federal Occupational Categories of the employees to be utilized on the State contract.)**

#### 41. DEBRIEFING

Any unsuccessful Bidder may request a debriefing by notifying NYSIF in writing within seven (7) business days after receiving notification of the contract non-award. All requests for debriefings shall be emailed to [contracts@nysif.com](mailto:contracts@nysif.com). The debriefing shall be addressed within 30 days of receipt of the written request, or as soon after that time as practicable under the circumstances.

A debriefing will be limited to a review of an unsuccessful Bidder's own submission and the scoring of that submission. An unsuccessful Bidder is not entitled to review the submission of the successful Bidder beyond being informed of the total scoring of the successful Bidder. Generally, NYSIF will provide a written response to debriefing requests, providing the unsuccessful Bidder with the top score, average score, and Bidder's score for each of the major evaluation categories as well as the Bidder's ranking in each.

#### 42. NYSIF'S VENDOR PROTEST PROCEDURE

NYSIF's Vendor Protest Procedure (Protest), which provides vendors with an opportunity to administratively resolve disputes related to NYSIF's procurement decisions, is as follows:

##### a. **Protesting NYSIF's Procurement Decisions**

##### i. **Protest Phases**

###### Solicitation Phase Protest

A prospective proposer, Offeror or Bidder may, during the procurement solicitation phase, protest the content of a Request for Proposal (RFP) or Invitation for Bid (IFB) or any aspect of NYSIF's conduct of the solicitation phase of the procurement.

Such protests must be submitted in writing to NYSIF's Director of Administration, via certified mail or overnight mail service, and must be received by NYSIF no later than 1:00 p.m. on the 7<sup>th</sup> (seventh) business day prior to the date when proposals or bids are due. Solicitation phase protests are to be addressed as follows:

*Director of Administration  
New York State Insurance Fund  
15 Computer Drive West  
Albany, NY 12205  
Attn: Vendor Protest*

#### Post Award Protest

An actual proposer, Offeror or Bidder that has submitted a bid or proposal in response to a solicitation may protest the award of the contract for that solicitation. Such protest must be submitted in writing to NYSIF's Director of Administration, via certified mail or overnight mail service, and must be received by NYSIF no later than 1:00 p.m. on the 10<sup>th</sup> (tenth) business day following: 1) NYSIF's issuance of a Notice of Contract Award or Bid Tab Certification or; 2) NYSIF's issuance of a letter to the Bidder indicating that its proposal was not selected. Post award protests are to be addressed as follows:

*Director of Administration  
New York State Insurance Fund  
15 Computer Drive West  
Albany, NY 12205  
Attn: Vendor Protest*

#### **ii. Protest Contents**

Written protests must contain all the detail necessary for the Director of Administration to evaluate the protester's issue and make a determination. The written protest must, at a minimum, include the following:

- Name and title of person(s) filing the protest;
- Company name and address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address;
- The solicitation title and number;
- A detailed statement of all legal and/or factual grounds for disagreement with a specification or a procurement determination;
- A statement as to the form of relief requested; and
- Copies of all applicable supporting documentation.

#### **b. Protest Determination**

NYSIF's Director of Administration shall make a determination for every solicitation phase and post award protest submitted in accordance with this Procedure. A copy of the decision, stating the reason(s) upon which it is based and informing the protester of the right to appeal an unfavorable decision to the General Attorney of NYSIF, shall be sent to the protester or its agent by regular mail within thirty (30) days of receipt of the protest, except that upon notice to the protester such period may be extended.

NYSIF shall include the protest and all determinations thereon in the Procurement Record relevant to the bid being protested."

#### **c. Appeal Process**

Should the protester be dissatisfied with NYSIF's Director of Administration's determination, the protester may file a written appeal. Such written appeal must be sent via certified mail or overnight mail service and must be received by NYSIF no later than 1:00 p.m. of the 10<sup>th</sup> (tenth) business day following the protester's receipt of the determination. The appeal should be directed to NYSIF's General Attorney at the following address:

*General Attorney  
New York State Insurance Fund  
15 Computer Drive West  
Albany, NY 12205  
Attn: Vendor Protest*

An appeal of the decision shall not include any new facts and information unless requested in writing by the General Attorney.

The final determination on the appeal shall be issued within thirty (30) days of receipt of the appeal, except that upon notice to the protester such period may be extended. The decision of the General Attorney shall be a final and conclusive agency determination.

For contracts requiring approval by the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC), the protester may appeal to OSC directly. See

<http://www.osc.state.ny.us/agencies/guide/MyWebHelp/Content/XI/17.htm> for further information.

**d. Legal Appeals**

Nothing contained in these provisions is intended to limit or impair the rights of any vendor or contractor to seek and pursue remedies of law through the judicial process.

**NYSIF EXHIBIT C**

**CONTRACT PROVISIONS**

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## 1. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

The contract documents consist of the contract agreement, proposal, bid document specifications, addenda issued prior to receipt of bids, and all subsequent modifications and changes issued pursuant to the bid documents.

The contract represents the agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations and agreements, whether written or oral, including the bidding documents which may have resulted from the Bid Documents.

The contract may be revised, modified and/or amended by mutual written consent of both parties and where applicable the approval of the NYS Attorney General (AG), Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) or the Department of Financial Services (DFS). The contract is made in accordance with the laws of New York State.

## 2. TERM

In addition to any stated renewal periods in the Contract, any Contract or unit portion thereof let by NYSIF may be extended by NYSIF for an additional period(s) of up to one year with the written concurrence of the Contractor and, where required, OSC or DFS approval. Such extension may be exercised on a month to month basis or in other stated periods of time during the one year extension.

## 3. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

- a. **For Cause:** For a material breach that remains uncured for more than thirty (30) days or other specified period after written notice to the Contractor, the Contract may be terminated by NYSIF at the Contractor's expense where Contractor becomes unable or incapable of performing, or meeting any requirements or qualifications set forth in the Contract, or for non-performance, or upon a determination that Contractor is non-responsible. Such termination shall be upon written notice to the Contractor. In such event, NYSIF may complete the contractual requirements in any manner it may deem advisable and pursue available legal or equitable remedies for breach. NYSIF shall have the right to award a new contract to a third party. In the event of termination for cause, NYSIF shall seek recovery damage incurred by NYSIF and the reasonable re-procurement costs associated in reassigning the contract.
- b. **For Convenience:** This Contract may be terminated at any time by NYSIF for convenience upon sixty (60) days written notice or other specified period without penalty or other early termination charges due. Such termination of the Contract shall not affect any project or Purchase Order that has been issued under the Contract prior to the date of such termination. If the Contract is terminated pursuant to this subdivision, NYSIF shall remain liable for all accrued but unpaid charges incurred through the date of the termination. Contractor shall use due diligence and provide any outstanding deliverables.
- c. **For Non-Responsibility:** Upon written notice to the Contractor, and a reasonable opportunity to be heard with appropriate NYSIF officials or staff, the contract may be terminated by NYSIF at the Contractor's expense where the Contractor is determined by NYSIF to be non-responsible. In such event, NYSIF may complete the contractual requirements in any manner it may deem advisable and pursue available legal or equitable remedies for breach.
- d. **For Violation of the Sections 139-j and 139-k of the State Finance Law:** NYSIF reserves the right to terminate the Contract in the event it is found that the certification filed by the Bidder in accordance with Section 139-k of the State Finance Law was intentionally false or intentionally incomplete. Upon such finding, NYSIF may exercise its termination right by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the written notification terms of the Contract.
- e. **For Violation of Revised Tax Law 5a:** NYSIF reserves the right to terminate the contract in the event it is found that the certification filed by the Contractor in accordance with §5-a of the Tax Law is not timely filed during the term of the Contract or the certification furnished was intentionally false or intentionally incomplete. Upon such finding, NYSIF may exercise its termination right by providing written notification to the Contractor.

## 4. SUSPENSION OF WORK

- a. **For Convenience:** NYSIF may order the contractor in writing to suspend performance of all or any part of the work for a reasonable period of time, not to exceed thirty (30) days, as determined by NYSIF.

Upon receipt of a suspension order, the contractor shall, as soon as practicable, cease performance of the work as ordered.

The contractor specifically agrees that a suspension, interruption or delay of the performance of the work pursuant to this proposal shall not increase the cost of performance of the work of this contract.

- b. **For Non-Responsibility:** NYSIF, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to suspend any or all activities under this contract, at any time, when NYSIF discovers information that calls into questions the responsibility of the Contractor. In the event of such suspension, the Contractor will be given written notice outlining the particulars of such suspension. Upon issuance of

such notice, the Contractor must comply with the terms of the suspension order. Contract activity may resume at such time as NYSIF issues a written notice authorizing a resumption of performance under the contract.

**5. VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY**

The contractor shall at all times during the contract term remain responsible. The Contractor agrees, if requested by NYSIF, to present evidence of its continuing legal authority to do business in New York State, integrity, experience, ability, prior performance, and organizational and financial capacity.

**6. SAVINGS/FORCE MAJEURE**

A force majeure occurrence is an event or effect that cannot be reasonably anticipated or controlled. Force majeure includes, but is not limited to, acts of God, acts of war, acts of public enemies, strikes, fires, explosions, actions of the elements, floods, or other similar causes beyond the control of the Contractor or NYSIF in the performance of the Contract which non- performance, by exercise of reasonable diligence, cannot be prevented. Contractor shall provide NYSIF with written notice of any force majeure occurrence as soon as the delay is known.

Neither the Contractor nor NYSIF shall be liable to the other for any delay in or failure of performance under the Contract due to a force majeure occurrence. Any such delay in or failure of performance shall not constitute default or give rise to any liability for damages. The existence of such causes of such delay or failure shall extend the period for performance to such extent as determined by the Contractor and NYSIF to be necessary to enable complete performance by the Contractor if reasonable diligence is exercised after the cause of delay or failure has been removed.

Notwithstanding the above, at the discretion of NYSIF where the delay or failure will significantly impair the value of the Contract to the State, NYSIF may:

- a. Accept allocated performance or deliveries from the Contractor. The Contractor, however, hereby agrees to grant preferential treatment to NYSIF with respect to Product subjected to allocation; and/or
- b. Purchase from other sources (without recourse to and by the Contractor for the costs and expenses thereof) to replace all or part of the Products which are the subject of the delay, which purchases may be deducted from the Contract quantities without penalty or liability to NYSIF; or
- c. Terminate the Contract or the portion thereof which is subject to delays, and thereby discharge any unexecuted portion of the Contract or the relative part thereof.

In addition, NYSIF reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to make an equitable adjustment in the Contract terms and/or pricing should extreme and unforeseen volatility in the marketplace affect pricing or the availability of supply. "Extreme and unforeseen volatility in the marketplace" is defined as market circumstances which meet the following criteria: (i) the volatility is due to causes outside the control of Contractor; (ii) the volatility affects the marketplace or industry, not just the particular Contract source of supply; (iii) the effect on pricing or availability of supply is substantial; and (iv) the volatility so affects Contractor's performance that continued performance of the Contract would result in a substantial loss.

**7. DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN**

**A. Disaster Recovery Plan**

Contractor shall develop and deliver, upon request, to NYSIF on or before a date as reasonably determined by NYSIF, and at no additional cost to NYSIF, a Disaster Recovery Plan for the services which is acceptable to NYSIF and all appropriate regulatory organizations having jurisdiction over Contractor. The Disaster Recovery Plan, which will apply specifically and exclusively to the services under this Agreement, shall provide a description of the Plan Assumptions, Recovery Strategy, Disaster Declaration, Plan Notification and Activation, and Recovery Resources. Contractor shall make available at its premises its Master Disaster Recovery Plan applicable to all of its operations for review by NYSIF. NYSIF's approval of the disaster Recovery Plan shall not be unreasonably withheld. Review and acceptance of any Disaster Recovery Plan as may be required by any such regulatory organization shall be the responsibility of Contractor. The Disaster Recovery Plan shall provide, at a minimum, for Contractor to provide alternate electrical power for uninterrupted service. The Disaster Recovery Plan shall also designate one or more facilities (each a "Disaster Recovery Site") or separate computer resources to which Contractor shall move the Services (or affected portion of such services) upon the declaration of a Disaster requiring such a relocation (including a Disaster at a Disaster Recovery Site). Each Disaster Recovery Site must be appropriately equipped with data processing equipment which the parties reasonably believe should be sufficient to provide the Services in compliance with Attachment A. The Disaster Recovery Plan must also specify all procedures for the determination or declaration of a Disaster, which determination or declaration may not be unreasonably withheld or delayed by either party.

**B. Access to Disaster Recovery Plans**

1. Contractor shall make available to NYSIF any reports or findings of any regulatory agency dealing with Contractor's disaster recovery capabilities to provide services hereunder, unless it is prohibited from making such disclosure by law or by any such agency, together with any reports of its independent auditors relating to such plans. Contractor shall also make available to NYSIF results of any tests of Contractor's disaster recovery facilities conducted by Contractor or any third party with respect to the services provided under the Agreement. Contractor shall provide an annual briefing to NYSIF related to its disaster recovery strategy.
2. NYSIF acknowledges that Contractor's Master Disaster Recovery Plan providing disaster recovery for these services contains highly sensitive and confidential business information. It is understood and agreed that NYSIF may examine and approve the Master Disaster Recovery Plan; however, such examination shall be limited to that portion of the plan(s) which relates to the providing of services under this Agreement. Contractor may in its discretion limit NYSIF's review of its Master Disaster Recovery Plan(s) to a review of a copy maintained at Contractor's Capital Region office and not permit any copies to be made.

**C. Disaster Event Notification**

Contractor shall no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the occurrence of an event requiring activation of the Disaster Recovery Plan inform NYSIF that the plan has been activated. At that time, Contractor shall provide NYSIF with a description of the nature and extent of the disaster, an assessment of the impact on all services provided pursuant to this Agreement and a description of the specific recovery actions with their associated timeframes that have been or will be taken as part of the plan. Contractor will provide appropriate periodic updates of the recovery process as required by NYSIF.

**8. PRODUCT DELIVERY**

Delivery must be made as ordered to the address specified on the Purchase Order and in accordance with the terms of the Contract. Unless otherwise specified in the Bid Documents, delivery shall be made within thirty calendar days after receipt of a Purchase Order by the Contractor. The decision of NYSIF as to compliance with delivery terms shall be final. The burden of proof for delay in receipt of Purchase Order shall rest with the Contractor. In all instances of a potential or actual delay in delivery, the Contractor shall immediately notify NYSIF and confirm in writing the explanation of the delay, and take appropriate action to avoid any subsequent late deliveries. Any extension of time for delivery must be requested in writing by the Contractor and approved in writing by NYSIF. Failure to meet such delivery time schedule may be grounds for cancellation of the order or, in NYSIF's discretion, the Contract.

**9. WEEKEND AND HOLIDAY DELIVERY**

Unless otherwise specified in the Bid Specifications, deliveries will be scheduled for ordinary business hours, Monday through Friday (excluding legal holidays observed by the State of New York). Deliveries may be scheduled by mutual agreement for Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays observed by the State of New York where the Product is for daily consumption, an emergency exists, the delivery is a replacement, delivery is late, or other reasonable circumstance, in which event the convenience of NYSIF shall govern.

**10. SHIPPING / RECEIPT OF PRODUCT**

- a. **Packaging** Tangible Product shall be securely and properly packed for shipment, storage and stocking in appropriate, clearly labeled shipping containers and according to accepted commercial practice, without any extra charges for packing materials, cases or other types of containers. The container shall become and remain the property of NYSIF User unless otherwise specified in the Contract documents.
- b. **Shipping Charges** Unless otherwise stated in the Bid Specifications, all deliveries shall be deemed to be freight on board (FOB) destination tailgate delivery at the dock. Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that the Bill of Lading states "charges prepaid" for all shipments.
- c. **Receipt of Product** The Contractor shall be solely responsible for assuring that deliveries are made to personnel authorized to accept delivery on behalf of NYSIF. Any losses resulting from the Contractor's failure to deliver Product to authorized personnel shall be borne exclusively by the Contractor.

**11. PRODUCT SUBSTITUTION**

In the event a specified manufacturer's Product listed in the Contract becomes unavailable or cannot be supplied by the Contractor for any reason (except as provided for in the Savings/Force Majeure Clause) a Product deemed in writing by NYSIF to be equal to

or better than the specified Product must be substituted by the Contractor at no additional cost or expense to NYSIF. Unless otherwise specified, any substitution of Product prior to NYSIF's written approval may be cause for cancellation of Contract.

## **12. REJECTED PRODUCT**

When Product is rejected, it must be removed by the Contractor from the premises of NYSIF within ten calendar days of notification of rejection by NYSIF. Upon notification of rejection, risk of loss of rejected or non-conforming Product shall remain with Contractor. Rejected items not removed by the Contractor within ten calendar days of notification shall be regarded as abandoned by the Contractor, and NYSIF shall have the right to dispose of Product as its own property. The Contractor shall promptly reimburse NYSIF for any and all costs and expenses incurred in storage or effecting removal or disposition after the ten-calendar day period

## **13. INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE WORK**

NYSIF will, from time-to-time, inspect the products being provided and/or the services being performed under the terms of the contract.

All products/work shall be subject to the approval of NYSIF. In the event that any of the products provided/work performed are not acceptable to NYSIF in its sole judgment, the contractor shall replace the product/correct that work in an expeditious manner at no additional cost to NYSIF.

The contractor shall, without charge, promptly correct any problems NYSIF finds do not conform to the contract documents, unless in the public interest NYSIF consents to accept such product or work with an appropriate adjustment to the contract price.

If the contractor does not promptly correct rejected product/work, NYSIF may replace such product/correct such work and charge the cost thereof to the contractor, or terminate the contract in accordance with the Agreement.

## **14. TITLE AND RISK OF LOSS**

Notwithstanding the form of shipment, title or other property interest, risk of loss shall not pass from the Contractor to NYSIF until the Products have been received, inspected and accepted by the receiving entity. Acceptance shall occur within a reasonable time or in accordance with such other defined acceptance period as may be specified in the Bid Specifications or Purchase Order. Mere acknowledgment by NYSIF personnel of the delivery or receipt of goods (e.g., signed bill of lading) shall not be deemed or construed as acceptance of the Products received. Any delivery of Product that is substandard or does not comply with the Bid Specifications or Contract terms and conditions, may be rejected or accepted on an adjusted price basis, as determined by NYSIF.

## **15. EMERGENCY CONTRACTS**

In the event that a disaster emergency is declared by Executive Order under Section 28 of Article 2-B of the Executive Law, or NYSIF determines pursuant to its authority under Section 163 (10) (b) of the State Finance Law that an emergency exists requiring the prompt and immediate delivery of Product, NYSIF reserves the right to obtain such Product from any source, including but not limited to this Contract(s), if NYSIF in its sole discretion determines it will meet the needs of such emergency. Contractor shall not be entitled to any claim or lost profits for Product procured from other sources pursuant to this paragraph. The reasons underlying the finding that an emergency exists shall be included in the procurement record.

## **16. ASSIGNMENT**

The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet, or otherwise dispose of the contract or its right, title or interest therein, or its power to execute such contract to any other person, company, firm or corporation in performance of the contract without the prior written consent of NYSIF. Failure to obtain consent to assignment from NYSIF shall revoke and annul such Contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the State shall not hinder, prevent or affect assignment of money by a Contractor for the benefit of its creditors. Prior to a consent to assignment of monies becoming effective, the Contractor shall file a written notice of such monies assignment(s) with NYSIF. Prior to a consent to assignment of a Contract, or portion thereof, becoming effective, the Contractor shall submit the request to assignment to NYSIF and seek written agreement from NYSIF. The assignment agreement may be subject to the approval of AG and OSC or DFS. NYSIF reserves the right to reject any proposed assignee at its discretion.

Upon notice to the Contractor, the Contract may be assigned without the consent of the Contractor to another State Agency or subdivision of the State pursuant to a governmental reorganization or assignment of functions under which the functions are transferred to a successor Agency or to another Agency that assumes NYSIF responsibilities for the Contract.

**17. ASSIGNMENT OF CLAIM**

Contractor hereby assigns to the State any and all claims for overcharges associated with this Contract which may arise under the antitrust laws of the United States, 15 USC Section 1, et. seq. and the antitrust laws of the State of New York, General Business Law Section 340, et. seq.

**18. RIGHT TO AUDIT**

Contractor shall maintain accurate records and accounts of services performed and money expended under this agreement and shall furnish or make available such supplemental accounts, records or other information as are required to substantiate any estimate, expenditures or report as required by NYSIF (or its designee), or as may be necessary for auditing purposes or to verify that expenditures were made only for the purpose authorized by this agreement and consistent with all requirements as stated in the Request for Proposal. Such records and accounts and all supportive documentation shall be kept for at least six (6) years subsequent to dates of final payment hereunder, or until a final audit has been made by NYSIF (or its designee).

In case all or a part of such records are not made available for audit purposes, Contractor agrees that any cost items claimed but not supported by such records shall be disallowed, or if payment has already been made, Contractor shall, upon written demand of NYSIF, refund to NYSIF the amount disallowed.

SAS 70 Reports:

If Contractor utilizes a Statement on Audit Standards No. 70 (SAS 70), or a Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAE) No. 16, as developed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), within the past twenty-four months prior to the Agreement, Contractor shall provide NYSIF with a copy of Contractor's Service Auditor's Report(s) for either Type I or Type II (Reports), or Service Organization Control (SOC) Report types 1, 2, or 3, on an annual basis. Such Report(s) shall be used for information purposes only. NYSIF reserves the right to request a copy of the Report(s) during the Agreement duration (including option periods). Production of Contractor SAS 70 Report(s), or SOC Reports shall not take the place of NYSIF's right under the Agreement to independently audit Contractor.

**19. POLICY COMPLIANCE**

Contractor warrants, covenants and represents that it will comply fully with all policies and procedures of NYSIF in performance of the Contract including but not limited to security, physical, facility, documentary and cyber security rules, policies, procedures and protocols.

**20. SUBCONTRACTORS / SUPPLIERS**

NYSIF reserves the right to reject any proposed Subcontractor or supplier for bona fide business reasons, which may include, but are not limited to: they are on the Department of Labor's list of companies with which New York State cannot do business; NYSIF determines that the company is not qualified; NYSIF determines that the company is not responsible; the company has previously provided unsatisfactory work or services; the company failed to solicit minority and women's business enterprises (MWBE) Bidders as required by prior Contracts.

**21. CONTRACT BILLINGS**

Contractor shall provide complete and accurate billing invoices to NYSIF in order to receive payment. Invoices must contain all information required by the Contract. All invoices must be sent to:

[NYSIFAPVNDRINV@nysif.com](mailto:NYSIFAPVNDRINV@nysif.com)

Submission of an invoice and payment thereof shall not preclude NYSIF from reimbursement or demanding a price adjustment in any case where the Product delivered is found to deviate from the terms and conditions of the Contract or where the billing was inaccurate.

Payments for invoices submitted by the Contractor shall be rendered electronically. Such electronic payment shall be made in accordance with ordinary State procedures and practices. The Contractor shall comply with NYSIF's procedures to authorize electronic payments. Contractor acknowledges that it will not receive payment on any invoices submitted under this Contract if it does not comply with NYSIF's electronic payment procedures. NYSIF's policy and the authorization form may be found on NYSIF's website at [www.nysif.com/procurement](http://www.nysif.com/procurement).

Contractor shall provide, upon request of NYSIF, any and all information necessary to verify the accuracy of the billings. Such information shall be provided in the format requested by NYSIF and in a media commercially available from the Contractor. NYSIF may direct the Contractor to provide the information to the State Comptroller (OSC).

**22. REMEDIES FOR BREACH**

It is understood and agreed that all rights and remedies afforded below shall be in addition to all remedies or actions otherwise authorized or permitted by law:

- a. **Cover/Substitute Performance** In the event of Contractor's material breach, NYSIF may, with or without formally Bidding: (i) Purchase from other sources; or (ii) If NYSIF is unsuccessful after making reasonable attempts, under the circumstances then existing, to timely obtain acceptable service or acquire replacement Product of equal or comparable quality, NYSIF may acquire acceptable replacement Product of lesser or greater quality.

Such purchases may, in the discretion of NYSIF, be deducted from the Contract quantity and payments due to Contractor.

- b. **Withhold Payment** In any case where a question of non-performance by Contractor arises, payment may be withheld in whole or in part at the discretion of NYSIF. Should the amount withheld be finally paid, a cash discount originally offered may be taken as if no delay in payment had occurred.
- c. **Bankruptcy** In the event that the Contractor files a petition under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code during the term of this Centralized Contract, NYSIF may, at its discretion, make application to exercise its right to set-off against monies due the Debtor or, under the Doctrine of Recoupment, credit NYSIF the amounts owed by the Contractor arising out of the same transactions.
- d. **Reimbursement of Costs Incurred** The Contractor agrees to reimburse NYSIF promptly for any and all additional costs and expenses incurred for acquiring acceptable services, and/or replacement Product. Should the cost of cover be less than the Contract price, the Contractor shall have no claim to the difference. The Contractor covenants and agrees that in the event suit is successfully prosecuted for any default on the part of the Contractor, all costs and expenses expended or incurred by NYSIF in connection therewith, including reasonable attorney's fees, shall be paid by the Contractor

Where the Contractor fails to timely deliver pursuant to the guaranteed delivery terms of the Contract, NYSIF may rent substitute equipment temporarily. Any sums expended for such rental shall, upon demand, be reimbursed to NYSIF promptly by the Contractor or deducted by NYSIF from payments due or to become due the Contractor on the same or another transaction.

- e. **Deduction/Credit** Sums due as a result of these remedies may be deducted or offset by NYSIF from payments due, or to become due, the Contractor on the same or another transaction. If no deduction or only a partial deduction is made in such fashion the Contractor shall pay to NYSIF the amount of such claim or portion of the claim still outstanding, on demand. NYSIF reserves the right to determine the disposition of any rebates, settlements, restitution, liquidated damages, etc., which arise from the administration of the Contract.

**23. INSTALLATION**

Where installation is required, Contractor shall be responsible for placing and installing the Product in the required locations. All materials used in the installation shall be of good quality and shall be free from any and all defects that would mar the appearance of the Product or render it structurally unsound. Installation includes the furnishing of any equipment, rigging and materials required to install or place the Product in the proper location. The Contractor shall protect the site from damage for all its work and shall repair damages or injury of any kind caused by the Contractor, its employees, officers or agents. If any alteration, dismantling or excavation, etc. is required to effect installation, the Contractor shall thereafter promptly restore the structure or site. Work shall be performed to cause the least inconvenience to NYSIF and with proper consideration for the rights of other Contractors or workers. The Contractor shall promptly perform its work and shall coordinate its activities with those of other Contractors. The Contractor shall clean up and remove all debris and rubbish from its work as required or directed. Upon completion of the work, the building and surrounding area of work shall be left clean and in a neat, unobstructed condition, and everything in satisfactory repair and order.

**24. PRODUCT ACCEPTANCE – HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE**

Unless otherwise provided by mutual agreement, NYSIF shall have thirty (30) days from the date of delivery to accept hardware products and sixty (60) days from the date of delivery to accept all other Product. Where the Contractor is responsible for installation, acceptance shall be from completion of installation. Unless otherwise provided by mutual agreement, NYSIF shall have the option to run testing on the Product prior to acceptance. Costs and liabilities associated with a failure of the Product to perform in accordance with the functionality tests or product specifications during the acceptance period shall be borne fully by Contractor to the extent that said costs or liabilities shall not have been caused by negligent or willful acts or omissions by NYSIF's agents or employees. Said costs shall be limited to the amounts set forth in the Limitation of Liability Clause for any liability for costs incurred at the direction or recommendation of Contractor.

Failure to provide notice of acceptance or rejection or a deficiency statement to the Contractor by the end of the period provided for under this clause constitutes acceptance by NYSIF as of the expiration of that period.

**25. TOXIC SUBSTANCES**

Each Contractor furnishing a toxic substance as defined by Section 875 of the Labor Law, shall provide NYSIF with not less than two copies of a material safety data sheet, which shall include for each such substance the information outlined in Section 876 of the Labor Law.

Before any chemical product is used or applied on or in any building, a copy of the product label and Material Safety Data Sheet must be provided to and approved by NYSIF's agency representative.

**26. COOPERATION WITH THIRD PARTIES**

The Contractor shall be responsible for fully cooperating with any third party, including but not limited to other Contractors or Subcontractors of NYSIF, as necessary to ensure delivery of Product or coordination of performance of services

**27. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

It is understood and agreed that the legal status of the Contractor, its agents, officers and employees under this Contract is that of an independent Contractor, and in no manner shall they be deemed employees of NYSIF, and therefore are not entitled to any of the benefits associated with such employment. The Contractor agrees, during the term of this Contract, to maintain at Contractor's expense those benefits to which its employees would otherwise be entitled by law, including health benefits, and all necessary insurance for its employees, including worker's compensation, disability and unemployment insurance, and to provide NYSIF with certification of such insurance upon request. The Contractor remains responsible for all applicable federal, state and local taxes, and all FICA contributions.

**28. EMPLOYEES, SUBCONTRACTORS AND AGENTS**

All employees, Subcontractors or agents performing work under the Contract must be trained staff or technicians who meet or exceed the professional, technical and training qualifications set forth in the Bid Specifications or the Bid Documents, whichever is more restrictive, and must comply with all security and administrative requirements of NYSIF. NYSIF reserves the right to conduct a security background check or otherwise approve any employee, Subcontractor or agent furnished by Contractor and to refuse access to or require replacement of any personnel for cause based on, including but not limited to, professional, technical or training qualifications, quality of work or change in security status or non-compliance with NYSIF's security or other requirements. Such approval shall not relieve the Contractor of the obligation to perform all work in compliance with the Contract terms. NYSIF reserves the right to reject and/or bar from the facility for cause any employee, Subcontractor, or agents of the Contractor.

**29. OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS**

All drawings, specifications, computations, sketches, test data, survey results, reports and other documents including models, photographs, renderings and other material prepared for or relating to the project, including any material furnished by NYSIF are the property of NYSIF.

**30. INFORMATION SECURITY CLAUSE**

In the event of a Breach of Security as defined in NY CLS Gen Bus §899-aa and NY CLS State Technology Law §208, or otherwise, involving NYSIF supplied Personal Information or Private Information from systems owned, operated, sub-contracted or otherwise routed through Contractor's systems or networks, Offeror shall notify NYSIF immediately, without unreasonable delay, pursuant to the NOTICE provision of this Agreement. "Breach of Security" shall mean the unauthorized acquisition or acquisition without valid authorization of computerized data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of personal information maintained by a business. "Personal Information" shall mean any information concerning a person which, because of name, number, mark or other identifier, can be used to identify such person. "Private Information" shall mean personal information in combination with any one or more of the following data elements, when either the personal information or the data information or the data element is not encrypted or encrypted with an encryption key that has also been acquired: (i) social security number; (ii) driver's license number or non-driver identification cards number; or (iii) account number, credit or debit card number, in combination with any required security code, access code, or password which would permit access to an individual's financial account. Additionally, Offeror undertakes to, solely at its own cost and expense, provide any requisite notices that either Contractor or NYSIF would have to provide pursuant to NY CLS Gen Bus §899-aa and NY CLS State Technology Law §208, or any other applicable statute, both on behalf of Contractor and on behalf of NYSIF. Offeror's notification shall include but not be limited to a description of the categories of information that were, or are reasonably believed, to have been acquired by a person without valid authorization, including specification of which of the elements of personal

information and private information were, or are reasonably believed to have been, so acquired, or as otherwise provided for by applicable law.

### 31. CONFIDENTIALITY CLAUSE

NYSIF Confidential Information includes but is not limited to: (i) the meaning ascribed to “*Nonpublic Personal Information*” in Title V of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations thereunder, all as may be amended or supplemented from time to time (“*GLBA*”), as it relates to NYSIF’s consumers, (ii) “*Protected Health Information (PHI)*” as such term is defined in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations thereunder, all as may be amended or supplemented from time to time (“*HIPAA*”) and (iii) any personally identifiable information protected under any other applicable state or federal statute, rule or regulation.

All material made available to the contractor or its staff will remain the property of NYSIF. In addition, the contractor, subcontractor and staff shall maintain the confidentiality of all material, including the identity of any parties and content of any material to which they are exposed or have access. All improvements to applications and processes developed at NYSIF’s expense and within the scope of the services provided to NYSIF shall be the sole and exclusive property of NYSIF.

The contractor will not divulge, disclose or furnish to any other party the information or processes utilized at NYSIF, disclosed to the contractor or developed by the contractor or another during the course of the project unless such information is in the public domain.

The contractor will advise NYSIF if it is engaged in a project for any other insurance company, or subsidiary, that has a Workers’ Compensation or Disability Benefits product line.

Any request for information from third parties shall be reported to NYSIF in writing within 24 hours. News releases pertaining to this project will not be made without prior NYSIF approval.

### 32. INDEMNIFICATION

Contractor shall be fully liable for the actions of its agents, employees, partners or Subcontractors and shall fully indemnify and save harmless NYSIF from suits, actions, damages and costs of every name and description relating to personal injury and damage to real or personal tangible property and intellectual property caused by any intentional act or negligence of Contractor, its agents, employees, partners or Subcontractors, without limitation; provided, however, that the Contractor shall not indemnify for that portion of any claim, loss or damage arising hereunder due to the negligent act or failure to act of NYSIF.

### 33. INDEMNIFICATION RELATING TO THIRD PARTY RIGHTS

The Contractor will also indemnify and hold NYSIF harmless from and against any and all damages, expenses (including reasonable attorneys’ fees), claims, judgments, liabilities and costs that may be finally assessed against NYSIF in any action for infringement of a United States Letter Patent, or of any copyright, trademark, trade secret or other third party proprietary right except to the extent such claims arise from NYSIF’s gross negligence or willful misconduct, provided that the State shall give Contractor: (i) prompt written notice of any action, claim or threat of infringement suit, or other suit, (ii) the opportunity to take over, settle or defend such action, claim or suit at Contractor’s sole expense, and (iii) assistance in the defense of any such action at the expense of Contractor.

If usage shall be enjoined for any reason or if Contractor believes that it may be enjoined, Contractor shall have the right, at its own expense and sole discretion to take action in the following order of precedence: (i) to procure for NYSIF the right to continue Usage (ii) to modify the service or Product so that Usage becomes non-infringing, and is of at least equal quality and performance; or (iii) to replace said service or Product or part(s) thereof, as applicable, with non-infringing service or Product of at least equal quality and performance. If the above remedies are not available, the parties shall terminate the Contract, in whole or in part as necessary and applicable, provided NYSIF is given a refund for any amounts paid for the period during which Usage was not feasible.

### 34. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Except as otherwise set forth in the Indemnification Paragraphs above, the limit of liability shall be as follows:

- a. Contractor’s liability for any claim, loss or liability arising out of, or connected with the Products and services provided, and whether based upon default, or other liability such as breach of contract, warranty, negligence, misrepresentation or otherwise, shall in no case exceed direct damages in: (i) an amount equal to two (2) times the charges specified in the contract, or (ii) one million dollars (\$1,000,000), whichever is greater.

- b. NYSIF may retain such monies from any amount due Contractor as may be necessary to satisfy any claim for damages, costs and the like asserted against NYSIF unless Contractor at the time of the presentation of claim shall demonstrate to the NYSIF's satisfaction that sufficient monies are set aside by the Contractor in the form of a bond or through insurance coverage to cover associated damages and other costs.
- c. Notwithstanding the above, neither the Contractor nor NYSIF shall be liable for any consequential, indirect or special damages of any kind which may result directly or indirectly from such performance, including, without limitation, damages resulting from loss of use or loss of profit by NYSIF, the Contractor, or by others

### 35. NON-SOLICITATION

The Contractor shall contact NYSIF employees, including employees designated by NYSIF to receive marketing material and negotiate contracts only in connection with the transaction of business set forth herein. The Contractor shall be cognizant of sections 73 and 74 of the NYS Public Officers Law, which govern the conduct of the state employees, and sections 139-j and 139-k of the NYS Finance Law which governs the conduct of the state employees and their relations with outside parties.

The Contractor shall not contact or solicit NYSIF employees in connection with any contests, lotteries, challenges, or competitions, whether or not prizes, awards, gifts, remuneration or items of value are awarded. The Contractor shall neither solicit nor market directly to any NYSIF employees in their individual capacities. If the Contractor maintains identifiable records of NYSIF employees in connection with its performance hereunder, such records shall not be commercially exploit its relationship with NYSIF nor use NYSIF, its name, trademarks or logo for any advertising, marketing or other commercial purpose without prior written approval. This clause shall survive termination of any awarded contract.

### 36. CONTRACTOR CONSULTANT LAW

Effective June 19, 2006, Chapter 10 of the Laws of 2006 amended the Civil Service and State Finance Laws, relative to maintaining certain information on contract employees working under State agency service and consulting contracts. State agency consultant contracts are defined as "contracts entered into by a state agency for *analysis, evaluation, research, training, data processing, computer programming, engineering, environmental health and mental health services, accounting, auditing, paralegal, legal, or similar services*". The amendments require that certain contract employee information be provided to the state agency awarding such contracts, the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC), the Division of the Budget (DOB) and the Department of Civil Service (CS).

To meet these new requirements, the awarded contractor agrees to complete Form A - Contractor's Planned Employment Form, and Form B – Contractor's Annual Employment Report.

For more information on this requirement, please see the NYS Office of the State Comptroller's [Guide to Financial Operations Section XI.18.C Consultant Disclosure Legislation](#).

### 37. INSURANCE

Prior to the commencement of the work, Contractor shall file with NYSIF Certificates of Insurance evidencing compliance with all requirements contained in the Bid Documents. Acceptance and/or approval by NYSIF do not and shall not be construed to relieve Contractor of any obligations, responsibilities or liabilities under this Agreement.

Contractor shall cause all insurance to be in full force and effect as of the commencement date of this Agreement and to remain in full force and effect throughout the term of this Agreement and as further required by this Agreement. Contractor shall not take any action, or omit to take any action that would suspend or invalidate any of the required coverages during the period of time such coverages are required to be in effect.

### 38. PERFORMANCE / BID BOND

NYSIF reserves the right to require a Bidder or Contractor to furnish without additional cost, a performance, payment or Bid bond or negotiable irrevocable letter of credit or other form of security for the faithful performance of the Contract. Where required, such bond or other security shall be in the form prescribed by NYSIF

### 39. NOTICE

Any communications between NYSIF and Contractor and notices provided herein, to be given or made, shall be in writing and shall be transmitted either by:

- a. certified or registered United States mail, return receipt requested
- b. facsimile transmission
- c. personal delivery

- d. expedited delivery service
- e. e-mail

Such notices shall be addressed to:

New York State Insurance Fund  
 Procurement Unit  
 15 Computer Drive West  
 Albany, New York 12205  
 Email: [contracts@nysif.com](mailto:contracts@nysif.com)  
 Fax: 518-437-4209

or to such addressee as may be hereafter designated by notice.

Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given either at the time of personal delivery, or in the case of expedited delivery service or certified or registered US mail, as of the date of the first attempted delivery at the address and in the manner provided herein, or in the case of facsimile transmission or email, upon receipt.

The parties may, from time to time, specify any new or different address in the United States as their address for the purpose of receiving notice under this Agreement by giving fifteen (15) days written notice to the other party sent in accordance herewith. The parties agree to mutually designate individuals as their respective representatives for the purposes of receiving notices under this Agreement. Additional individuals may be designated in writing by the parties for purposes of implementation and administration/billing, resolving issues and problems and/or for dispute resolution.

**40. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement may not be modified, renewed or discharged, except as herein specifically provided, or by an agreement in writing signed by both parties and, if applicable, approved by the Office of the State Comptroller or Department of Financial Services.

During the term of the contract, the contract may be amended as changes occur within the industry. NYSIF reserves the right to consider amendments which are not specifically covered by the terms of the contract but are judged to be in the best interest of NYSIF and the State. Examples of amendments may include but are not limited to new job titles under the Department of Labor Prevailing Wages, new categories of expertise, ancillary job classifications, on-going services, etc. NYSIF or the contractor may suggest changes. If the contractor offers new job titles or services, these services may be made available under this contract and may be offered at maximum not to exceed prices. It shall be the contractor's responsibility to submit to NYSIF service changes for consideration for contract amendment. These changes, if approved, shall take effect upon written notification by NYSIF and may be subject to approval by the Office of the State Comptroller or Department of Financial Services

**41. SEVERABILITY**

In the event that any provision of this Agreement shall be considered void, voidable, illegal or invalid for any reason, such provision shall be of no force and effect only to the extent that it is so declared void, voidable, illegal or invalid. All of the provisions of this Agreement not specifically found to be so deficient shall remain in full force and effect.

**42. CHOICE OF LAW: VENUE**

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of New York, without giving effect to the choice of law or conflict of law provisions thereof.

**43. COUNTERPARTS / SIGNATURES**

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which when so executed will be deemed to be an original. Such counterparts together will constitute one agreement.

## **EXHIBIT M**

### **CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR BUSINESS PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITY GROUP MEMBERS AND WOMEN**

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Pursuant to the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR Parts 140-145 (“MWBE Regulations”) for all State contracts as defined therein, with a value (1) in excess of \$25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of \$100,000 for real property renovations and construction.

In 2006, the State of New York commissioned a disparity study to evaluate whether minority and women-owned business enterprises had a full and fair opportunity to participate in state contracting. The findings of the study were published on April 29, 2010, under the title "The State of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises: Evidence from New York" (“Disparity Study”). The report found evidence of statistically significant disparities between the level of participation of minority-and women-owned business enterprises in state procurement contracting versus the number of minority-and women-owned business enterprises that were ready, willing and able to participate in state procurements. As a result of these findings, the Disparity Study made recommendations concerning the implementation and operation of the statewide certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises program. The recommendations from the Disparity Study culminated in the enactment and the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, which requires, among other things, that NYSIF establishes goals for maximum feasible participation of New York State Certified minority- and women – owned business enterprises (“MWBE”) and the employment of minority groups members and women in the performance of New York State contracts.

The contractor to the subject contract (the “Contractor” and the “Contract,” respectively) agrees, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the Contract and at no additional cost to the New York State Insurance Fund, to fully comply and cooperate with the New York State Insurance Fund in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women (“EEO”) and contracting opportunities for certified minority and women-owned business enterprises (“MWBEs”). The Contractor’s demonstration of “good faith efforts” pursuant to 5 NYCRR § 142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the “Human Rights Law”) or other applicable federal, state or local laws.

#### **CONTRACT GOALS**

For purposes of this solicitation, NYSIF hereby establishes an overall goal of 30% for MWBE participation, 18% for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (“MBE”) participation and 12% for Women-Owned Business Enterprises (“WBE”) participation (based on the current availability of qualified MBEs and WBEs).

## EXHIBIT M

Where MWBE Contract Goals have been established herein, pursuant to 5 NYCCR § 142.8, the Contractor must document “good faith efforts” to provide meaningful participation by MWBEs as subcontractors or suppliers in the performance of the Contract. In accordance with Section 316-a of Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR § 142.13, the Contractor acknowledges that if it is found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the MWBE participation goals set forth in the Contract, such a finding constitutes a breach of contract and the Contractor shall be liable to the New York State Insurance Fund for liquidated or other appropriate damages, as set forth herein.

For the purposes of providing meaningful participation by MWBE’s on the Contract and achieving the MWBE Contract Goals established, the Contractor should reference the director of New York State Certified MWBEs can found at the following internet address:

<https://ny.newnycontracts.com/FrontEnd/VendorSearchPublic.asp>

### MWBE UTILIZATION PLAN

By submitting a bid or proposal, a bidder on the Contract (“Bidder”) agrees to submit the following documents and information as evidence of compliance with the foregoing:

- A. Bidders are required to submit to submit a **MWBE Utilization Plan on Form # 103** with their bid or proposal. Any modifications or changes to the MWBE Utilization Plan after the Contract award and during the term of the Contract must be reported on a revised MWBE Utilization Plan and submitted to NYSIF.
- B. NYSIF will review the submitted MWBE Utilization Plan and advise the Bidder of NYSIF acceptance or issue a notice of deficiency prior to a Contract award.
- C. If a notice of deficiency is issued, Bidder agrees that it shall respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt by submitting to NYSIF, a written remedy in response to the notice of deficiency. If the written remedy that is submitted is not timely or is found by NYSIF to be inadequate, NYSIF shall notify the Bidder and direct the Bidder to submit, within five (5) business days, a request for a partial or total waiver of MWBE participation goals on **Request for Waiver Form # 104**. Failure to file the waiver form in a timely manner may be grounds for disqualification of the bid or proposal.
- D. NYSIF may disqualify a Bidder as being non-responsive under the following circumstances:
  - a) If a Bidder fails to submit a MWBE Utilization Plan;
  - b) If a Bidder fails to submit a written remedy to a notice of deficiency;
  - c) If a Bidder fails to submit a request for waiver; or
  - d) If NYSIF determines that the Bidder has failed to document good faith efforts.
- E. If awarded a Contract, Contractors are required to submit a Contractor’s Quarterly **MWBE Quarterly Report Form # 105** to NYSIF, by the 15th day following each end of the quarter (3/31, 6/30, 9/30 & 12/31) over the term of the Contract documenting the progress made toward achievement of the MWBE goals of the Contract.

## EXHIBIT M

Contractors shall attempt to utilize, in good faith, any MBE or WBE identified within its MWBE Utilization Plan, during the performance of the Contract. Requests for a partial or total waiver of established goal requirements made subsequent to Contract Award may be made at any time during the term of the Contract to NYSIF, but must be made no later than prior to the submission of a request for final payment on the Contract.

Making false representations or including information evidencing a lack of good faith as part of, or in conjunction with, the submission of a Utilization Plan is prohibited by law and may result in penalties including, but not limited to, termination of a contract for cause, loss of eligibility to submit future bids, and/or withholding of payments. Firms that do not perform commercially useful functions may not be counted toward MWBE utilization.

Such liquidated damages shall be calculated as an amount equaling the difference between: (1) all sums identified for payment to MWBEs had the Contractor achieved the contractual MWBE goals; and (2) all sums actually paid to MWBEs for work performed or materials supplied under the Contract.

### **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY(EEO) REQUIREMENTS**

By submitting a bid or proposal, a bidder on the Contract (“Bidder”) agrees to be bound by the provisions of Article 15-A and the MWBE Regulations promulgated thereunder by the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development of the New York State Department of Economic Development (“Division”). If any of these terms or provisions conflict with the applicable law or regulations, such laws and regulations shall supersede these requirements.

Each Contractor and subcontractor performing work on the Contract shall undertake or continue existing EEO programs to ensure that minority group member and woman are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status. For these purposes, EEO shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.

Bidder further agrees to submit the following documents and information as evidence of compliance with the foregoing:

- A. **Staffing Plan Form # 101-** All bidders and each subcontractor identified in the bid or proposal must complete a Staffing Plan and submit as part of the bid or proposal.
- B. **Workforce Employment Utilization Form # 102-** If awarded a Contract, the Contractor and/or Subcontractors are required to submit electronically on a monthly basis for construction contracts, and a quarterly basis for all other contracts, during the life of the contract to report the actual work force utilized in the performance of the contract broken down by the specified categories. Utilization reports are to be completed for the quarters ending 3/31, 6/30, 9/30 and 12/31 and submitted to the NYSIF M/WBE Program Management Unit within 15 days of the end of each quarter. If there are no changes to the work force utilized on the contract during the reporting period, the contractor can submit a copy of the previously submitted report indicating no changes with the date and reporting period updated. Reports are to be submitted electronically in excel form only to [mwbeinfo@nysif.com](mailto:mwbeinfo@nysif.com). A copy of the excel version can be found on NYSIF’s website at:

## EXHIBIT M

<http://ww3.nysif.com/AboutNYSIF/ProcurementInfo.aspx>

- C. **MWBE Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement Form # 106** - All bidders and each subcontractor identified in the bid or proposal must complete and submit as part of the bid or proposal.

Further, pursuant to Article 15 of the Executive Law (the “Human Rights Law”), all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor and subcontractors will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

**Please Note: Failure to comply with the foregoing requirements may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of the Contract, leading to the withholding of funds, suspension or termination of the Contract or such other actions or enforcement proceedings as allowed by the Contract.**



## REQUEST FOR WAIVER FORM

**INSTRUCTIONS: SEE PAGE 2 OF THIS ATTACHMENT FOR REQUIREMENTS AND DOCUMENT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS.**

<b>Offeror/Contractor Name:</b>	<b>Federal Identification No.:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	<b>Solicitation/Contract No.:</b>	
<b>City, State, Zip Code:</b>	<b>M/WBE Goals: MBE      %      WBE      %</b>	
<p><b>By submitting this form and the required information, the offeror/contractor certifies that every Good Faith Effort has been taken to promote M/WBE participation pursuant to the M/WBE requirements set forth under the contract.</b></p>		
<p><b>Contractor is requesting a:</b></p> <p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MBE Waiver</b> – A waiver of the MBE Goal for this procurement is requested. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Total</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Partial</b></p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>WBE Waiver</b> – A waiver of the WBE Goal for this procurement is requested. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Total</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Partial</b></p> <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Waiver Pending ESD Certification</b> – (Check here if subcontractors or suppliers of Contractor are not certified M/WBE, but an application for certification has been filed with Empire State Development.)      <b>Date of such filing with Empire State Development:</b> _____</p>		
<p><b>PREPARED BY (Signature):</b></p> <p><small>SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM CONSTITUTES THE OFFEROR/CONTRACTOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE M/WBE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH UNDER NYS EXECUTIVE LAW, ARTICLE 15-A AND 5 NYCRR PART 143. FAILURE TO SUBMIT COMPLETE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION MAY RESULT IN A FINDING OF NONCOMPLIANCE AND/OR TERMINATION OF THE CONTRACT.</small></p>	<p><b>Date:</b></p>	
<p><b>Name and Title of Preparer (Printed or Typed):</b></p>	<p><b>Telephone Number:</b></p>	<p><b>Email Address:</b></p>
<p><b>Submit with the bid or proposal or if submitting after award submit to:</b></p> <p>New York State Insurance Fund                  Attn: Procurement Unit                  15 Computer Dr. W.                  Albany, NY 12205                  Email: contracts@nysif.com</p>	<p>***** <b>FOR M/WBE USE ONLY</b> *****</p>	
	<p><b>REVIEWED BY:</b></p>	<p><b>DATE:</b></p>
	<p><b>Waiver Granted:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>YES</b>      <b>MBE:</b> <input type="checkbox"/>      <b>WBE:</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Total Waiver</b>      <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Partial Waiver</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>ESD Certification Waiver</b>      <input type="checkbox"/> <b>*Conditional</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Notice of Deficiency Issued</b> _____</p> <p><b>*Comments:</b></p>	

## REQUIREMENTS AND DOCUMENT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

**When completing the Request for Waiver Form please check all boxes that apply. To be considered, the Request for Waiver Form must be accompanied by documentation for items 1 – 11, as listed below. If box # 3 has been checked above, please see item 11. Copies of the following information and all relevant supporting documentation must be submitted along with the request:**

1. A statement setting forth your basis for requesting a partial or total waiver.
2. The names of general circulation, trade association, and M/WBE-oriented publications in which you solicited certified M/WBEs for the purposes of complying with your participation goals.
3. A list identifying the date(s) that all solicitations for certified M/WBE participation were published in any of the above publications.
4. A list of all certified M/WBEs appearing in the NYS Directory of Certified Firms that were solicited for purposes of complying with your certified M/WBE participation levels.
5. Copies of notices, dates of contact, letters, and other correspondence as proof that solicitations were made in writing and copies of such solicitations, or a sample copy of the solicitation if an identical solicitation was made to all certified M/WBEs.
6. Provide copies of responses made by certified M/WBEs to your solicitations.
7. Provide a description of any contract documents, plans, or specifications made available to certified M/WBEs for purposes of soliciting their bids and the date and manner in which these documents were made available.
8. Provide documentation of any negotiations between you, the Offeror/Contractor, and the M/WBEs undertaken for purposes of complying with the certified M/WBE participation goals.
9. Provide any other information you deem relevant which may help us in evaluating your request for a waiver.
10. Provide the name, title, address, telephone number, and email address of offeror/contractor's representative authorized to discuss and negotiate this waiver request.
11. Copy of notice of application receipt issued by Empire State Development (ESD).

Note: Unless a Total Waiver has been granted, the Offeror/Contractor will be required to submit all reports and documents pursuant to the provisions set forth in the Contract, as deemed appropriate by AGENCY, to determine M/WBE compliance.

Is this a final report? Check One  
 Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**M/WBE Quarterly Report  
 of**

**NYS AGENCY Contract No.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Project No.** \_\_\_\_\_

The following information indicates the payment amounts made by the grantee/contractor to the NYS Certified M/WBE subcontractor on this project. The payments as shown made are in compliance with contract documents for the above referenced project.

<b>Contractors Name and Address</b>		<b>Federal ID#</b>		<b>Goals/\$ Amt.</b> MBE _____%= _____ WBE _____%= _____ -		<b>Contract Type</b> _____					
		<b>Project Completion Date</b>		<b>Work Location</b>		<b>Reporting Period:</b> ___ 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter (4/1-6/30) ___ 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter (10/1-12/31) ___ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter (7/1-9/30) ___ 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter (1/1-3/31)					
<b>M/WBE Subcontractor/Vendor</b>		<b>Product Code*</b>	<b>Work Status This Report</b>	<b>Total Subcontractor Contract Amount</b>		<b>Payments this Quarter</b>		<b>Previous Payments</b>		<b>Total Payment Made to Date</b>	
				<b>MBE</b>	<b>WBE</b>	<b>MBE</b>	<b>WBE</b>	<b>MBE</b>	<b>WBE</b>	<b>MBE</b>	<b>WBE</b>
<b>Name:</b>			___ <b>Active</b>								
<b>FED ID#</b>			___ <b>Inactive</b>								
			___ <b>Complete</b>								
<b>Name:</b>			___ <b>Active</b>								
<b>FED ID#</b>			___ <b>Inactive</b>								
			___ <b>Complete</b>								
<b>Name:</b>			___ <b>Active</b>								
<b>FED ID#</b>			___ <b>Inactive</b>								
			___ <b>Complete</b>								
<b>Name:</b>			___ <b>Active</b>								
<b>FED ID#</b>			___ <b>Inactive</b>								
			___ <b>Complete</b>								
<b>Total</b>											

\*See bELOW for Product Codes

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRODUCT KEY CODE**

A	=	Agriculture/ Landscaping (e.g., all forms of landscaping services)
B	=	Mining (e.g., geological investigations)
C	=	Construction
C15	=	Building Construction – General Contractors
C16	=	Heavy Construction (e.g., highway, pipe laying)
C17	=	Special Trade Contractors (e.g., plumbing, heating, electrical, carpentry)
D	=	Manufacturing
E	=	Transportation, Communication and Sanitary Services (e.g., delivery services, warehousing, broadcasting and cable systems)
F/G	=	Wholesale/Retail Goods (e.g. hospital supplies and equipment, food stores, computer stores, office supplies)
G52	=	Construction Materials (e.g., lumber, paint, law supplies)
H	=	Financial, Insurance and Real Estate Services
I	=	Services
I73	=	Business Services (e.g., copying, advertising, secretarial, janitorial, rental services of equipment, computer programming, security services)
I81	=	Legal Services
I82	=	Education Services (e.g., AIDS education, automobile safety, tutoring, public speaking)
I83	=	Social Services (Counselors, vocational training, child care)
I87	=	Engineering, architectural, accounting, research, management and related services

**Form 101  
STAFFING PLAN  
Submit with Bid or Proposal-Instructions on page 2**

**Reporting Entity**

Offeror                       Subcontractor

**Report includes Contractor's/Subcontractor's**

Workforce Utilized in Performance of Contract  
 Contractor/Subcontractor's Total Workforce

Offeror's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Offeror's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Solicitation Number: \_\_\_\_\_

EEO 1 Job Categories	SOC Job Title	SOC Job Code	Hours worked by Race/Ethnic Identification During Reporting Period										
			White		Black/African American		Hispanic/Latino		Asian/Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		Native American/Alaskan Native		
			Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Professionals	Lawyers	(23-1011)											
Administrative Support Workers	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	(23-2011)											
Administrative Support Workers	Miscellaneous Legal Support Workers	(23-2090)											
Administrative Support Workers	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	(43-6010)											
	Other -												
	Other -												
	Other -												
<b>TOTAL ANTICIPATED HOURS WORKED</b>													

EEO 1 Job Categories	SOC Job Title	SOC Job Code	Number of Employees by Race/Ethnic Identification During Reporting Period										
			White		Black/African American		Hispanic/Latino		Asian/Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		Native American/Alaskan Native		
			Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Professionals	Lawyers	(23-1011)											
Administrative Support Workers	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	(23-2011)											
Administrative Support Workers	Miscellaneous Legal Support Workers	(23-2090)											
Administrative Support Workers	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	(43-6010)											
	Other -												
	Other -												
	Other -												
<b>TOTAL ANTICIPATED</b>	<b>EMPLOYEES</b>												

Preparer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preparer's Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Preparer's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Form 101-Instructions

**General Instructions:** All Offerors and each subcontractor identified in the bid or proposal must complete a Staffing Plan (Form 101) and submit it as part of the bid or proposal. Where the work force to be utilized in the performance of the State contract can be separated out from the contractor's and/or subcontractor's total work force, the Offeror shall complete this form only for the anticipated work force to be utilized on the State contract. Where the work force to be utilized in the performance of the State contract cannot be separated out from the contractor's and/or subcontractor's total work force, the Offeror shall complete this form for the contractor's and/or subcontractor's total work force.

### Instructions for completing:

1. Check off the appropriate box to indicate if the entity completing the Report is the Offeror or Subcontractor.
2. Check off the appropriate box to indicate work force to be utilized in the performance of the contract or the Offerors' total work force.
3. Enter the name and address of the Offeror and the solicitation number that this report applies to.
4. Verify that job titles are provided under the column titled "SOC Job Title" for each employee whose anticipated work will be reflected on the Report. If a necessary job title is not included, please add the corresponding job category, title and corresponding job code to the "EEO 1 Job Categories" "SOC Job Title" and "SOC Job Code" columns from the list of job categories, SOC titles, and SOC codes reflected in the EEO-1 Job Classification Guide, 2014. A copy of this guide can be found on NYSIF's website at: <http://ww3.nysif.com/AboutNYSIF/ProcurementInfo.aspx>
5. In the first group of boxes, identify the anticipated number of hours worked by persons identifying with each racial/ethnic category by gender for each job title in the SOC Job Title column.
6. In the second group of boxes, identify the anticipated number of persons identifying with each racial/ethnic category by gender for each job title in the SOC Job Title column.
7. Enter the name and the title for the person completing the form, enter the date upon which the Report was completed, and sign the form.

### RACE/ETHNIC IDENTIFICATION

Race/ethnic designations as used by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and do not denote scientific definitions of anthropological origins. For the purposes of this Report, an employee must be included in the group to which he or she appears to belong, identifies with, or is regarded in the community as belonging. However, no person should be counted in more than one race/ethnic group. The race/ethnic categories for this Report are:

- **WHITE** (Not of Hispanic origin) All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.
- **BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN** a person, not of Hispanic origin, who has origins in any of the black racial groups of the original peoples of Africa.
- **HISPANIC/LATINO** a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- **ASIAN/NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER** a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the the Indian subcontinent or the Pacific Islands.
- **NATIVE INDIAN/ALASKAN NATIVE** a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

**NEW YORK STATE INSURANCE FUND  
FORM 102  
WORKFORCE EMPLOYMENT UTILIZATION**

Reporting Entity

Contractor  Subcontractor

Reporting Period - Select One

<input type="checkbox"/> January 1 - March 31	<input type="checkbox"/> April 1 - June 30	
<input type="checkbox"/> July 1 - September 30	<input type="checkbox"/> October 1 - December 31	
<input type="checkbox"/> January	<input type="checkbox"/> February	<input type="checkbox"/> March
<input type="checkbox"/> April	<input type="checkbox"/> May	<input type="checkbox"/> June
<input type="checkbox"/> July	<input type="checkbox"/> August	<input type="checkbox"/> September
<input type="checkbox"/> October	<input type="checkbox"/> November	<input type="checkbox"/> December

Contractor Name

Contractor Address

Contract Number

Workforce Identified in Report

Workforce Utilized in Performance of Contract  
 Contractor/Subcontractor's Total Workforce

EEO 1 Job Categories	SOC Job Title	SOC Job Code	Hours worked by Race/Ethnic Identification During Reporting Period										
			White		Black/African American		Hispanic/Latino		Asian/Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		Native American/Alaskan Native		
			Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Professionals	Lawyers	(23-1011)											
Administrative Support Workers	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	(23-2011)											
Administrative Support Workers	Miscellaneous Legal Support Workers	(23-2090)											
Administrative Support Workers	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	(43-6010)											
	Other -												
	Other -												
	Other -												
<b>TOTAL HOURS WORKED</b>													

EEO 1 Job Categories	SOC Job Title	SOC Job Code	Number of Employees by Race/Ethnic Identification During Reporting Period										
			White		Black/African American		Hispanic/Latino		Asian/Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		Native American/Alaskan Native		
			Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Professionals	Lawyers	(23-1011)											
Administrative Support Workers	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	(23-2011)											
Administrative Support Workers	Miscellaneous Legal Support Workers	(23-2090)											
Administrative Support Workers	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	(43-6010)											
	Other -												
	Other -												
	Other -												
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYEES</b>													

Preparer's Name:

Preparer's Title:

Date:

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The work force utilization (M/WBE **102**) is to be submitted on a monthly basis for construction contracts, and a quarterly basis for all other contracts, during the life of the contract to report the actual work force utilized in the performance of the contract broken down by the specified categories. When the work force utilized in the performance of the contract can be separated out from the contractor's and/or subcontractor's total work force, the contractor and/or subcontractor shall submit a Utilization Report of the work force utilized on the contract. When the work force to be utilized on the contract cannot be separated out from the contractor's and/or subcontractor's total work force, information on the total work force shall be included in the Utilization Report.

Utilization reports are to be completed for the quarters ended 3/31, 6/30, 9/30 and 12/31 and submitted to the M/WBE Program Management Unit within 15 days of the end of each quarter. If there are no changes to the work force utilized on the contract during the reporting period, the contractor can submit a copy of the previously submitted report indicating no change with the date and reporting period updated. Reports are to be submitted electronically in excel form only to [mwbeinfo@nysif.com](mailto:mwbeinfo@nysif.com) with the file name NYSIF followed by an underscore and the contract number (e.g. NYSIF\_contract number.xlsx). A copy of the excel version can be found on NYSIF's website at: <http://ww3.nysif.com/AboutNYSIF/ProcurementInfo.aspx>.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING

1. Check off the appropriate box to indicate if the entity completing the Report is the contractor or subcontractor.
2. Enter the number of the contract that the Report applies to along with the name and address of the contractor or subcontractor for which the Report has been prepared.
3. Check off the box that corresponds to the applicable monthly or quarterly reporting period for this Report.
4. Check off the appropriate box to indicate if the workforce being reported is just for the contract or the contractor's or subcontractor's total workforce.
5. Verify that job titles are provided under the column titled "SOC Job Title" for each employee whose work will be reflected on the Report. If a necessary job title is not included, please add the corresponding job category, title and corresponding job code to the "EEO 1 Job Categories" "SOC Job Title" and "SOC Job Code" columns from the list of job categories, SOC titles, and SOC codes reflected in the EEO-1 Job Classification Guide, 2014. A copy of this guide can be found on NYSIF's website at: <http://ww3.nysif.com/AboutNYSIF/ProcurementInfo.aspx>
6. In the first group of boxes, identify the number of hours worked by persons identifying with each racial/ethnic category by gender for each job title in the SOC Job Title column.
7. In the second group of boxes, identify the number of persons identifying with each racial/ethnic category by gender for each job title in the SOC Job Title column.
8. Enter the name and title for the person completing the form, enter the date upon which the Report was completed, and check the box accepting the name entered into the Report as the digital signature of the preparer.

## RACE/ETHNIC IDENTIFICATION

Race/ethnic designations as used by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission do not denote scientific definitions of anthropological origins. For the purposes of this report, an employee may be included in the group to which he or she appears to belong, identifies with, or is regarded in the community as belonging. However, no person should be counted in more than one race/ethnic group. The race/ethnic categories for this survey are:

- **WHITE** (Not of Hispanic origin) All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.
- **BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN** a person, not of Hispanic origin, who has origins in any of the black racial groups of the original peoples of Africa.
- **HISPANIC/LATINO** a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- **ASIAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER** a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent or the Pacific Islands.
- **NATIVE AMERICAN/ALASKAN NATIVE** a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

Form 106

MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES – EQUAL  
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT

M/WBE AND EEO POLICY STATEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the (awardee/contractor)\_\_\_\_\_ agree to adopt the following policies with respect to the project being developed or services rendered at \_\_\_\_\_

**M/WBE**

This organization will and will cause its contractors and subcontractors to take good faith actions to achieve the M/WBE contract participations goals set by the State for that area in which the State-funded project is located, by taking the following steps:

- (1) Actively and affirmatively solicit bids for contracts and subcontracts from qualified State certified MBEs or WBEs, including solicitations to M/WBE contractor associations.
- (2) Request a list of State-certified M/WBEs from AGENCY and solicit bids from them directly.
- (3) Ensure that plans, specifications, request for proposals and other documents used to secure bids will be made available in sufficient time for review by prospective M/WBEs.
- (4) Where feasible, divide the work into smaller portions to enhanced participations by M/WBEs and encourage the formation of joint venture and other partnerships among M/WBE contractors to enhance their participation.
- (5) Document and maintain records of bid solicitation, including those to M/WBEs and the results thereof. Contractor will also maintain records of actions that its subcontractors have taken toward meeting M/WBE contract participation goals.
- (6) Ensure that progress payments to M/WBEs are made on a timely basis so that undue financial hardship is avoided, and that bonding and other credit requirements are waived or appropriate alternatives developed to encourage M/WBE participation.

**EEO**

(a) This organization will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on state contracts.

(b) This organization shall state in all solicitation or advertisements for employees that in the performance of the State contract all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex disability or marital status.

(c) At the request of the contracting agency, this organization shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of this organization's obligations herein.

(d) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

(e) This organization will include the provisions of sections (a) through (d) of this agreement in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the State contract

**Form 106**

Agreed to this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2\_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

Print: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ is designated as the Minority Business Enterprise Liaison  
(Name of Designated Liaison)

responsible for administering the Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises- Equal Employment Opportunity (M/WBE-EEO) program.

**M/WBE Contract Goals**

\_\_\_\_\_20% Minority and Women’s Business Enterprise Participation

\_\_\_\_\_ % Minority Business Enterprise Participation

\_\_\_\_\_ % Women’s Business Enterprise Participation

**EEO Contract Goals**

\_\_\_\_\_ % Minority Labor Force Participation

\_\_\_\_\_ % Female Labor Force Participation

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized Representative)

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

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

## **Exhibit 1 Definitions**

**Deposition:** The taking of sworn testimony of a deponent with a stenographer transcribing the testimony to impeach credibility. Workers' Compensation Law section 121 allows for depositions by stating: "the chairman or board may cause depositions of witnesses residing within or without the state to be taken in the manner prescribed by law for depositions and civil actions in the Supreme Court." For the purposes of this IFB the parties taking part in the deposition will include, at the minimum: a medical witness, an attorney will be present (most likely telephonically) for the claimant and a NYSIF Hearing Representative. At times additional representatives for other carriers will take part in the deposition. While the Workers' Compensation Board reviews the deposition transcripts, no member of the WCB is present during depositions.

**Stenographer:** A person capable of typing word for word, in real time, the statements made during a deposition. For the purposes of the IFB a stenographer must be a notary and is responsible for swearing in the deponent and certifying the transcript.

**Stenography/Transcription:** The act of typing in real time everything spoken during a deposition.

**Telephone Deposition:** For the purposes of this IFB a telephone deposition is taking the sworn testimony of a deponent where all parties are present telephonically.

**In Person Deposition:** For the purposes of this IFB a deposition is taking the sworn testimony of a deponent where the stenographer is present with the deponent and all other parties are present telephonically.

**Off the record:** If both parties agree that they do not want a statement on the record the stenographer should not include that statement in the transcript.

**Transcript:** A complete record of everything stated 'on the record' during a deposition.

APPENDIX D

**MacBRIDE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**YOU ARE REQUIRED TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BELOW IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION IN THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT WITH AN AGENCY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK:**

“NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND:  
MacBRIDE FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRINCIPLES”

In accordance with Chapter 807 of the Laws of 1992, the bidder, by submission of this bid, certifies that it or any individual or legal entity in which the bidder holds a 10% or greater ownership interest, or any individual or legal entity that holds a 10% or greater ownership interest in the bidder, either:

(Answer YES or NO to one or both of the following, as applicable:)

(1) have business operations in Northern Ireland:

YES  NO

If yes,

(2) shall take lawful steps in good faith to conduct any business operations they have in Northern Ireland in accordance with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles relating to nondiscrimination in employment and freedom of workplace opportunity regarding such operations in Northern Ireland, and shall permit independent monitoring of their compliance with such Principles.

YES  NO

This questionnaire should be signed by a person authorized to enter into contracts on behalf of the bidder.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Typed Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Company Position**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Company Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date Signed**

## APPENDIX E

### VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

Each Contracting Agency conducts a review of prospective contractors (“vendors”) to provide reasonable assurances that the vendor is responsible. This questionnaire is used for all non-construction contracts with a contract value of \$100,000.00 or more and is designed to provide information to assess a vendor’s authorization to do business in New York State, as well as your business integrity, financial and organizational capacity, and performance history. (Review of construction contractors will be based upon the Uniform Contracting Questionnaire developed by the Council of Contracting Agencies.)

Each vendor must answer every question contained in this questionnaire. Where a response requires additional information, the vendor must attach a written response that adequately details the requested information. Please number each response to match the question number. The completed questionnaire and attached responses will become part of the procurement record.

In order to expedite the required review, when providing additional information for a “YES” answer to Questions 14 a-s, or any other response which requires additional explanation, your information and responses should address the relationship of the issue to the proposed contract. Be brief, concise and to the point. Discuss as appropriate the following:

- Provide a description of the issue and identify the actions taken or currently being implemented to ensure that the issue will not occur again.
- State whether the staff and/or organizational component involved in the identified issue(s) will work on the proposed contract. If so, provide information to assure the agency that the issue will not be repeated.
- Identify the relationship (or lack thereof) between the product/services involved in the issue and the type of product/services proposed for this contract.
- State whether the issue will affect your financial or organizational ability to perform under the proposed contract.
- Provide copies of relevant documents or any other information that would assist the agency in its vendor responsibility evaluation.

It is imperative that the person completing the vendor responsibility questionnaire be knowledgeable about the proposing vendor’s business and operations, as an owner or officer of the vendor must attest to the questionnaire information. Please be advised that at the end of this questionnaire, you must certify, under oath, all responses given.

New York State  
Standard Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire

**VENDOR FEIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. Legal Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Federal Employer ID # (FEIN): \_\_\_\_\_

3. D/B/A — Doing Business As (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

County filed: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Website Address (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

5. Principal Place of Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Authorized Contact for this Questionnaire:

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

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

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Type of Business: (please check appropriate box and provide additional information)

Corporation. State of Incorporation: \_\_\_\_\_

Sole Proprietor. State/County filed in: \_\_\_\_\_

General Partnership. State/County filed in: \_\_\_\_\_

Not-for-Profit Corporation. Charities Registration Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Limited Liability Company (LLC). Jurisdiction filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Limited Partnership. State/County filed in \_\_\_\_\_

Other - Specify: \_\_\_\_\_ Jurisdiction filed (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

10. If not incorporated or formed in New York State, please provide a current Certificate of Good Standing from your state or applicable local jurisdiction.

New York State  
Standard Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire

**VENDOR FEIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

11. List Name and Title of each principle, owner, officer, major stockholder (10% or more of the voting shares for publicly traded companies, 25% or more of the shares for all other companies), director, and member, as applicable:

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

12. Authorized Contact for the Proposed Contract:

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

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

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

13. Does the vendor use, or has it used in the past five (5) years, any other business name, FEIN, or D/B/A other than what is listed in Questions 1-3 above?

Yes

No

**If yes**, provide the name(s), FEIN(s) and D/B/A(s) and the address for each such company and D/B/A on a separate piece of paper and attach to this response.

New York State  
Standard Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire

**VENDOR FEIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

14. Within the past five (5) years, has the vendor, any principal, owner, officer, major stockholder (10% or more of the voting shares for publicly traded companies, 25% or more of the shares for all other companies), affiliate<sup>1</sup> or any person involved in the bidding, contracting or leasing process been the subject of any of the following:

(a) a judgment or conviction for any business-related conduct constituting a crime under federal, state or local government law including, but not limited to, fraud, extortion, bribery, racketeering, price-fixing or bid collusion or any crime related to truthfulness and/or business conduct?  Yes  No

---

(b) a criminal investigation or indictment for any business-related conduct constituting a crime under federal, state or local government law including, but not limited to, fraud, extortion, bribery, racketeering, price-fixing or bid collusion or any crime related to truthfulness and/or business conduct?  Yes  No

---

(c) an unsatisfied judgment, injunction or lien for any business-related conduct obtained by any federal, state or local government agency including, but not limited to, judgments based on taxes owed and fines and penalties assessed by any federal, state or local government agency?  Yes  No

---

(d) an investigation for a civil or criminal violation for any business-related conduct by any federal, state or local agency?  Yes  No

---

(e) a grant of immunity for any business-related conduct constituting a crime under federal, state or local governmental law including, but not limited to, fraud, extortion, bribery, racketeering, price-fixing, bid collusion or any crime related to truthfulness and/or business conduct?  Yes  No

---

(f) a federal, state or local government suspension or debarment from the contracting process?  Yes  No

---

(g) a federal, state or local government contract suspension or termination for cause prior to the completion of the term of a contract?  Yes  No

---

(h) a federal, state or local government denial of a lease or contract award for non-responsibility?  Yes  No

---

(i) an administrative proceeding or civil action seeking specific performance or restitution in connection with any federal, state or local contract or lease?  Yes  No

---

<sup>1</sup> "Affiliate" meaning: (a) any entity in which the vendor owns more than 50% of the voting stock; (b) any individual, entity or group of principal owners or officers who own more than 50% of the voting stock of the vendor; or (c) any entity whose voting stock is more than 50% owned by the same individual, entity or group described in clause (b). In addition, if a vendor owns less than 50% of the voting stock of another entity, but directs or has the right to direct such entity's daily operations, that entity will be an "affiliate" for purposes of this questionnaire.

New York State  
Standard Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire

**VENDOR FEIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |                          |     |                          |    |
|--|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|
| (j) a federal, state or local determination of a willful violation of any public works or labor law or regulation?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (k) a sanction imposed as a result of judicial or administrative proceedings relative to any business or professional license?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (l) a consent order with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, or a federal, state or local government enforcement determination involving a violation of federal, state or local environmental laws?                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (m) an Occupational Safety and Health Act citation and Notification of Penalty containing a violation classified as serious or willful?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (n) a rejection of a bid on a New York State contract or a lease with the State for failure to comply with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (o) a citation, violation order, pending administrative hearing or proceeding or determination issued by a federal, state or local government for violations of  |                          |     |                          |    |
| - health laws, rules or regulations  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| - unemployment insurance or workers' compensation coverage or claim requirements   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| - ERISA (Employee Retirement Income Security Act)  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| - human rights laws  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| - federal U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services laws   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| - Sherman Act or other federal anti-trust laws   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (p) entered into an agreement to a voluntary exclusion from contracting with a federal, state or local governmental entity   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (q) a denial, decertification, revocation or forfeiture of Women's Business Enterprise, Minority Business Enterprise or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise status?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (r) a rejection of a low bid on a federal, state or local contract for failure to meet statutory affirmative action or Minority or Women's Business Enterprise or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise status requirements on a previously held contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| (s) a finding of non-responsibility by an agency or authority due to a violation of State Finance Law §139-j?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |

**For each YES answer to Question 14, items a-s, provide details on additional sheets regarding the finding, including but not limited to Cause, Current Status, Resolution, etc.**

New York State  
Standard Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire

**VENDOR FEIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

15. During the past three (3) years, has the vendor failed to:

(a) File returns or pay any applicable Federal, State, or Local Government Taxes  Yes  No

**If yes**, identify the taxing jurisdiction, type of tax, liability year(s) and tax liability amount the company failed to file/pay and the current status of the liability:

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) FILE RETURNS OR PAY NEW YORK STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE?  Yes  No

**If yes**, indicate the years the company failed to file/pay the insurance and the current status of the liability:

\_\_\_\_\_

16. Have any bankruptcy proceedings been initiated by or against the vendor or its affiliates within the past seven (7) years (whether or not closed) or is any bankruptcy proceeding pending by or against the vendor or its affiliates, regardless of the date of filing?  Yes  No

**If yes**, indicate if this is applicable to the submitting vendor or one of its affiliates: \_\_\_\_\_

If it is an affiliate, include the affiliate's name and FEIN: \_\_\_\_\_

Provide the court name, address and docket number: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate if the proceedings have been initiated, remain pending or have been closed: \_\_\_\_\_

If closed, provide the date closed: \_\_\_\_\_

17. Does vendor have the financial resources necessary to fulfill the requirements of the proposed contract?  Yes  No

New York State  
Standard Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire

**VENDOR FEIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State of** \_\_\_\_\_ )  
 ) **ss:**  
**County of** \_\_\_\_\_ )

**CERTIFICATION:**

The undersigned, personally and on behalf of the vendor identified in questions 1-3 above, does hereby state and certify to the New York State Insurance Fund (NYSIF) that the information given above is true, accurate and complete. It is further acknowledged that the State of New York and NYSIF will rely upon the information contained herein and in any attached pages for purposes of evaluating our company for vendor's responsibility for contract award and the State may, in its discretion, by means which it may choose, verify the truth and accuracy of all statements made herein. It is further acknowledged that intentional submission of false or misleading information may constitute a felony under Penal Law Section 175.35 or may constitute a misdemeanor under Penal Law Sections 175.30, 210.35 or 210.45, and may also be punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment of up to five years under 18 USC Section 1001 and may result in contract termination.

**Sworn to before me this**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Officer**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Day of** \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Typed/Printed Name**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Notary Public**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Company Name**

**Registration No:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Address**

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State, Zip**

APPENDIX F  
NYS CERTIFICATIONS

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Is your firm a New York resident business?**

Yes  No

**Total number of people employed by your firm:**

company-wide: \_\_\_\_\_

in New York City: \_\_\_\_\_

**Is your firm a NYSESD certified MINORITY ENTERPRISE as defined in Executive Law Article 15-A?**

Yes  No

*(If yes, attach a copy of your current New York State certification letter.)*

**Is your firm a NYSESD certified WOMEN-OWNED ENTERPRISE as defined in Executive Law Article 15-A?**

Yes  No

*(If yes, attach a copy of your current New York State certification letter.)*

**Does your firm purchase goods or services or subcontract with any New York State certified minority or women-owned enterprises?**

Yes  No

**Is your firm a NYSOGS certified SERVICE DISABLED VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS as defined in Executive Law Article 17-B?**

Yes  No

*(If yes, attach a copy of your current New York State certification letter.)*



## APPENDIX G

### ENCOURAGING USE OF NEW YORK STATE BUSINESSES IN CONTRACT PERFORMANCE

New York State businesses have a substantial presence in State contracts and strongly contribute to the economies of the state and the nation. In recognition of their economic activity and leadership in doing business in New York State, bidders/proposers for this contract for commodities, services or technology are strongly encouraged and expected to consider New York State businesses in the fulfillment of the requirements of the contract. Such partnering may be as subcontractors, suppliers, protégés or other supporting roles.

Bidders/proposers need to be aware that all authorized users of the contract will be strongly encouraged, to the maximum extent practical and consistent with legal requirements, to use responsible and responsive New York State businesses in purchasing commodities that are of equal quality and functionality and in utilizing services and technology. Furthermore, bidders/proposers are reminded that they must continue to utilize small, minority and women-owned businesses, consistent with current State law.

Utilizing New York State businesses in State contracts will help create more private sector jobs, rebuild New York's infrastructure, and maximize economic activity to the mutual benefit of the contractor and its New York State business partners. New York State businesses will promote the contractor's optimal performance under the contract, thereby fully benefiting the public sector programs that are supported by associated procurements.

Public procurements can drive and improve the State's economic engine through promotion of the use of New York businesses by its contractors. The State therefore expects bidders/proposers to provide maximum assistance to New York businesses in their use of the contract. The potential participation by all kinds of New York businesses will deliver great value to the State and its taxpayers.

Bidders/proposers can demonstrate their commitment to the use of New York State businesses by responding to the question below:

Will New York State businesses be used in the performance of this contract?  Yes  No

If yes, identify New York State businesses that will be used and enter identifying information below. Include the name, FEIN, and estimated expenditures.

<u>Business Name</u>	<u>FEIN</u>	<u>Dollar Value</u>	<u>Description of Work</u>
----------------------	-------------	---------------------	----------------------------

APPENDIX H

Disclosure of Prior Non-Responsibility Determinations

Name of Individual or Entity Seeking to Enter into the Procurement Contract:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title of Person Submitting this Form: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Bid Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

- 1. Has any Governmental Entity made a finding of non-responsibility regarding the individual or entity seeking to enter into the Procurement Contract in the previous four years? (Please circle):

No Yes

If yes, please answer questions 2-4; otherwise, proceed to 5:

- 2. Was the basis for the finding of non-responsibility due to a violation of State Finance Law §139-j? (Please circle):

No Yes

- 3. Was the basis for the finding of non-responsibility due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information to a Governmental Entity? (Please circle):

No Yes

- 4. If you answered yes to any of the above questions, please provide details regarding the finding of non-responsibility below.

Governmental Entity: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Finding of Non-responsibility: \_\_\_\_\_

Basis of Finding of Non-Responsibility: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Add additional pages as necessary)

- 5. Has any Governmental Entity or other governmental agency terminated or withheld a Procurement Contract with the above-named individual or entity due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information? (Please circle):

No Yes

APPENDIX H

**Disclosure of Prior Non-Responsibility Determinations**

6. If yes, please provide details below.

Governmental Entity: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Termination or Withholding of Contract: \_\_\_\_\_

Basis of Termination or Withholding: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Add additional pages as necessary)

Bidder certifies that all information provided to the Governmental Entity with respect to State Finance Law §139-k is complete, true and accurate.

By \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX I

### BIDDER REFERENCES

List two (2) verifiable references receiving service similar in scope to the services required.

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Services Provided \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Services Provided \_\_\_\_\_

---

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Services Provided \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Services Provided \_\_\_\_\_

---

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Services Provided \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Services Provided \_\_\_\_\_

---

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Services Provided \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Services Provided \_\_\_\_\_



# Contractor Certification to Covered Agency

(Pursuant to Section 5-a of the Tax Law, as amended, effective April 26, 2006)

# ST-220-CA

(6/06)

For information, consult Publication 223, *Questions and Answers Concerning Tax Law Section 5-a* (see *Need Help? on back*).

Contractor name		For covered agency use only Contract number or description	
Contractor's principal place of business	City	State	ZIP code
Contractor's mailing address (if different than above)		Estimated contract value over the full term of contract (but not including renewals)	
Contractor's federal employer identification number (EIN)	Contractor's sales tax ID number (if different from contractor's EIN)		\$
Contractor's telephone number	Covered agency name		
Covered agency address		Covered agency telephone number	

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I am \_\_\_\_\_

(name)

(title)

of the above-named contractor, that I am authorized to make this certification on behalf of such contractor, and I further certify that:

(Mark an X in only one box)

The contractor has filed Form ST-220-TD with the Department of Taxation and Finance in connection with this contract and, to the best of contractor's knowledge, the information provided on the Form ST-220-TD, is correct and complete.

The contractor has previously filed Form ST-220-TD with the Tax Department in connection with \_\_\_\_\_  
(insert contract number or description)

and, to the best of the contractor's knowledge, the information provided on that previously filed Form ST-220-TD, is correct and complete as of the current date, and thus the contractor is not required to file a new Form ST-220-TD at this time.

Sworn to this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(sign before a notary public)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(title)

## Instructions

### General information

Tax Law section 5-a was amended, effective April 26, 2006. On or after that date, in all cases where a contract is subject to Tax Law section 5-a, a contractor must file (1) Form ST-220-CA, *Contractor Certification to Covered Agency*, with a covered agency, and (2) Form ST-220-TD with the Tax Department before a contract may take effect. The circumstances when a contract is subject to section 5-a are listed in Publication 223, Q&A 3. This publication is available on our Web site, by fax, or by mail. (See *Need help?* for more information on how to obtain this publication.) In addition, a contractor must file a new Form ST-220-CA with a covered agency before an existing contract with such agency may be renewed.

If you have questions, please call our information center at 1 800 698-2931.

**Note:** Form ST-220-CA must be signed by a person authorized to make the certification on behalf of the contractor, and the acknowledgement on page 2 of this form must be completed before a notary public.

### When to complete this form

As set forth in Publication 223, a contract is subject to section 5-a, and you must make the required certification(s), if:

- i. The procuring entity is a *covered agency* within the meaning of the statute (see Publication 223, Q&A 5);
- ii. The contractor is a *contractor* within the meaning of the statute (see Publication 223, Q&A 6); and
- iii. The contract is a *contract* within the meaning of the statute. This is the case when it (a) has a value in excess of \$100,000 and (b) is a contract for *commodities* or *services*, as such terms are defined for purposes of the statute (see Publication 223, Q&A 8 and 9).

Furthermore, the procuring entity must have begun the solicitation to purchase on or after January 1, 2005, and the resulting contract must have been awarded, amended, extended, renewed, or assigned *on or after April 26, 2006* (the effective date of the section 5-a amendments).

Individual, Corporation, Partnership, or LLC Acknowledgment

STATE OF }
: SS.:
COUNTY OF }

On the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year 20\_\_\_, before me personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_,
known to me to be the person who executed the foregoing instrument, who, being duly sworn by me did depose and say that
\_he resides at \_\_\_\_\_,
Town of \_\_\_\_\_,
County of \_\_\_\_\_,
State of \_\_\_\_\_; and further that:

[Mark an X in the appropriate box and complete the accompanying statement.]

- (If an individual): \_he executed the foregoing instrument in his/her name and on his/her own behalf.
(If a corporation): \_he is the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, the corporation described in said instrument; that, by authority of the Board of Directors of said corporation, \_he is authorized to execute the foregoing instrument on behalf of the corporation for purposes set forth therein; and that, pursuant to that authority, \_he executed the foregoing instrument in the name of and on behalf of said corporation as the act and deed of said corporation.
(If a partnership): \_he is a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, the partnership described in said instrument; that, by the terms of said partnership, \_he is authorized to execute the foregoing instrument on behalf of the partnership for purposes set forth therein; and that, pursuant to that authority, \_he executed the foregoing instrument in the name of and on behalf of said partnership as the act and deed of said partnership.
(If a limited liability company): \_he is a duly authorized member of \_\_\_\_\_, LLC, the limited liability company described in said instrument; that \_he is authorized to execute the foregoing instrument on behalf of the limited liability company for purposes set forth therein; and that, pursuant to that authority, \_he executed the foregoing instrument in the name of and on behalf of said limited liability company as the act and deed of said limited liability company.

Notary Public

Registration No.

Privacy notification

The Commissioner of Taxation and Finance may collect and maintain personal information pursuant to the New York State Tax Law, including but not limited to, sections 5-a, 171, 171-a, 287, 308, 429, 475, 505, 697, 1096, 1142, and 1415 of that Law; and may require disclosure of social security numbers pursuant to 42 USC 405(c)(2)(C)(i).
This information will be used to determine and administer tax liabilities and, when authorized by law, for certain tax offset and exchange of tax information programs as well as for any other lawful purpose.
Information concerning quarterly wages paid to employees is provided to certain state agencies for purposes of fraud prevention, support enforcement, evaluation of the effectiveness of certain employment and training programs and other purposes authorized by law.
Failure to provide the required information may subject you to civil or criminal penalties, or both, under the Tax Law.
This information is maintained by the Director of Records Management and Data Entry, NYS Tax Department, W A Harriman Campus, Albany NY 12227; telephone 1 800 225-5829. From areas outside the United States and outside Canada, call (518) 485-6800.

Need help?
Internet access: www.nystax.gov (for information, forms, and publications)
Fax-on-demand forms: 1 800 748-3676
Telephone assistance is available from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (eastern time), Monday through Friday. 1 800 698-2931
To order forms and publications: 1 800 462-8100
From areas outside the U.S. and outside Canada: (518) 485-6800
Hearing and speech impaired (telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) callers only): 1 800 634-2110
Persons with disabilities: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, we will ensure that our lobbies, offices, meeting rooms, and other facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. If you have questions about special accommodations for persons with disabilities, please call 1 800 972-1233.



# Contractor Certification

(Pursuant to Section 5-a of the Tax Law, as amended, effective April 26, 2006)

# ST-220-TD

(5/07)

For information, consult Publication 223, *Questions and Answers Concerning Tax Law Section 5-a (see Need help? below)*.

Contractor name				
Contractor's principal place of business		City	State	ZIP code
Contractor's mailing address (if different than above)				
Contractor's federal employer identification number (EIN)		Contractor's sales tax ID number (if different from contractor's EIN)		Contractor's telephone number ( )
Covered agency or state agency	Contract number or description		Estimated contract value over the full term of contract (but not including renewals) \$	
Covered agency address			Covered agency telephone number	

## General information

Section 5-a of the Tax Law, as amended, effective April 26, 2006, requires certain contractors awarded certain state contracts valued at more than \$100,000 to certify to the Tax Department that they are registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes, if they made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State of tangible personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000, measured over a specified period. In addition, contractors must certify to the Tax Department that each affiliate and subcontractor exceeding such sales threshold during a specified period is registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes. Contractors must also file a Form ST-220-CA, certifying to the procuring state entity that they filed Form ST-220-TD with the Tax Department and that the information contained on Form ST-220-TD is correct and complete as of the date they file Form ST-220-CA.

All sections must be completed including all fields on the top of this page, all sections on page 2, Schedule A on page 3, if applicable, and Individual, Corporation, Partnership, or LLC Acknowledgement on page 4. If you do not complete these areas, the form will be returned to you for completion.

For more detailed information regarding this form and section 5-a of the Tax Law, see Publication 223, *Questions and Answers Concerning Tax Law Section 5-a, (as amended, effective April 26, 2006)*, available at [www.nystax.gov](http://www.nystax.gov). Information is also available by calling the Tax Department's Contractor Information Center at 1 800 698-2931.

**Note:** Form ST-220-TD must be signed by a person authorized to make the certification on behalf of the contractor, and the acknowledgement on page 4 of this form must be completed before a notary public.

Mail completed form to:

**NYS TAX DEPARTMENT  
DATA ENTRY SECTION  
W A HARRIMAN CAMPUS  
ALBANY NY 12227**

## Privacy notification

The Commissioner of Taxation and Finance may collect and maintain personal information pursuant to the New York State Tax Law, including but not limited to, sections 5-a, 171, 171-a, 287, 308, 429, 475, 505, 697, 1096, 1142, and 1415 of that Law; and may require disclosure of social security numbers pursuant to 42 USC 405(c)(2)(C)(i).

This information will be used to determine and administer tax liabilities and, when authorized by law, for certain tax offset and exchange of tax information programs as well as for any other lawful purpose.

Information concerning quarterly wages paid to employees is provided to certain state agencies for purposes of fraud prevention, support enforcement, evaluation of the effectiveness of certain employment and training programs and other purposes authorized by law.

Failure to provide the required information may subject you to civil or criminal penalties, or both, under the Tax Law.

This information is maintained by the Director of Records Management and Data Entry, NYS Tax Department, W A Harriman Campus, Albany NY 12227.

## Need help?



**Internet access:** [www.nystax.gov](http://www.nystax.gov)  
(for information, forms, and publications)



**Fax-on-demand forms:** 1 800 748-3676



**Telephone assistance** is available from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (eastern time), Monday through Friday.

To order forms and publications: 1 800 462-8100

**Sales Tax Information Center:** 1 800 698-2909

From areas outside the U.S. and outside Canada: (518) 485-6800

**Hearing and speech impaired** (telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) callers only): 1 800 634-2110



**Persons with disabilities:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, we will ensure that our lobbies, offices, meeting rooms, and other facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. If you have questions about special accommodations for persons with disabilities, please call 1 800 972-1233.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I am \_\_\_\_\_  
*(name)* *(title)*  
of the above-named contractor, and that I am authorized to make this certification on behalf of such contractor.

**Complete Sections 1, 2, and 3 below. Make only one entry in each section.**

**Section 1 — Contractor registration status**

- The contractor has made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State of tangible personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000 during the four sales tax quarters which immediately precede the sales tax quarter in which this certification is made. The contractor is registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes with the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance pursuant to sections 1134 and 1253 of the Tax Law, and is listed on Schedule A of this certification.
- The contractor has not made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State of tangible personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000 during the four sales tax quarters which immediately precede the sales tax quarter in which this certification is made.

**Section 2 — Affiliate registration status**

- The contractor does not have any affiliates.
- To the best of the contractor's knowledge, the contractor has one or more affiliates having made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State of tangible personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000 during the four sales tax quarters which immediately precede the sales tax quarter in which this certification is made, and each affiliate exceeding the \$300,000 cumulative sales threshold during such quarters is registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes with the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance pursuant to sections 1134 and 1253 of the Tax Law. The contractor has listed each affiliate exceeding the \$300,000 cumulative sales threshold during such quarters on Schedule A of this certification.
- To the best of the contractor's knowledge, the contractor has one or more affiliates, and each affiliate has not made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State of tangible personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000 during the four sales tax quarters which immediately precede the sales tax quarter in which this certification is made.

**Section 3 — Subcontractor registration status**

- The contractor does not have any subcontractors.
- To the best of the contractor's knowledge, the contractor has one or more subcontractors having made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State of tangible personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000 during the four sales tax quarters which immediately precede the sales tax quarter in which this certification is made, and each subcontractor exceeding the \$300,000 cumulative sales threshold during such quarters is registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes with the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance pursuant to sections 1134 and 1253 of the Tax Law. The contractor has listed each subcontractor exceeding the \$300,000 cumulative sales threshold during such quarters on Schedule A of this certification.
- To the best of the contractor's knowledge, the contractor has one or more subcontractors, and each subcontractor has not made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State of tangible personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000 during the four sales tax quarters which immediately precede the sales tax quarter in which this certification is made.

Sworn to this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(sign before a notary public)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(title)*





# APPENDIX S

## Use of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises in Contract Performance

Article 17-B of the Executive Law enacted in 2014 acknowledges that Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses (SDVOBs) strongly contribute to the economies of the State and the nation. As defenders of our nation and in recognition of their economic activity in doing business in New York State, bidders/proposers for this contract for commodities, services or technology are strongly encouraged and expected to consider SDVOBs in the fulfillment of the requirements of the contract. Such partnering may be as subcontractors, suppliers, protégés or other supporting roles. SDVOBs can be readily identified on the directory of certified businesses at:

[http://ogs.ny.gov/Core/docs/CertifiedNYS\\_SDVOB.pdf](http://ogs.ny.gov/Core/docs/CertifiedNYS_SDVOB.pdf)

Bidders/proposers need to be aware that all authorized users of this contract will be strongly encouraged to the maximum extent practical and consistent with legal requirements of the State Finance Law and the Executive Law to use responsible and responsive SDVOBs in purchasing and utilizing commodities, services and technology that are of equal quality and

functionality to those that may be obtained from non-SDVOBs. Furthermore, bidders/proposers are reminded that they must continue to utilize small, minority and women-owned businesses consistent with current State law.

Utilizing SDVOBs in State contracts will help create more private sector jobs, rebuild New York State's infrastructure, and maximize economic activity to the mutual benefit of the contractor and its SDVOB partners. SDVOBs will promote the contractor's optimal performance under the contract, thereby fully benefiting the public sector programs that are supported by associated public procurements.

Public procurements can drive and improve the State's economic engine through promotion of the use of SDVOBs by its contractors. The State, therefore, expects bidders/proposers to provide maximum assistance to SDVOBs in their contract performance. The potential participation by all kinds of SDVOBs will deliver great value to the State and its taxpayers.

### Bidders/proposers can demonstrate their commitment to the use of SDVOBs by responding to the questions below:

Are you a bidder/proposer that is a NYS-certified SDVOB?    Yes    No    If yes, what is your DSDVBD Control #?

Will NYS-certified SDVOBs be used in the performance of this contract?    Yes    No

If yes, identify the NYS-certified SDVOBs that will be used below (if more than 4 identified, please attach an additional form):

#### NYS-Certified SDVOB 1:

Name

Address

Control #	Contract #	Total % Work Performed	\$ Amount
-----------	------------	------------------------	-----------

Nature of Participation

#### NYS-Certified SDVOB 2:

Name

Address

Control #	Contract #	Total % Work Performed	\$ Amount
-----------	------------	------------------------	-----------

Nature of Participation

#### NYS-Certified SDVOB 3:

Name

Address

Control #	Contract #	Total % Work Performed	\$ Amount
-----------	------------	------------------------	-----------

Nature of Participation

#### NYS-Certified SDVOB 4:

Name

Address

Control #	Contract #	Total % Work Performed	\$ Amount
-----------	------------	------------------------	-----------

Nature of Participation

Contractor will report on actual participation by each SDVOB during the term of the contract on a semi-annual basis to the Office of General Services Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development. See <http://ogs.ny.gov>

NOTE: Information about set asides for SDVOB participation in public procurement can be found at: <http://www.ogs.ny.gov/Core/SDVOBA.asp>, which provides guidance for State agencies in making determinations and administering set asides for procurements from SDVOBs.

## APPENDIX T

### NYSIF VENDOR SECURITY SURVEY

#### REQUIREMENTS

The vendor security survey (Appendix T) is to be submitted as part of the bid or proposal package. Bidders are required to answer all of the questions in order to be considered for an award of a contract with the New York State Insurance Fund (NYSIF).

The completed Vendor Security Survey will be reviewed and evaluated by NYSIF personnel on a pass/fail basis. The minimum required implementation levels are included in the survey and defined below. Bidders who do not meet the minimum required implementation levels will be disqualified.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION

Within the “**RESPONSE**” column all questions must be answered by selecting the appropriate answer from the drop down list and defined as follows:

1. **Fully** (Implemented) = The control is in place, functioning effectively, and is optimized.
2. **Partially** (Implemented) = The control is in place, effectiveness may not be rated, and the control is not optimized.
3. **Non-Existent** = The control is not in place.

Within the “**EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS**” column, comments must be provided to support a bidders’ selected “**RESPONSE**”. Comments must clarify the controls implemented, describe mitigating factors, such as alternative controls or exposure limits, and specify the date when the control will be operational.

Within the “**SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)**” column, supporting documentation is optional. Documentation should support a bidder’s response, such as written policy, audits, screenshots, etc.

**All questions related to this Vendor Security Survey must be submitted in writing to [contracts@nysif.com](mailto:contracts@nysif.com) by the date and time indicated in the solicitation calendar, citing the particular question and bid number.**

\*\*\*\*\*Rci g'3"qh'7"

**APPENDIX T  
VENDOR SECURITY SURVEY**

VENDOR COMPANY INFORMATION		VENDOR RESOURCE COMPLETING QUESTIONNAIRE	
NAME		ASSIGNEE NAME	
WEBSITE		ROLE OR TITLE	
ADDRESS		PHONE + EXT	
CITY/STATE/ZIP		EMAIL ADDRESS	

1	INVENTORY OF AUTHORIZED AND UNAUTHORIZED DEVICES	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Actively manage (inventory, track, and correct) all hardware devices on the network so that only authorized devices are given access, and unauthorized and unmanaged devices are found and prevented from gaining access.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
2	INVENTORY OF AUTHORIZED AND UNAUTHORIZED SOFTWARE	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Actively manage (inventory, track, and correct) all software on the network so that only authorized software is installed and can execute, and that unauthorized and unmanaged software is found and prevented from installation or execution.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
3	SECURE CONFIGURATIONS FOR HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Establish, implement, and actively manage (track, report on, correct) the security configuration of laptops, servers, and workstations using a rigorous configuration management and change control process in order to prevent attackers from exploiting vulnerable services and settings.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
4	CONTINUOUS VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Continuously acquire, assess, and take action on new information in order to identify vulnerabilities, remediate, and minimize the window of opportunity for attackers.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
5	CONTROLLED USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE PRIVILEGES	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	The processes and tools used to track/control/prevent/correct the use, assignment, and configuration of administrative privileges on computers, networks, and applications.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				

6	MAINTENANCE, MONITORING, AND ANALYSIS OF AUDIT LOGS	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Collect, manage, and analyze audit logs of events that could help detect, understand, or recover from an attack.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
7	EMAIL AND WEB BROWSER PROTECTIONS	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Minimize the attack surface and the opportunities for attackers to manipulate human behavior through their interaction with web browsers and email systems.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
8	MALWARE DEFENSES	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Control the installation, spread, and execution of malicious code at multiple points in the enterprise, while optimizing the use of automation to enable rapid updating of defense, data gathering, and corrective action.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
9	LIMITATION AND CONTROL OF NETWORK PORTS	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Manage (track/control/correct) the ongoing operational use of ports, protocols, and services on networked devices in order to minimize windows of vulnerability available to attackers.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
10	DATA RECOVERY CAPABILITY	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	The processes and tools used to properly back up critical information with a proven methodology for timely recovery of it.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
11	SECURE CONFIGURATIONS FOR NETWORK DEVICES	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Establish, implement, and actively manage (track, report on, correct) the security configuration of network infrastructure devices using a rigorous configuration management and change control process in order to prevent attackers from exploiting vulnerable services and settings.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				

12	BOUNDARY DEFENSE	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Detect/prevent/correct the flow of information transferring networks of different trust levels with a focus on security-damaging data.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
13	DATA PROTECTION	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	The processes and tools used to prevent data exfiltration, mitigate the effects of exfiltrated data, and ensure the privacy and integrity of sensitive information.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
14	CONTROLLED ACCESS BASED ON THE NEED TO KNOW	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	The processes and tools used to track/control/prevent/correct secure access to critical assets (e.g., information, resources, systems) according to the formal determination of which persons, computers, and applications have a need and right to access these critical assets based on an approved classification.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
15	WIRELESS ACCESS CONTROL	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	The processes and tools used to track/control/prevent/correct the security use of wireless local area networks (LANS), access points, and wireless client systems.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
16	ACCOUNT MONITORING AND CONTROL	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	Actively manage the life cycle of system and application accounts -their creation, use, dormancy, deletion - in order to minimize opportunities for attackers to leverage them.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
17	SECURITY SKILLS ASSESSMENT AND TRAINING	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	For all functional roles in the organization (prioritizing those mission-critical to the business and its security), identify the specific knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to support defense of the enterprise; develop and execute an integrated plan to assess, identify gaps, and remediate through policy, organizational planning, training, and awareness programs.	PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				

18	APPLICATION SOFTWARE SECURITY	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	<p>Manage the security life cycle of all in-house developed and acquired software in order to prevent, detect, and correct security weaknesses.</p>	<p>PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)</p>		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
19	INCIDENT RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	<p>Protect the organization's information, as well as its reputation, by developing and implementing an incident response infrastructure (e.g., plans, defined roles, training, communications, management oversight) for quickly discovering an attack and then effectively containing the damage, eradicating the attacker's presence, and restoring the integrity of the network and systems.</p>	<p>PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)</p>		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				
20	PENETRATION TESTS	RESPONSE	EXPLANATION OF CONTROLS	SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENT(S)
	<p>Test the overall strength of an organization's defenses (the technology, the processes, and the people) by simulating the objectives and actions of an attacker.</p>	<p>PLEASE RESPOND (Using Dropdown)</p>		
MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL = <b>PARTIALLY</b>				

# APPENDIX U VENDOR PROFILE

VENDOR COMPANY INFORMATION					VENDOR RESOURCE COMPLETING QUESTIONNAIRE		
Vendor Name:					Name Of Vendor Assignee:		
Vendor Website:					Role Or Title:		
Vendor Address:					Phone Number:		EXT:
City:		State:		Zip:			
					Email Address:		

**Instructions:** Please answer the questions making entries in the Response area.

	VENDOR SERVICE STATUS	RESPONSE
1	<p>Is your organization currently providing services to NY State Insurance Fund (NYSIF), either actively or on an intermittent (ad-hoc) basis?                      Note: If no longer providing services in any capacity, please provide details of service termination, dates, etc. for review and consideration.</p>	

	SERVICE OVERVIEW	RESPONSE
2	Is there an executed contract between NYSIF and your organization?	
3	What is the current business relationship? (I.e. What services does your organization currently provide to NYSIF? (*Please be detailed*))	
4	Will the business relationship between NYSIF and your organization change within the next year? If so, please describe the changes.	
5	From what physical location(s) does your organization provide services to NYSIF? (Please include all locations providing services.)	

	DATA EXCHANGE	RESPONSE
6	Does your organization receive data from NYSIF?	
(6a)	By what means is NYSIF data exchanged and in what direction; from NYSIF to your organization or both directions?	
7	Of the following, what types of data are transmitted/stored/processed by your organization during the course of providing services to NYSIF?	
(7a)	Protected Health Information ("PHI")?	
(7b)	Payment Card Information ("PCI")?	
(7c)	Personally Identifiable Information ("PII")?	
(7d)	Social Security Number ("SSN")?	
(7e)	Financial information, or information that could be covered under SOX?	
(7f)	Other, not included above?	
8	On average, what is the volume of NYSIF data transmitted, processed, received, etc. per month by your organization?	
9	On average, what is the volume of NYSIF data stored by your organization?	
10	In the past 12 months has your organization, or any of your sub-contractors, experienced a material breach or unauthorized disclosure of any data? If yes, please describe situation, data exposed and timing in detail.	

# APPENDIX W NONDISCLOSURE ACCORD

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## MUTUAL NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEW YORK STATE INSURANCE FUND and for EXCHANGE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

**THIS NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT** (the “Agreement”), is made by and between \_\_\_\_\_, having a principal place of business at \_\_\_\_\_ (“CONTRACTOR”) and the NEW YORK STATE INSURANCE FUND, an agency of the State of New York, with offices at 199 Church St, New York, New York 10007 (“AGENCY”).

### 1. DEFINITIONS

“*AGENCY Data*” means all non-public data and information whether in written, verbal or electronic form, submitted or given access to CONTRACTOR by AGENCY, including without limitation information relating to AGENCY or AGENCY's customers', policy holders, claimants, underwriting rules or information, process and methods, customer data, Confidential Personal Information (CPI), financial data, suppliers, employees and employee information, technology, operations, facilities, consumer markets, products, capacities, systems, procedures, security practices, research, development, business affairs and finances, ideas, concepts, innovations, inventions, designs, business methodologies, improvements, trade secrets, copyrightable subject matter and other proprietary information.

“*Privacy Laws*” means all Federal and State laws and regulations regarding the privacy of information pertaining to individuals.

### 2. AGENCY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

CONTRACTOR acknowledges and agrees that it may receive AGENCY Confidential Information (as defined below) \_\_\_\_\_ (collectively, the “*Purpose*”).

(a) For purposes of this Agreement, the term “*Confidential Information*,” or “*Agency Confidential Information*” shall include all non-public information of AGENCY which CONTRACTOR has had access to (including prior to effective date), will have access to, or will create or prepare, whether in verbal, written, visual, graphic or machine-readable form, that includes, incorporates, makes reference to or utilizes in any way, without limitation, the AGENCY Data and all other proprietary information related to AGENCY’s business. AGENCY Confidential Information shall also include all information of a third party to which AGENCY has access and to which CONTRACTOR has had (including prior to effective date), or will have access. AGENCY Confidential Information shall not include aggregated statistical data derived from AGENCY Data, provided such (i) aggregated statistical data cannot be identified with either AGENCY or any AGENCY employee, customer, claimant or policy holder and (ii) AGENCY Data does not make up over thirty-three (33%) of such aggregated statistical data. Disclosure of the AGENCY Confidential Information shall not be deemed to grant any license or other right to use such AGENCY Confidential Information, except as set out in this Agreement or as set out in a separate written agreement executed by both parties.

(b) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, including without limitation the

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exceptions in Section 3 hereof, AGENCY Confidential Information includes “*Confidential Personal Information* (‘CPI’)”. CPI shall include, but not be limited to: (i) the meaning ascribed to “*Nonpublic Personal Information* (‘NPI’)” in Title V of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations thereunder, all as may be amended or supplemented from time to time (“*GLBA*”), as it relates to AGENCY’s consumers, (ii) “*Protected Health Information* (‘PHI’)” as such term is defined in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations thereunder, all as may be amended or supplemented from time to time (“*HIPAA*”) and (iii) any personally identifiable information protected under any other applicable state or federal statute, rule or regulation. The provisions of Section 3 shall not be applicable to CPI, which in all cases will be considered Confidential Information

- (c) CONTRACTOR shall, and shall cause its and its affiliates’ and subsidiaries’ employees, agents, advisors, subcontractors, and all Receiving Party Personnel (collectively, “*Contractors*”) to keep CPI confidential and use and disclose CPI only as necessary to carry out the Purpose, GLBA, HIPAA and any other applicable law, rule or regulation of any jurisdiction relating to disclosure or use of personal information. CONTRACTOR shall, and shall cause its Contractors to, implement and maintain an appropriate security program for CPI to (1) ensure the security and confidentiality of CPI, (2) protect against any threats or hazards to the security or integrity of CPI, and (3) prevent unauthorized access to or use of CPI. CONTRACTOR shall cause each of their Contractors having access to AGENCY Confidential Information or CPI to execute a written non-disclosure agreement covering their access, such agreement to contain restrictions in substantial conformity to the provisions of this Agreement. CONTRACTOR shall also cause each of its employees to execute appropriate non-disclosure agreements prohibiting the disclosure of CPI and AGENCY Confidential Information to other affiliates of CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR shall cause all such non-disclosure agreements with employees and Contractors to be maintained during the term of this Agreement. CONTRACTOR shall take appropriate measures to assure that AGENCY’s Confidential Information is NOT transmitted outside of the United States (provided such prohibition against transmission shall not apply to satellite transmission or other similar digital communication methods used by CONTRACTOR or its Contractors in the ordinary course of business and in conformance with this Agreement).
- (d) Without limitation of CONTRACTOR’s obligation to comply with the requirements of all applicable Privacy Laws, CONTRACTOR shall immediately notify AGENCY: (A) of any disclosure or use of any CPI by CONTRACTOR or its Contractors in breach of this Agreement and (B) of any disclosure of any CPI to CONTRACTOR or its Contractors where the purpose of such disclosure is not known to CONTRACTOR. AGENCY reserves the right to review CONTRACTOR’s and their Contractors’ (as applicable) policies and procedures used to maintain the security and confidentiality of CPI. At AGENCY’s direction and in AGENCY’s sole discretion at any time, CONTRACTOR shall immediately return to AGENCY or destroy and certify such destruction of any or all CPI (including such CPI as may have been rightfully distributed to CONTRACTOR’s Contractors or any other

## APPENDIX W NONDISCLOSURE ACCORD

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third parties). Upon termination of this Agreement, CONTRACTOR shall immediately return to AGENCY any and all CPI which it has received under this Agreement and shall destroy all records of such CPI (including such CPI as may have been rightfully distributed to CONTRACTOR's Contractors and any other third parties). If the GLBA or any other applicable state or federal law or regulation, now or hereafter in effect, imposes a higher standard of confidentiality or security with respect to CPI, such standard shall prevail over the provisions of this Agreement. This provision shall independently survive any expiration, termination, if any, of this Agreement and any agreement with AGENCY concerning CPI.

### 3. EXCEPTIONS

Confidential Information shall not include information that: (a) is in the public domain at the time of its use or disclosure through no fault of the CONTRACTOR, or its Contractors; (b) was lawfully in the possession of or demonstrably known by the Contractor prior to its receipt from the Agency; (c) is independently developed by Contractor without use of or reference to the Agency's Confidential Information; or (d) becomes known by the Contractor from a third party and, to Contractor's knowledge, is not subject to an obligation of confidentiality to the Agency.

### 4. NON-DISCLOSURE; NON-USE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

- (a) The Contractor will maintain the confidentiality of the Agency's Confidential Information using procedures no less rigorous than those used to protect and preserve the confidentiality of its own similar proprietary information. In no event shall the Contractor use less than a reasonable degree of care to protect and preserve the Agency's Confidential Information, including its obligation to not, without the Agency's prior written permission: (i) transfer or disclose any of the Agency's Confidential Information to any third party; (ii) use any of the Agency's Confidential Information for any purpose other than for the Purpose; or (iii) take any other action with respect to the Agency's Confidential Information inconsistent with the confidential and proprietary nature of such information. Notwithstanding clause (i) of this Section 4(a), the Contractor may disclose the Agency's Confidential Information to the officers, directors, employees, consultants, attorneys, accountants, agents or other representatives of the Contractor ("Contractor Personnel") who have a need to know such Confidential Information solely in connection with the Purpose. The Contractor shall: (1) cause the Contractor Personnel to comply with this Agreement; and (2) assume full responsibility for any breach of this Agreement caused by any of the Contractor Personnel.
- (b) If the Contractor is requested or required to disclose any of the Agency's Confidential Information pursuant to a subpoena, court order, statute, law, rule, regulation or other similar requirement (a "*Legal Requirement*"), the Contractor shall, to the extent permitted by law, provide prompt notice of such Legal Requirement to the Agency so the Agency may seek an appropriate protective order or other appropriate remedy or waive compliance with the provisions of this Agreement. If the Agency is not successful in obtaining a protective order or other appropriate remedy and the Contractor is, in the opinion of its counsel, compelled to disclose such Confidential Information under pain of liability for contempt of court or other censure or liability, or if the Agency waives compliance with the provisions of

## APPENDIX W NONDISCLOSURE ACCORD

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this Agreement in writing, the Contractor may disclose, without liability hereunder, such Confidential Information in accordance with, but solely to the extent necessary, in the opinion of its counsel, to comply with, the Legal Requirement. Information that would otherwise be considered AGENCY Confidential Information within the meaning of this Agreement, shall nevertheless be considered AGENCY Confidential Information and shall not be deemed otherwise because such information may be available to third parties from AGENCY pursuant to New York State Freedom of Information Law (FOIL). In the event that an independent third-party has or shall actually obtain from AGENCY, during or prior to the pendency of this Agreement, information pursuant to FOIL that would otherwise be considered AGENCY Confidential Information, and has publicly disclosed such information, then such information shall no longer be considered Confidential Information but shall instead be considered public information from the time of such disclosure.

- (c) Each party agrees and shall assure that each and every Contractor understands and agrees that Confidential Information is valuable to the Agency, is deemed to be a trade secret or other proprietary right of the Agency, notwithstanding any public disclosure thereof by any source, and will be protected by civil and criminal law, and, where appropriate, by the law of copyright.
- (d) The parties' confidentiality obligations under this Agreement shall be perpetual except as expressly superseded by a definitive written agreement executed by the parties.
- (e) AGENCY and CONTRACTOR acknowledge that CONTRACTOR is in the business of providing services to, and receiving information from other entities (collectively "CONTRACTOR customers"). CONTRACTOR shall not disclose any AGENCY Confidential Information to any CONTRACTOR Customers.
- (f) In connection with CONTRACTOR's and its Contractors' obligations under this Agreement, CONTRACTOR agrees and shall require each Contractor to use the standard of care that is consistent with the highest industry standards in continuously controlling the use and disclosure of AGENCY Confidential Information in a manner that fully protects AGENCY's rights therein.

### 5. RIGHT TO AUDIT

- (a) CONTRACTOR shall maintain commercially reasonable Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Plans. If CONTRACTOR utilizes a Statement on Audit Standards No. 70 (SAS 70), or a Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAE) No. 16, as developed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), within the past twenty-four months prior to the Agreement, CONTRACTOR shall provide NYSIF with a copy of CONTRACTOR's Service Auditor's Report(s) for either Type I or Type II (Reports), or Service Organization Control (SOC) Report types 1, 2, or 3, on an annual basis. Such Report(s) shall be used for information purposes only. NYSIF reserves the right to request a copy of the Report(s) during the Agreement duration (including option periods). Production of CONTRACTOR SAS 70 Report(s), or SOC Reports shall not take the place of NYSIF's right under the Agreement to independently audit CONTRACTOR.

## APPENDIX W NONDISCLOSURE ACCORD

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- (b) CONTRACTOR shall maintain accurate records and accounts of services performed and money expended under this Agreement and shall furnish or make available such supplemental accounts, records or other information as are required in the event of a security breach and/or to substantiate any expenditure or report to AGENCY, or as may be necessary for auditing purposes or to verify that expenditures were made and/or proper non-disclosure procedures were implemented as instructed by this Agreement. Such records, accounts and all supportive documentation shall be kept for at least six (6) years subsequent to the termination date of this Agreement.

### **6. INFORMATION SECURITY BREACH**

In the event of a Breach of Security as defined in NY CLS Gen Bus §899-aa and NY CLS State Technology Law §208, or otherwise, involving AGENCY supplied Personal Information or Private Information from systems owned, operated, sub-contracted or otherwise routed through Contractors systems or networks, CONTRACTOR shall notify AGENCY immediately, without unreasonable delay. "Breach of Security" shall mean the unauthorized acquisition or acquisition without valid authorization of computerized data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of personal information maintained by a business. "Personal Information" shall mean any information concerning a person which, because of name, number, mark or other identifier, can be used to identify such person. "Private Information" shall mean personal information in combination with any one or more of the following data elements, when either the personal information or the data information or the data element is not encrypted or encrypted with an encryption key that has also been acquired: (i) social security number; (ii) driver's license number or non-driver identification cards number; or (iii) account number, credit or debit card number, in combination with any required security code, access code, or password which would permit access to an individual's financial account. CONTRACTOR additionally undertakes to, solely at its own cost and expense, provide any requisite notices that either CONTRACTOR or AGENCY would have to provide pursuant to NY CLS Gen Bus §899-aa and NY CLS State Technology Law §208, or any other applicable statute, both on behalf of CONTRACTOR and on behalf of AGENCY. CONTRACTOR's notification shall include but not be limited to a description of the categories of information that were, or are reasonably believed, to have been acquired by a person without valid authorization, including specification of which of the elements of personal information and private information were, or are reasonably believed to have been, so acquired, or as otherwise provided for by applicable law.

### **7. RETURN OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

Notwithstanding Section 2(d) above, following a request of the Agency or upon the termination of this Agreement, the Contractor shall promptly, but in no event more than five (5) business days following such request or the termination of this Agreement, return to the Agency all or any portion of the Agency's Confidential Information or, at the Agency's election, destroy all or any part of the Agency's Confidential Information, and upon request by the Agency, provide certification thereof; provided that in lieu of returning Confidential Information that has been included in the Contractor's notes, analyses, and studies, the Contractor may destroy such Confidential Information and provide certification thereof.

### **8. THE AGENCY POLICIES**

## APPENDIX W NONDISCLOSURE ACCORD

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CONTRACTOR shall use its best efforts to comply with all of AGENCY's rules, regulations, policies and procedures that might affect CONTRACTOR's delivery of services or products in effect (the "*Policies & Procedures*"), including but not limited to AGENCY's security procedures, procurement policies and privacy policies, provided that such Policies & Procedures are generally applicable to all similarly situated vendors to AGENCY. CONTRACTOR will advise all of CONTRACTOR'S Contractors involved in the performance of services or the delivery of products of their obligation to comply with the Policies & Procedures.

### 9. CONTRACTOR TRADE SECRETS

The AGENCY acknowledges that the business methods and investigative techniques and pricing structure of CONTRACTOR, other than payment amounts by NYSIF, are confidential proprietary business assets of the CONTRACTOR and AGENCY agrees to use reasonable means to protect the same to the extent practicable and permitted by law. In the event such information is demanded by subpoena, request pursuant to the New York Freedom of Information law or other legal process, the AGENCY will give CONTRACTOR notice within three (3) business days for the purpose of affording it the opportunity to interpose objections to its disclosure. AGENCY acknowledges that CONTRACTOR considers the above described information to be trade secrets within the meaning of NY Public Officers Law §87(2)(d). AGENCY will also give notice to CONTRACTOR in the event of unintentional disclosure within three (3) business days upon discovery. In the event of termination of the relationship between CONTRACTOR and AGENCY for any reason, AGENCY agrees not to disclose any of the aforementioned information to any successor contractor performing the same or similar services.

### 10. TERM

This Agreement shall continue in effect until terminated by written notice to the other party. The confidentiality obligations of the parties shall survive termination of this Agreement in accordance with Section 4(d).

### 11. NOTICE

Any notice, demand or other communication required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed delivered to a party (i) when delivered by hand or courier, or (ii) six (6) days after the date of mailing if mailed by United States certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, in each case to the address of such party set forth below (or at such other address as the party may from time to time specify by notice delivered in the foregoing manner):

AGENCY:                      New York State Insurance Fund  
   199 Church Street  
   New York, New York 10007

CONTRACTOR:

### 12. NO ASSIGNMENT

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This Agreement and the parties' respective rights, duties and obligations under this Agreement are not transferable or assignable by either party. Any attempt to transfer or assign this Agreement or any of its rights, duties or obligations under this Agreement is void. For purposes of this section 12, a transfer of more than fifty percent (50%) ownership interest in CONTRACTOR or a consolidation or merger of CONTRACTOR into another entity, including an affiliate of CONTRACTOR, shall be considered an assignment of this Agreement and shall be prohibited unless (i) consented to in writing by AGENCY and (ii) the transferee or resultant surviving entity explicitly agrees to the terms of this Agreement.

### **13. MODIFICATIONS**

This Agreement can only be modified by a written agreement duly signed by hand by the persons authorized to sign agreements on behalf of CONTRACTOR and AGENCY, and variance from the term or conditions of this Agreement will be of no effect. Without limiting the foregoing, terms and conditions which are displayed or conveyed electronically or are associated with, or are responded to by the operation of a mouse or other pointing device, typing on a keyboard, "virtual" actions, an automated computer program, the removal of shrink-wrap, the opening of a package, the loading or use of software or other goods or services, or any other action other than a handwritten signature as set forth above, will not be effective and will not amend or modify this Agreement.

### **14. SEVERABILITY**

If any provision or provisions of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or be impaired thereby.

### **15. GOVERNING LAW; VENUE**

All questions concerning the validity, interpretation and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by and decided in accordance with the Laws of the State of New York, without regard to any conflicts of laws and principles thereof.

### **16. COMPLETE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement is the complete and exclusive statement of the agreement between the parties as to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all communications between the parties related to the subject matter of this Agreement. Each party represents and warrants to the other that it has full power and authority to enter into and perform this Agreement.

### **17. NO WAIVER**

A waiver of a breach or default under this Agreement shall not be a waiver of any other or subsequent breach or default. The failure or delay in enforcing compliance with any term or condition of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of such term or condition unless such term or condition is expressly waived in writing.

### **18. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

Each party acknowledges that a breach of its obligations under this Agreement may, as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction, result in irreparable and continuing damage to the other party

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for which monetary damages will not be sufficient. Each party further agrees that in the event of a breach or threatened breach by the Contractor of any of the provisions of this Agreement, the Agency shall be entitled to seek, in addition to its other rights and remedies hereunder or at law, injunctive or other equitable relief, and such further relief as may be proper from a court of competent jurisdiction.

### **19. CONSTRUCTION**

The Parties are sophisticated and have been represented by counsel during the negotiation of this Agreement. As a result, the Parties believe the presumption of any laws or rules relating to the interpretation of contracts against the drafter thereof should not apply, and hereby waive any such presumption.

### **20. COUNTERPARTS**

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument. Both Parties agree that signature pages may be detached from separate counterparts and attached to a separate counterpart so that all signature pages are physically attached to the same document. Transmission by facsimile of an executed counterpart to this Agreement will be deemed due and sufficient delivery of such counterpart, and a photocopy of an executed counterpart sent by facsimile transmission may be treated by the parties as a duplicate original.

### **21. STANDARD CLAUSES FOR AGENCY CONTRACTS**

The parties agree that the Standard Clauses for NYS Contracts attached as Appendix A to this Agreement shall be incorporated by reference into this Agreement and that in the event of a conflict between any term or condition in the text of this Agreement and Appendix A, that the terms of Appendix A shall govern and control.

### **22. BINDING AGREEMENT**

This Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto, their respective successors and permitted assigns.

