LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY
INVITATION TO BID
SHUTTLE BUS SERVICES

BID NUMBER 50012-526-22
BID OPENS 2:00 P.M.
JUNE 9, 2022

Office of Purchasing - Louisiana Tech University - 208 Keeny Circle, Room 408 Keeny Hall
P.O. Box 3151 - Ruston, LA 71272

SPECIFIC SHUTTLE TRANSPORTATION SPECIFICATIONS

Base Specifications

1. This is not an exclusive contract.
2. Contractor must comply with current applicable Louisiana and Federal statutes, regulations governing shuttle bus transportation.
3. The term of the contract will be from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023. Service schedule for base bid is shown in base bid.
4. The successful bidder is considered an independent contractor and is not an agent, servant, employee, or representative of Louisiana Tech University.
5. Vehicle(s) must arrive and/or depart the assigned school(s) as indicated on the enclosed route descriptions.
6. No transportation contract can be subcontracted without the prior written approval of the board of education.
7. Bids are to be completed per general specifications contained herein.
8. If awarded a contract, vendor must ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state and local regulations and certify such compliance upon request.
9. Contractor is responsible for all insurance, fuel, maintenance, driver expense and operation of the vehicles.
10. Contractor must provide insurance as specified in Appendix II
11. Contractor must execute and provide the Indemnification Agreement in Appendix III

Vehicles

1. Transportation equipment must be properly registered in Louisiana and meet all current specifications in accordance with Federal and State law.
2. All vehicles must be inspected each week or when indicated to ensure that such vehicles and equipment are in safe and proper operating condition.
3. All vehicles shall have fire extinguisher and first aid kits.
4. Vehicle and/or driver must have two-way communication and shall provide contact information to University Police so vehicle and/or driver can be reached at all times.
5. At a minimum, vehicles shall be a bus capable of transporting 24 persons and meet ADA standards.
6. Vehicles shall be branded or marked to identify them as shuttle vehicles.

Invoicing

At the end of the month, Contractor must provide itemized monthly invoice for payment. Contractor shall bill per day of service for that month.

Accident Reporting

Contractor must immediately inform Louisiana Tech University Police following an accident which involves an injury, death, or property damage, complete and file the accident report as prescribed by State Law or University policy by the conclusion of the next working day. Contractor will cooperate with the University and State of Louisiana in all incident investigations.

Drivers

1. Driver shall possess a Louisiana Driver's License meeting requirements to operate any vehicle used to fulfill this contract.
2. The driver must be a reliable person of good character who possesses the qualifications and communication skills necessary to perform the duties of the position, and comply with the rules set forth for drivers in all federal and state regulations.
3. Prior to assignment to this contract, Contractor must provide Louisiana Tech University Police with a copy of each driver's license, date of birth and citizenship status. Louisiana Tech has the right to check criminal histories for convictions or pending convictions. The University has the right to request drivers not be assigned to this contract pending background check.
4. Drivers must receive sexual harassment, diversity and safety training and hold a current First Aid/CPR certificate.
5. Louisiana Tech University has the right to request a change in driver assignment at any time with or without justification.

Emergency Provisions

In the event the University is closed due to inclement weather or other emergencies, the contractor will be notified as soon as possible by University Police.

Insurance Coverage

Contractor must meet all provisions shown in Appendix II and Appendix III

Routes

The shuttle route is depicted in Appendix I with stops as identified.

Drug and Alcohol Testing

Contractor is required to have a Drug and Alcohol Testing policy that includes provisions for random, reasonable suspicion, or from just cause ad hoc testing. Just cause would include a motor vehicle accident or incident involving an injury of either passenger or driver. Should Drug or Alcohol test show a positive result, Louisiana Tech University shall be notified and driver removed from University shuttle route. Louisiana Tech University has the right to require a drug and alcohol test at any time.

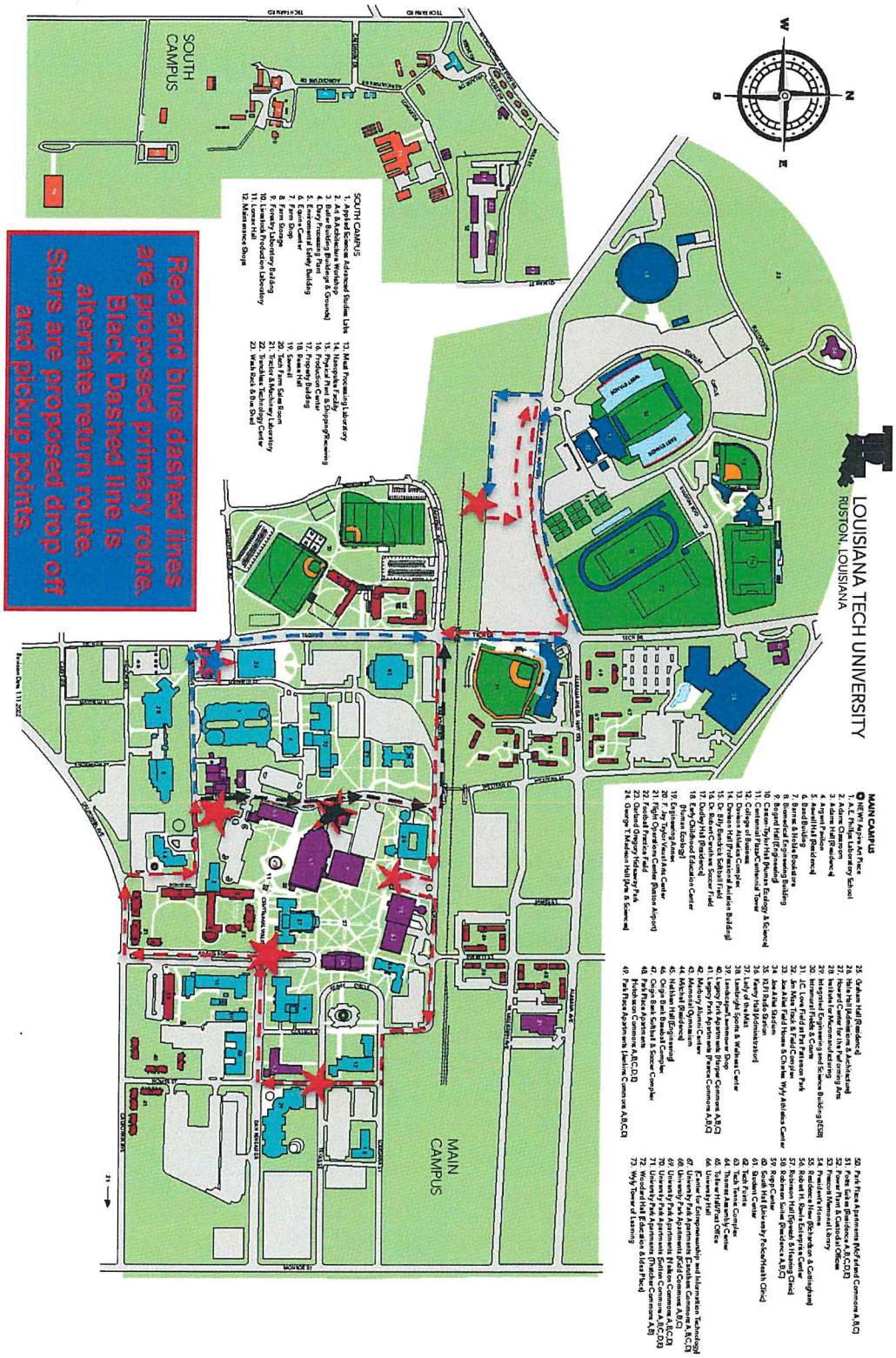
PROHIBITED ITEMS

Drivers and passengers are prohibited from having in their possession while on University property or shuttle tobacco products, firearms or illegal drugs. Contractor shall take precautions to ensure that the prohibitions are enforced.

Unavailability

If service is missed due mechanical or staffing issues invoice will be reduced by the percentage of time unavailable for that month. Example, if there are 22 days in a month that the shuttle is schedule to operate and service is unavailable 3 days, the invoice will be reduced by 3/22 or 13.63%.

Appendix I – Campus Shuttle Route



Stops:

Alabama Parking Lot
Wyly Tower Parking Lot
Intersection of Texas and Homer
Intersection of Dan Reneau and Adams Blvd.
Intersection of Hergot and Wisteria
South Hall

Routes are Monday through Friday with routes starting at 7:00 a.m. and ending at 1:00 p.m. on the following schedule:

Base Bid:

Fall Quarter 2022

1st day of classes – Thursday 9/8/2022
Last day of classes – Thursday 11/17/2022

51 Days

Winter Quarter 2022-2023

1st day of classes – Wednesday 11/30/2022
Christmas Break Begins end of classes - Thursday – 12/20/2022
Christmas Break Ends and classes begin - Wednesday – 1/4/2023
University Closed – Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Monday – 1/16/2023
Mardi Gras Holiday Begins – Monday - February 2/20/23
Mardi Gras Holiday Ends and Classes Begin – Thursday – 2/23/2023
Last day of classes – Tuesday – 2/28/2023

51 Days

Alternate Bid Item 1:

Add a second shuttle for Fall Quarter. Should the shuttle be added for a portion of the quarter, the cost will be prorated for the percentage of the entire quarter added.

Alternate Bid Item 2:

Spring Quarter 2023

1st day of classes – Wednesday 3/8/2023
Easter Holiday Begins end of classes – Thursday – 4/6/2023
Easter Holiday Ends and classes begin 4/11/2023
Last day of classes – Friday 5/19/2023

51 Days

Alternate Bid Item 3:

Per Hour for other special events – (this is envisioned as a single vehicle use for special events).

Appendix II – Insurance Requirements

The Contractor shall purchase and maintain for the duration of the contract insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors.

A. MINIMUM SCOPE AND LIMITS OF INSURANCE

1. Workers Compensation

Workers Compensation insurance shall be in compliance with the Workers Compensation law of the State of the Contractor's headquarters. Employers Liability is included with a minimum limit of $1,000,000 per accident/per disease/per employee. If work is to be performed over water and involves maritime exposure, applicable LHWCA, Jones Act, or other maritime law coverage shall be included. A.M. Best's insurance company rating requirement may be waived for workers compensation coverage only.

2. Commercial General Liability

Commercial General Liability insurance, including Personal and Advertising Injury Liability and Products and Completed Operations, shall have a minimum limit per occurrence of $5,000,000 and a minimum general annual aggregate of $2,000,000. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) Commercial General Liability occurrence coverage form CG 00 01 (current form approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, is to be used in the policy. Claims-made form is unacceptable.

3. Automobile Liability

Automobile Liability Insurance shall have a minimum combined single limit per accident of $5,000,000. ISO form number CA 00 01 (current form approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, is to be used in the policy. This insurance shall include third-party bodily injury and property damage liability for owned, hired and non-owned automobiles.

B. DEDUCTIBLES AND SELF-INSURED RETENTIONS

Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and accepted by the Agency. The Contractor shall be responsible for all deductibles and self-insured retentions.

C. OTHER INSURANCE PROVISIONS

The policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:

1. Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability Coverages
    a. The Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers shall be named as an additional insured as regards negligence by the contractor. ISO Forms CG 20 10 (for ongoing work) AND CG 20 37 (for completed work) (current forms approved for use in

Louisiana), or equivalents, are to be used when applicable. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of protection afforded to the Agency.

b. The Contractor's insurance shall be primary as respects the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers for any and all losses that occur under the contract. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the Agency shall be excess and non-contributory of the Contractor's insurance.

2. Workers Compensation and Employers Liability Coverage

To the fullest extent allowed by law, the insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against 29 Rev. 12/2019 the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers for losses arising from work performed by the Contractor for the Agency.

3. All Coverages

a. All policies must be endorsed to require 30 days written notice of cancellation to the Agency. Ten-day written notice of cancellation is acceptable for non-payment of premium. Notifications shall comply with the standard cancellation provisions in the Contractor's policy. In addition, Contractor is required to notify Agency of policy cancellations or reductions in limits.

b. The acceptance of the completed work, payment, failure of the Agency to require proof of compliance, or Agency's acceptance of a non-compliant certificate of insurance shall not release the Contractor from the obligations of the insurance requirements or indemnification agreement.

c. The insurance companies issuing the policies shall have no recourse against the Agency for payment of premiums or for assessments under any form of the policies.

d. Any failure of the Contractor to comply with reporting provisions of the policy shall not affect coverage provided to the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers.

D. ACCEPTABILITY OF INSURERS

1. All required insurance shall be provided by a company or companies lawfully authorized to do business in the jurisdiction in which the Project is located. Insurance shall be placed with insurers with an A.M. Best's rating of A-:VI or higher. This rating requirement may be waived for workers compensation coverage only.

2. If at any time an insurer issuing any such policy does not meet the minimum A.M. Best rating, the Contractor shall obtain a policy with an insurer that meets the A.M. Best rating and shall submit another Certificate of Insurance within 30 days.

E. VERIFICATION OF COVERAGE

1. Contractor shall furnish the Agency with Certificates of Insurance reflecting proof of required coverage. The Certificates for each insurance policy are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The Certificates are to be received and approved by the Agency before work commences and upon any contract renewal or insurance policy renewal thereafter.
2. The Certificate Holder Shall be listed as follows:

   Louisiana Tech University
   Its Officers, Agents, Employees and Volunteers
   P.O. Box 3151
   Ruston, LA 71272

3. In addition to the Certificates, Contractor shall submit the declarations page and the cancellation provision for each insurance policy. The Agency reserves the right to request complete certified copies of all required insurance policies at any time.
4. Upon failure of the Contractor to furnish, deliver and maintain required insurance, this contract, at the election of the Agency, may be suspended, discontinued or terminated. Failure of the Contractor to purchase and/or maintain any required insurance shall not relieve the Contractor from any liability or indemnification under the contract. 30 Rev. 12/2019

F. SUBCONTRACTORS

Contractor shall include all subcontractors as insureds under its policies OR shall be responsible for verifying and maintaining the Certificates provided by each subcontractor. Subcontractors shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein. The Agency reserves the right to request copies of subcontractor's Certificates at any time.

G. WORKERS COMPENSATION INDEMNITY

In the event Contractor is not required to provide or elects not to provide workers compensation coverage, the parties hereby agree that Contractor, its owners, agents and employees will have no cause of action against, and will not assert a claim against, the State of Louisiana, its departments, agencies, agents and employees as an employer, whether pursuant to the Louisiana Workers Compensation Act or otherwise, under any circumstance. The parties also hereby agree that the State of Louisiana, its departments, agencies, agents and employees shall in no circumstance be, or considered as, the employer or statutory employer of Contractor, its owners, agents and employees. The parties further agree that Contractor is a wholly independent contractor and is exclusively responsible for its employees, owners, and agents. Contractor hereby agrees to protect, defend, indemnify and hold the State of Louisiana, its departments, agencies, agents and

employees harmless from any such assertion or claim that may arise from the performance of this contract.

H. INDEMNIFICATION/HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

1. Contractor agrees to protect, defend, indemnify, save, and hold harmless, the State of Louisiana, all State Departments, Agencies, Boards and Commissions, its officers, agents, servants, employees, and volunteers, from and against any and all claims, damages, expenses, and liability arising out of injury or death to any person or the damage, loss or destruction of any property which may occur, or in any way grow out of, any act or omission of Contractor, its agents, servants, and employees, or any and all costs, expenses and/or attorney fees incurred by Contractor as a result of any claims, demands, suits or causes of action, except those claims, demands, suits, or causes of action arising out of the negligence of the State of Louisiana, all State Departments, Agencies, Boards, Commissions, its officers, agents, servants, employees and volunteers.
2. Contractor agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, provide defense for and defend any such claims, demands, suits, or causes of action at its sole expense and agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto, even if the claims, demands, suits, or causes of action are groundless, false or fraudulent. The State of Louisiana may, but is not required to, consult with the Contractor in the defense of claims, but this shall not affect the Contractor's responsibility for the handling of and expenses for all claims

Appendix III – Indemnification Agreement

_____ agrees to protect, defend, indemnify, save, and hold harmless, the State of Louisiana, all State Departments, Agencies, Boards and Commissions, its officers, agents, servants, employees, and volunteers, from and against any and all claims, damages, expenses, and liability arising out of injury or death to any person or the damage, loss or destruction of any property which may occur, or in any way grow out of, any act or omission of _____, its agents, servants, and employees, or any and all costs, expenses and/or attorney fees incurred by _____ as a result of any claims, demands, suits or causes of action, except those claims, demands, suits, or causes of action arising out of the negligence of LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY, its officers, agents, servants, employees and volunteers. _____ agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, provide defense for and defend any such claims, demands, suits, or causes of action at its sole expense and agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto, even if the claims, demands, suits, or causes of action are groundless, false or fraudulent. The State of Louisiana may, but is not required to, consult with the Contractor in the defense of claims, but this shall not affect the Contractor's responsibility for the handling of and expenses for all claims.

_____

Contractor Name

_____ _____

Signature Date

_____

Title

Address:

Telephone Number:

APPENDIX IV – BID FORM

BID 50012-526-22

In response to this invitation to bid, bidder asserts that the information contained in the response is accurate and that all of the mandatory requirements will be fulfilled should an order be issued.

Return completed bids to: Office of Purchasing, Louisiana Tech University, 208 Keeny Circle, Room 408 Keeny Hall, P.O. Box 3151, Ruston, LA 71272

Bidder offers to supply the services described in the invitation to bid for the amounts shown below:

Base Bid for Shuttle Services for 2022 Fall Quarter and 2022-2023 Winter Quarter for the lump sum of

_____ **Dollars ($_____)**

Alternate 1 to add a second shuttle for Fall Quarter for the lump sum of

_____ **Dollars ($_____)**

Alternate 2 for Shuttle Services for 2023 Spring Quarter for the lump sum of

Dollars ($_____)

_____

Alternate 3 Per Hour charge for other special events for the HOURLY lump sum of

_____ **Dollars ($_____)**

Bid Signature - By signing this bid, the bidder certifies compliance with all general instructions to bidders, terms, conditions, and specifications, and further certifies that this bid is made without collusion or fraud.

Bidder (Company Name)	Mailing Address
Authorized Signature	City, State, Zip Code
Printed Name	Phone Number
Title	Fax Number
E-Mail Address	Federal Tax ID #

THIS IS A REQUEST FOR A SEALED BID
INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

1. Read the entire bid, including all terms and conditions and specifications.

2. Louisiana Tech University is not liable for any cost incurred by the bidders prior to execution of a contract and the issuance of a purchase order. Any bidder who ships or otherwise expends time or money prior to award as defined does so at the bidder's own risk.

3. All bid prices must be typed or written in ink. Any corrections, erasures or other forms of alteration to unit prices should be initialed by the bidder. If the bidder needs to submit a change, question, exception, or modification to any aspect of the bid specifications, terms, conditions, or bidder instructions, must do so in written form submitted to the Louisiana Tech University Purchasing Office prior to the bid opening date. All responses and/or addenda will be officially submitted by the Louisiana Tech University Purchasing Office 72 business hours before the bid opening date. Business hours is defined as University operating hours while the University is open. Unless received as specified above, all bid information will remain unchanged.

4. This bid is to be manually signed in ink.

5. Bid prices shall include all delivery charges paid by the vendor, F.O.B. Destination, unless otherwise provided in the solicitation. Bids requiring deposits, "payment in advance" or "C.O.D" may be rejected. Payment is to be made within 30 days after receipt of properly executed invoice or delivery, whichever is later.

6. Amount of bid bond required: every bid submitted for in excess of fifty thousand dollars shall be accompanied by a bid bond guaranteed by a surety company qualified to do business in the state of Louisiana. The bid bond shall be for five percent of the official bid amount.

7. To assure consideration of your bid, all bids and addenda should be returned in an envelope or package clearly marked with the bid opening date and the bid number; or submitted in the special envelope, if furnished for that purpose.

8. Bids submitted are subject to provisions of the laws of the State of Louisiana including but not limited to L.R.S. 39:1551-1736; Purchasing rules and regulations; executive orders; standard terms and conditions; special conditions; and specifications listed in this solicitation.

9. <u>Important</u>: By signing the bid, the bidder certifies compliance with all instructions to bidders, terms conditions and specifications, and further certifies that this bid is made without collusion or fraud. This bid is to be manually signed in ink by a person authorized to bind the vendor (see no. 27). All bid information shall be in ink or typewritten.

10. Address all inquiries and correspondence to the Louisiana Tech University Office of Purchasing at the address and telephone number listed herein.

11. Bid forms: All written bids, unless otherwise provided for, must be submitted on, and in accordance with, forms provided, and properly signed (see no. 27). Bids submitted in the following manner will not be accepted:

    A. Bid contains no signature indicating intent to be bound;
    B. Bid sent by facsimile equipment;
    C. Bid filled out in pencil; and
    D. Bid not submitted on the designated bid forms.

12. Bids must be received at the address specified in the solicitation prior to bid opening time in order to be considered.

13. Standards of quality – Any product or service bid shall conform to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and the specifications contained in the solicitation. If bidding other than the requested brand or product number (or style), enclose sufficient literature to determine compliance with specifications. Failure to comply with this request may eliminate your bid from consideration. Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation document, any manufacturer's name, trade name, brand name, or catalog number used in the specification is for the purpose of describing the standard of quality, performance, and characteristics desired; and is not intended to limit or restrict competition. Bidder must specify the brand and model name of the product offered in the bid. Bids not specifying brand and model number shall be considered as offering the exact product specified in the solicitation. See bid document for full requirements.

14. New Products: Unless specifically called for in the solicitation documents, all products for purchase must be new, never previously used, and the current model and/or packaging. No remanufactured, demonstrator, used or irregular product will be considered for purchase unless otherwise specified in the solicitation documents. The manufacturer's standard warranty will apply unless otherwise stated in the solicitation.

15. Louisiana Tech University reserves the right to award items separately, grouped or on an all-or-none basis and to reject any or all bids and waive any informalities.

16. This agreement is non-exclusive and shall not in any way preclude Louisiana Tech University from entering into similar agreements and/or arrangements with other vendors or from acquiring similar, equal, or like goods and/or services from other entities or sources.

17. Bid opening: Bidders may attend the bid opening, but no information or opinions concerning the ultimate contract award will be given at the bid opening or during the evaluation process. Bids may be examined within 72 hours after bid opening. Information pertaining to completed files may be secured by visiting the Louisiana Tech University Purchasing Office during normal working hours. Written bid tabulations will not be furnished prior to 72 hours.

18. Prices: Unless otherwise specified by Louisiana Tech University in the solicitation, bid prices must be complete, including transportation prepaid by bidder to destination and firm for acceptance for a minimum of 30 days. If accepted, prices must be firm for the contractual period.

19. Taxes: Vendor is responsible for including all applicable taxes, fees, and tariffs in the bid price. Louisiana Tech University is exempt from all Louisiana state and local sales and use taxes. By accepting an award, resident and non-resident firms acknowledge their responsibility for the payment of all taxes duly accessed by the State of Louisiana and its political subdivisions for which they are liable, including but not limited to: franchise taxes, privilege taxes, sales taxes, use taxes, ad valorem taxes, etc.

20. Contract renewals: In the event that bid specifications include a renewal option, a term contract may be extended for two additional 12-month periods at the same prices, terms, and conditions upon mutual agreement of the State of Louisiana agency and the contractor. In such cases, the total contract term cannot exceed 36 months.

21. Contract cancellation: Louisiana Tech University has the right to cancel any contract, in accordance with purchasing rules and regulations, including but not limited to: (1) failure to deliver within the time specified in the contract; (2) failure of the product or service to meet specifications, conform to sample quality or to be delivered in good condition; (3) misrepresentation by the vendor; (4) fraud, collusion, conspiracy or other unlawful means of obtaining any contract with the University; (5) conflict of contract provisions with constitutional or statutory provisions of state or federal law; (6) any other breach of contract. Louisiana Tech University has the right to cancel any contract for convenience at any time by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the vendor. In such cases, the vendor shall be entitled to payment for complaint deliverables in progress.

22. Applicable law: All contracts shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Louisiana.

23. In accordance with Executive Order Number JBE 2018-15, effective May 22, 2018, for any contract for $100,000 or more and for any contractor with five or more employees, Contractor, or any Subcontractor, shall certify it is not engaging in a boycott of Israel, and shall, for the duration of this contract, refrain from a boycott of Israel. The State reserves the right to terminate this contract if the Contractor, or any Subcontractor, engages in a boycott of Israel during the term of the contract.

24. The bidder agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Executive Order 11246 as amended, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended, and bidder agrees to abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Bidder agrees not to discriminate in its employment practices, and will render services under this contract without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, disability, or age in any matter relating to employment. Any act of discrimination committed by bidder, or failure to comply with these statutory obligations when applicable shall be grounds for termination of any contract entered into as a result of this solicitation.

25. Special accommodation: Any "qualified individual with a disability" as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, who has submitted a bid and desires to attend the bid opening, must notify the Louisiana Tech University Office of Purchasing in writing not later than seven days prior to the bid opening date of their need for special accommodations. If the request cannot be reasonably provided, the individual will be informed prior to the bid opening.

26. Indemnity: Contractor agrees, upon receipt of written notice of a claim or action, to defend the claim or action, or take other appropriate measure, to indemnify, and hold harmless, the state, its officers, its agents and its employees from and against all claims and actions for bodily injury, death or property damages caused by the fault of the contractor, its officers, its agents, or its employees. Contractor is obligated to indemnify only to the extent of the fault of the contractor, its officers, its agents, or its employees. However, the contractor shall have no obligation as set forth above with respect to any claim or action from bodily injury, death or property damages arising out of the fault of the state, its officers, its agents or its employees.

27. Signature authority: Attention: R.S. 39:1594(c) (4) requires evidence of authority to sign and submit bids to the State of Louisiana. You must indicate which of the following apply to the signer of this bid.

    Please circle one:

    1) The signer of this bid is either a corporate officer who is listed on the most current annual report on file with the Secretary of State or a member of a partnership or partnership in commendam as reflected in the most current partnership records on file with the Secretary of State. A copy of the annual report or partnership must be submitted to this office before contract award.

    2) The signer of this bid is a representative of the bidder authorized to submit this bid as evidenced by documents such as Corporate Resolution, Certification as to Corporate Principal, etc. If this applies, a copy of the resolution, certification, or other supportive documents must be attached hereto.

    3) The bidder has filed with the Secretary of State an affidavit or resolution or other acknowledged/authentic document indicating that the signer is authorized to submit bids for public contracts. A copy of the applicable document must be submitted to this office before contract award.

    4) The signer of the bid has been designated by the bidder as authorized to submit bids on the bidder's vendor registration on file with this office.

28. In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 39:2182, in awarding contracts after August 15, 2010, any public entity is authorized to reject a proposal or bid form, or not award the contract to, a business in which any individual with an ownership interest of five percent or more, has been convicted of, or has entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to any state felony or equivalent federal felony crime committed in the solicitation or execution of a contract or bid awarded under the laws governing public contracts under the provisions of chapter 10 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950; professional, personal, consulting, and social services procurement under the provisions of Chapter 16 of Title 39, or the Louisiana Procurement Code under the provisions of Chapter 17 of Title 39.

29. It is agreed that the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana and/or the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration auditors shall have the option of auditing all accounts which relate to this contract.

30. The continuation of this contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds to fulfill the requirements of the contract by the legislature. If the legislature fails to appropriate sufficient monies to provide for the continuation of the contract, or if such appropriation is reduced by the veto of the Governor or by any means provided in the Appropriations Act to prevent the total appropriation for the year from exceeding revenues for that year, or for any other lawful purpose, and the effect of such reduction is to provide insufficient monies for the continuation of the contract.

31. Whenever a public entity enters in to a contract in excess of five-thousand dollars ($5,000) for the construction, alteration, or repair of any Public Works, the official representative of the public entity shall reduce the contract to writing and have it signed by the parties. When an emergency as provided in R.S. 38:2212(D) is deemed to exist for the construction, alteration, or repair of any Public Works and the contract for such emergency work is less than fifty-thousand dollars ($50,000), there shall be no requirement to reduce the contract to writing (R.S. 38:2241).

32. For each contract in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000) per project, the public entity shall require of the contractor a bond with good, solvent, and sufficient surety in a sum of not less than fifty percent (50%) of the contract price for the payment by the contractor or subcontractor to claimants as defined in R.S. 38:2242. The bond furnished shall be a statutory bond and no modification, omissions, additions in or to the terms of the contract, in the plans or specifications, or in the manner and mode of payment shall in any manner diminish, enlarge, or otherwise modify the obligations of the bond. The bond shall be executed by the contractor with surety or sureties approved by the public entity and shall be recorded with the contract in the office of the recorder of mortgages in the parish where the work is to be done not later than thirty days after the work has begun.

33. For construction projects falling within classifications of 37:2150 the bidder must be fully qualified under any state or local licensing law for contractors in effect at the time and at the location of the work before submitting his bid. In the state of Louisiana, revised statutes 37:2150, et seq. Will be considered, if applicable. The contractor shall be responsible for determining that all of his sub-bidders or prospective subcontractors are duly licensed in accordance with law. On any bid in excess of fifty thousand dollars ($50,000), the Contractor shall certify that he is licensed under R.S. 37:2150-2163 and show his license number on the bid. The bid envelope shall be identified on the outside with the Name of the Project, Bid Number, Bid Time, the Name of the Bidder and the License Number of the Bidder.

TO: Louisiana Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Entrepreneurships

RE: Veteran Initiative – Act 167 of the 2009 Legislative Session

➢ ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION?

- Are you a veteran-owned small entrepreneurship or a service-connected disabled veteran-owned small entrepreneurship in accordance with documentation from the United States Department of Veteran Affairs or the Louisiana Department of Veteran Affairs?
- Are you a Louisiana domiciled business?
- Do you have less than fifty (50) full-time employees?
- Are your annual gross revenue receipts $5,000,000 or less (for construction) or $3,000,000 for (non-construction) for each of the previous three (3) tax years?

If your answers are yes, your company may be eligible for participation in the Louisiana Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Entrepreneurship Program, also known as the Veteran Initiative.

➢ WHAT IS THE VETERAN INITIATIVE?

The Veteran Initiative, created by LRS 39:2171 through 2179 and LRS 51:931, provides additional opportunities for certified Louisiana-based small entrepreneurships to participate in contracting and procurement with the State. Key features of the programs are:

- This is a goal-oriented program
- It is race and gender neutral
- Participation is restricted to Louisiana-based certified veteran-owned and service-connected disabled veteran-owned small entrepreneurships

The rules governing the implementation of the program are located at http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/se/se.htm.

➢ WHY IS CERTIFICATION IMPORTANT?

Certification is required for the participation in the Veteran Initiative. Under this program, you may be given increased opportunity to participate in Louisiana state contracts. Certain contracts may be awarded to your business without competition. And, certification is one of the methods that the State of Louisiana will utilize as a basis for benchmarking for annualized procurement and contracting goals.

➢ WHAT AGENCY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION?

The Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED) is responsible for certifying Small Entrepreneurships for participation in the program. The (LED) Small Business Certification System may be accessed by https://smallbiz.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com/Account/Login. For additional information regarding certification, please contact the LED at 800.450.8115 or 225.342.3000.

➢ WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS?

The Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs is responsible for disseminating information on this program and other veterans' benefits to Louisiana veterans. Information on this program and other veterans' benefits can be accessed at www.vetaffairs.al.gov.

The State of Louisiana is committed to the success of this program and encourages your participation.