

## **Clemson University Standard Bidding Terms and Conditions – Revision B Effective October 1, 2009**

This document contains standard bidding instructions and conditions that apply to all solicitations conducted by Clemson University. Instructions and terms specific to an individual solicitation will also apply and are considered in addition to these standard terms and conditions. In case of conflict between terms of a specific solicitation and this document, the terms of the specific solicitation take precedence.

**DEFINITIONS - EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED HEREIN, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL PARTS OF THE SOLICITATION.**

**ADDENDUM** – means a document issued to supplement the original solicitation document; see Amendment.  
**AMENDMENT** – means a document issued to supplement the original solicitation document; see Addendum.  
**BUYER** – means the Procurement Officer.  
**BVB** – means Best Value Bid [Section 11-35-1528].  
**CHANGE ORDER** - means any written alteration in specifications, delivery point, rate of delivery, period of performance, price, quantity, or other provisions of any contract accomplished by mutual agreement of the parties to the contract.  
**CONTRACT** - See clause entitled “Contract Documents & Order of Precedence.”  
**CONTRACT MODIFICATION** – means a written order signed by the Procurement Officer, directing the contractor to make changes which the changes clause of the contract authorizes the Procurement Officer to order without the consent of the contractor.  
**CONTRACTOR** - means the Offeror receiving an award as a result of this solicitation.  
**FPB** – means Fixed Price Bid [Section 11-35-1525].  
**IFB** – means Invitation For Bid [11-35-1550].  
**OFFER** – means the bid or proposal submitted in response this solicitation. The terms “Bid” and “Proposal” are used interchangeably with the term “Offer.”  
**OFFEROR** – means the single legal entity submitting the offer. The term “Bidder” is used interchangeably with the term “Offeror.” See bidding provisions entitled “Signing Your Offer” and “Bid/Proposal As Offer To Contract.”  
**ORDERING ENTITY** - Clemson University.  
**PROCUREMENT OFFICER** – means the person, or his successor, identified as Contact on solicitation.  
**RFP** – means Request For Proposal [Section 11-35-1530].  
**RFQ** – means Request For Qualification [Section 11-35-1530(4)].  
**YOU and YOUR** – means Offeror.  
**SEALED BID** – means Competitive Sealed Bid [Section 11-35-1520].  
**SOLICITATION** – means the online solicitation document and all parts, attachments, attributes, and any Addendums of the specific IFB, BVB, FPB, RFP, or RFQ which includes the Clemson University Standard Bidding Terms and Conditions and Clemson University Standard Terms of Purchase.  
**SUBCONTRACTOR** – means any person having a contract to perform work or render service to Contractor as a part of the Contractor’s agreement arising from this solicitation.  
**UNIVERSITY** – means Clemson University.  
**WORK** - means all labor, materials, equipment and services provided or to be provided by the Contractor to fulfill the Contractor’s obligations under the Contract.

**AMENDMENTS/ADDENDUMS TO SOLICITATION:** (a) The Solicitation may be amended at any time prior to opening. All actual and prospective Offerors should monitor the Clemson buyWays website. (b) Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation by responding to the addendum to the solicitation as amended in buyWays (c) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

**AWARD NOTIFICATION:** Notice regarding any award or cancellation of award will be posted at the location specified in the bid attributes. The date and location of posting will be announced at opening. If the contract resulting from this Solicitation has a total or potential value of fifty thousand dollars or more, such notice will be sent to all Offerors responding to the Solicitation. Should the contract resulting from this Solicitation have a potential value of one hundred thousand dollars or more, such notice will be sent to all Offerors responding to the Solicitation and any award will not be effective until the eleventh day after such notice is given.

**BID / PROPOSAL AS OFFER TO CONTRACT:** By submitting Your Bid or Proposal, You are offering to enter into a contract with the University. Without further action by either party, a binding contract shall result upon final award. Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the Offeror in your submittal. An Offer may be submitted by only one legal entity; “joint bids” are not allowed.

**BID ACCEPTANCE PERIOD:** In order to withdraw Your Offer after the minimum period specified in the bid attributes, you must notify the Procurement Officer in writing.

**BID IN ENGLISH & DOLLARS:** Offers submitted in response to this solicitation shall be in the English language and in US dollars, unless otherwise permitted by the Solicitation.

**UNIVERSITY AS PROCUREMENT AGENT** (a) Authorized Agent. All authority regarding the conduct of this procurement is vested solely with the responsible Procurement Officer. Unless specifically delegated in writing, the Procurement Officer is the only government official authorized to bind the University with regard to this procurement. (b) Purchasing Liability. The Procurement Officer is an employee of the University acting on behalf of the University pursuant to the Consolidated Procurement Code. Any contracts awarded as a result of this procurement are between the Contractor and the University.

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS:**

(a)(1) By submitting an Offer, Offeror certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that-

(i) Offeror and/or any of its Principals-

(A) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any state or federal agency;

(B) Have not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for: commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, state, or local) contract or subcontract; violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or receiving stolen property; and

(C) Are not presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity with, commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this provision.

(ii) Offeror has not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any public (Federal, state, or local) entity.

(2) "Principals," for the purposes of this certification, means officers; directors; owners; partners; and, persons having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g., general manager; plant manager; head of a subsidiary, division, or business segment, and similar positions).

(b) Offeror shall provide immediate written notice to the Procurement Officer if, at any time prior to contract award, Offeror learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

(c) If Offeror is unable to certify the representations stated in paragraphs (a)(1), Offer must submit a written explanation regarding its inability to make the certification. The certification will be considered in connection with a review of the Offeror's responsibility. Failure of the Offeror to furnish additional information as requested by the Procurement Officer may render the Offeror nonresponsible.

(d) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the certification required by paragraph (a) of this provision. The knowledge and information of an Offeror is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

(e) The certification in paragraph (a) of this provision is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making award. If it is later determined that the Offeror knowingly or in bad faith rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the University, the Procurement Officer may terminate the contract resulting from this solicitation for default.

CODE OF LAWS AVAILABLE: The South Carolina Code of Laws, including the Consolidated Procurement Code, is available at <http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/statmast.htm>. The South Carolina Regulations are available at: <http://www.scstatehouse.net/coderegs/statmast.htm>.

COMPLETION OF FORMS / CORRECTION OF ERRORS: All prices and notations should typewritten in the appropriate location on the bid form. Errors can be corrected prior to bid opening/due date/time by "retracting" your bid in the system and resubmitting. Once the Bid Closing date/time has passed a bid can not be retracted and therefore not corrected. Do not modify the solicitation document itself (including bid schedule). (Applicable only to offers submitted on paper.)

CONTENTS OF OFFER (RFP only): (a) Offers should be complete and carefully worded and should convey all of the information requested. (b) Offers should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of Offeror's capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Emphasis should be on completeness and clarity of content. (c) If your offer includes any comment over and above the specific information requested in the solicitation, you are to include this information as a separate appendix to your offer. (d) Offers must be submitted as a single technical document either as a .pdf file or as a .doc file attached as part of your bid submittal. These technical documents must not contain any financial information unless specifically requested to do so in the solicitation. Offers which include either modifications to any of the solicitation's contractual requirements or an Offeror's standard terms and conditions may be deemed non-responsive and not considered for award.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF OFFER: Any offer received after the Procurement Officer of the governmental body or his designee has declared that the time set for opening has arrived, shall be rejected unless the offer has been delivered to the designated purchasing office or the governmental bodies' mail room which services that purchasing office prior to the bid opening. [R.19-445.2070(H)]

DISCUSSIONS WITH BIDDERS: After opening, the Procurement Officer may, in his sole discretion, initiate discussions with you to discuss your bid. Discussions are possible only if your bid is apparently responsive and only for the purpose of clarification to assure your full understanding of the solicitation's requirements.

DRUG FREE WORK PLACE CERTIFICATION: By submitting an Offer, Contractor certifies that, if awarded a contract, Contractor will comply with all applicable provisions of The Drug-free Workplace Act, Title 44, Chapter 107 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended

DUTY TO INQUIRE: Offeror, by submitting an Offer, represents that it has read and understands the Solicitation and that its Offer is made in compliance with the Solicitation. Offerors are expected to examine the Solicitation thoroughly and should request an explanation of any ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror's risk. Offeror assumes responsibility for any patent ambiguity in the Solicitation that Offeror does not bring to the University's attention.

ETHICS ACT: By submitting an Offer, You certify that You are in compliance with South Carolina's Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act of 1991, as amended. The following statutes require special attention: (a) Offering, giving, soliciting, or receiving anything of value to influence action of public employee – Section 8-13-790, (b) Recovery of kickbacks – Section 8-13-790, (c) Offering, soliciting, or receiving money for advice or assistance of public official – Section 8-13-720, (d) Use or disclosure of confidential information – Section 8-13-725, and (e) Persons hired to assist in the preparation of specifications or evaluation of bids – Section 8-13-1150.

OMIT TAXES FROM PRICE: Do not include any sales or use taxes in Your price that the University may be required to pay.

PREFERENCES - A NOTICE TO VENDORS: On June 16, 2009, the South Carolina General Assembly rewrote the law governing preferences available to in-state vendors, vendors using in-state subcontractors, and vendors selling in-state or US end products. This law appears in Section 11-35-1524 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. A summary of the new preferences is available at [www.procurement.sc.gov/preferences](http://www.procurement.sc.gov/preferences). **ALL THE PREFERENCES MUST BE CLAIMED AND ARE APPLIED BY LINE ITEM, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AWARD IS MADE BY ITEM OR LOT. VENDORS ARE CAUTIONED TO CAREFULLY REVIEW THE STATUTE BEFORE CLAIMING ANY PREFERENCES. THE REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY HAVE CHANGED. IF YOU REQUEST A PREFERENCE, YOU ARE CERTIFYING THAT YOUR OFFER QUALIFIES FOR THE PREFERENCE YOU'VE CLAIMED. IMPROPERLY REQUESTING A PREFERENCE CAN HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.** [11-35-1524(E)(4)&(6)]

**PREFERENCES - SC/US END-PRODUCT:** Section 11-35-1524 provides a preference to vendors offering South Carolina end-products or US end-products, if those products are made, manufactured, or grown in SC or the US, respectively. An end-product is the tangible project identified for acquisition in this solicitation, including all component parts in final form and ready for the use intended. The terms "made," "manufactured," and "grown" are defined by Section 11-35-1524(A). By signing your offer and checking the appropriate space(s) provided and identified on the bid schedule, you certify that the end-product(s) is either made, manufactured or grown in South Carolina, or other states of the United States, as applicable. Preference will be applied as required by law. Post award substitutions are prohibited. See "Substitutions Prohibited - End Product Preferences (Sep 2009)" provision.

**PREFERENCES - RESIDENT CONTRACTOR PREFERENCE:** To qualify for the RCP, you must maintain an office in this state. An office is a nonmobile place for the regular transaction of business or performance of a particular service which has been operated as such by the bidder for at least one year before the bid opening and during that year the place has been staffed for at least fifty weeks by at least two employees for at least thirty five hours a week each. In addition, you must, at the time you submit your bid, directly employ, or have a documented commitment with, individuals domiciled in South Carolina that will perform services expressly required by the solicitation and your total direct labor cost for those individuals to provide those services must exceed fifty percent of your total bid price. [11-35-1524(C)(1)(iii)] Upon request by the procurement officer, you must identify the persons domiciled in South Carolina that will perform the services involved in the procurement upon which you rely in qualifying for the preference, the services those individuals are to perform, and documentation of the your labor cost for each person identified. If requested, your failure to provide this information promptly will be grounds to deny the preference (and, potentially, for other enforcement action).

**PREFERENCES - RESIDENT SUBCONTRACTOR PREFERENCE:** To qualify for this preference, You must meet the following requirements. (1) You must -- at the time you submit your bid -- have a documented commitment from a single proposed first tier subcontractor to perform some portion of the services expressly required by the solicitation. (2) The subcontractor -- at the time you submit your bid -- must directly employ, or have a documented commitment with, individuals domiciled in South Carolina that will perform services expressly required by the solicitation and the total direct labor cost to the subcontractor for those individuals to provide those services exceeds, as applicable, either twenty percent for a 2% preference or forty percent of bidder's total bid price for a 4% preference. (3) You must identify the subcontractor that will perform the work, the work the subcontractor is to perform, and your factual basis for concluding that the subcontractor's work constitutes the required percentage of the work to be performed in the procurement. [11-35-1524(D)] You can stack this preference, i.e., earn another 2% or 4% preference for each additional qualifying subcontractor, but the preference is capped. [11-35-1524(D)(4), (E)(7)] Upon request by the procurement officer, you must identify the persons domiciled in South Carolina that are to perform the services involved in the procurement upon which you rely in qualifying for the preference, the services those individuals are to perform, the employer of those persons, your relationship with the employer, and documentation of the subcontractor's labor cost for each person identified. If requested, your failure to provide this information promptly will be grounds to deny the preference (and, potentially, for other enforcement action). **YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THE PREFERENCE UNLESS YOU SPECIFY WHETHER YOU ARE CLAIMING THE 2% OR 4% PREFERENCE AND YOU PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY ITEM (3) ABOVE.**

**PREFERENCES - RESIDENT VENDOR PREFERENCE:** To qualify for the RVP, you must maintain an office in this state. An office is a nonmobile place for the regular transaction of business or performance of a particular service which has been operated as such by the bidder for at least one year before the bid opening and during that year the place has been staffed for at least fifty weeks by at least two employees for at least thirty five hours a week each. In addition, you must either: (1) maintain at a location in South Carolina at the time of the bid an inventory of expendable items which are representative of the general type of commodities for which the award will be made and which have a minimum total value, based on the bid price, equal to the lesser of fifty thousand dollars [\$50,000] or the annual amount of the contract; or (2) be a manufacturer headquartered and having an annual payroll of at least one million dollars in South Carolina and the end product being sold is either made or processed from raw materials into a finished end product by that manufacturer or its affiliate (as defined in Section 1563 of the Internal Revenue Code).

**PRINTING MANUAL:** The South Carolina Government Printing Services manual, dated September 28, 2005, governs both the procurement and any resulting contract for printing services and is hereby incorporated by reference. You are responsible for obtaining a copy of the manual. This manual is available at [www.procurement.sc.gov](http://www.procurement.sc.gov). No overruns or underruns will be accepted.

**PROTESTS:** Any prospective bidder, offeror, contractor, or subcontractor who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation of a contract shall protest within fifteen days of the date of issuance of the applicable solicitation document at issue. Any actual bidder, offeror, contractor, or subcontractor who is aggrieved in connection with the intended award or award of a contract shall protest within ten days of the date notification of award is posted in accordance with this code. A protest shall be in writing, shall set forth the grounds of the protest and the relief requested with enough particularity to give notice of the issues to be decided, and must be received by the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer within the time provided. See Bid Attribute in bid indicating the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer address. [§ 11-35-4210]

**PUBLIC OPENING:** If this solicitation is indicated as a Sealed Bid, BVB, or RFP, offers will be publicly opened at the close date / time and at the location identified in the solicitation, or last Addendum, whichever is applicable. If this solicitation is indicated as an IFB or Request for Quotation, it will not be a public opening.

**QUESTIONS FROM OFFERORS:** (a) Any prospective offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, drawings, specifications, etc., must request it in writing. Questions must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than five (5) days prior to opening unless otherwise stated in the Event Activities. Email any questions to the appropriate Procurement Officer and be sure to include the solicitation's title and number. Oral explanations or instructions will not be binding. Any information given a prospective offeror concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective offerors as an Addendum to the solicitation, if that information is necessary for submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to other prospective offerors. (b) The University seeks to permit maximum practicable competition. Offerors are urged to advise the Procurement Officer – as soon as possible – regarding any aspect of this procurement, including any aspect of the Solicitation that unnecessarily or inappropriately limits full and open competition.

**REJECTION/CANCELLATION:** The University may cancel this solicitation in whole or in part. The University may reject any or all proposals in whole or in part. [SC Code Section 11-35-1710 & R.19-445.2065.]

#### **RESPONSIVENESS / IMPROPER OFFERS**

(a) Bid as Specified. Offers for supplies or services other than those specified will not be considered unless authorized by the Solicitation.

(b) Multiple Offers. Offerors may submit more than one Offer, provided that each Offer has significant differences other than price. Each separate Offer must satisfy all Solicitation requirements. If this solicitation is an Invitation for Bids, each separate offer must be submitted as a separate document. If this solicitation is a Request for Proposals, multiple offers may be submitted as one document, provided that you clearly differentiate between each offer and you submit a separate cost proposal for each offer, if applicable.

(c) Responsiveness. Any Offer which fails to conform to the material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected as nonresponsive. Offers which impose conditions that modify material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected. If a fixed price is required, an Offer will be rejected if the total possible cost to the University cannot be determined. Offerors will not be given an opportunity to correct any material nonconformity. Any deficiency resulting from a minor informality may be cured or waived at the sole discretion of the Procurement Officer. [R.19-445.2070 and Section 11-35-1520(13)]

(d) Price Reasonableness: Any offer may be rejected if the Procurement Officer determines in writing that it is unreasonable as to price. [R. 19-445.2070].

(e) Unbalanced Bidding. The University may reject an Offer as nonresponsive if the prices bid are materially unbalanced between line items or subline items. A bid is materially unbalanced when it is based on prices significantly less than cost for some work and prices which are significantly overstated in relation to cost for other work, and if there is a reasonable doubt that the bid will result in the lowest overall cost to the University even though it may be the low evaluated bid, or if it is so unbalanced as to be tantamount to allowing an advance payment.

**RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO OFFERORS** Violation of these restrictions may result in disqualification of your offer, suspension or debarment, and may constitute a violation of the state Ethics Act. (a) After issuance of the solicitation, **you agree not to discuss this procurement activity in any way with the University or its employees, agents or officials.** All communications must be solely with the Procurement Officer. This restriction may be lifted by express written permission from the Procurement Officer. This restriction expires once a contract has been formed. (b) Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Procurement Officer, **you agree not to give anything to the University.**

**SUBCONTRACTOR SUBSTITUTION PROHIBITED - RESIDENT SUBCONTRACTOR PREFERENCE:** If you receive an award as a result of the subcontractor preference, you may not substitute any business for the subcontractor upon which you relied to qualify for the preference, unless first approved in writing by the procurement officer. If you violate this provision, the State may terminate your contract for cause and you may be debarred. In addition, the procurement officer may require you to pay the State an amount equal to twice the difference between the price paid by the State and the price offered by the next lowest bidder, unless the substituted subcontractor qualifies for the preference. [11-35-1524(D)(5)(c)]

**SUBMITTING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION:** (An overview is available at [www.procurement.sc.gov](http://www.procurement.sc.gov)) For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "CONFIDENTIAL" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains information that is exempt from public disclosure because it is either (a) a trade secret as defined in Section 30-4-40(a)(1), or (b) privileged and confidential, as that phrase is used in Section 11-35-410. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the words "TRADE SECRET" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains a trade secret as that term is defined by Section 39-8-20 of the Trade Secrets Act. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "PROTECTED" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends is protected by Section 11-35-1810. All markings must be conspicuous; use color, bold, underlining, or some other method in order to conspicuously distinguish the mark from the other text. Do not mark your entire response (bid, proposal, quote, etc.) as confidential, trade secret, or protected! If your response, or any part thereof, is improperly marked as confidential or trade secret or protected, the University may, in its sole discretion, determine it nonresponsive. If only portions of a page are subject to some protection, do not mark the entire page. By submitting a response to this solicitation or request, Offeror (1) agrees to the public disclosure of every page of every document regarding this solicitation or request that was submitted at any time prior to entering into a contract (including, but not limited to, documents contained in a response, documents submitted to clarify a response, and documents submitted during negotiations), unless the page is conspicuously marked "TRADE SECRET" or "CONFIDENTIAL" or "PROTECTED", (2) agrees that any information not marked, as required by these bidding instructions, as a "Trade Secret" is not a trade secret as defined by the Trade Secrets Act, and (3) agrees that, notwithstanding any claims or markings otherwise, any prices, commissions, discounts, or other financial figures used to determine the award, as well as the final contract amount, are subject to public disclosure. In determining whether to release documents, the University will detrimentally rely on Offeror's marking of documents, as required by these bidding instructions, as being either "Confidential" or "Trade Secret" or "PROTECTED". By submitting a response, Offeror agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State of South Carolina, its officers and employees, from every claim, demand, loss, expense, cost, damage or injury, including attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from the State withholding information that Offeror marked as "confidential" or "trade secret" or "PROTECTED". (All references to S.C. Code of Laws.)

**SUBMITTING YOUR OFFER OR MODIFICATION** (a) Offers and offer modifications must be submitted by submitting your offer electronically in the Clemson online bidding system (buyWays). (b) If you are responding to more than one solicitation, you must submit separate bids for each solicitation. (c) Facsimile, hardcopy, or e-mail offers, modifications, or withdrawals, are NOT authorized.

**SUBSTITUTIONS PROHIBITED - END PRODUCT PREFERENCES:** If you receive the award as a result of the South Carolina end product or United States end product preference, you may not substitute a nonqualifying end product for a qualified end product. If you violate this provision, the State may terminate your contract for cause and you may be debarred. In addition, you shall pay to the State an amount equal to twice the difference between the price paid by the State and your evaluated price for the item for which you delivered a substitute. [11-35-1534(B)(4)]

**TAX CREDIT FOR SUBCONTRACTING WITH MINORITY FIRMS:** Pursuant to Section 12-6-3350, taxpayers, who utilize certified minority subcontractors, may take a tax credit equal to 4% of the payments they make to said subcontractors. The payments claimed must be based on work performed directly for a South Carolina state contract. The credit is capped at \$50,000 per year or the total tax liability; whichever is lesser. The taxpayer is eligible to claim the credit for 10 consecutive taxable years beginning with the taxable year in which the credit is first claimed. There is no carry forward of unused credits. The credit may be claimed on Form TC-2, "Minority Business Credit." A copy of the subcontractor's certificate from the Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business (OSMBA) is to be attached to the contractor's income tax return. Taxpayers must maintain evidence of work performed for a State contract by the minority subcontractor. Questions regarding the tax credit and how to file are to be referred to: SC Department of Revenue, Research and Review, Phone: (803) 898-5786, Fax: (803) 898-5888. The subcontractor must be certified as to the criteria of a "Minority Firm" by the Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business Assistance (OSMBA). Certificates are issued to subcontractors upon successful completion of the certification process. Questions regarding subcontractor certification are to be referred to: Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business Assistance, Phone: (803) 734-0657, Fax: (803) 734-2498. Reference: SC §11-35-5010 – Definition for Minority Subcontractor & SC §11-35-5230 (B) – Regulations for Negotiating with State Minority Firms.

**TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:** (a) If Offeror is owned or controlled by a common parent as defined in paragraph (b) of this provision, Offeror shall submit with its Offer the name and TIN of common parent.

(b) Definitions: "Common parent," as used in this provision, means that corporate entity that owns or controls an affiliated group of corporations that files its Federal income tax returns on a consolidated basis, and of which the offeror is a member. "Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)," as used in this provision, means the number required by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to be used by the offeror in reporting income tax and other returns. The TIN may be either a Social Security Number or an Employer Identification Number.

(c) If Offeror does not have a TIN, Offeror shall indicate if either a TIN has been applied for or a TIN is not required. If a TIN is not required, indicate whether (i) Offeror is a nonresident alien, foreign corporation, or foreign partnership that does not have income effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States and does not have an office or place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the United States; (ii) Offeror is an agency

or instrumentality of a state or local government; (iii) Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of a foreign government; or (iv) Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government.

**UNIVERSITY OFFICE CLOSINGS** If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal government processes so that offers cannot be opened at the University Procurement Office by the exact time specified in the solicitation, the time specified for receipt of offers will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal government processes resume. In lieu of an automatic extension, an Addendum may be issued to reschedule bid opening. If the University offices are closed at the time a pre-bid or pre-proposal conference is scheduled, an Addendum will be issued to reschedule the conference. Useful information may be available at: <http://www.clemson.edu/>.

**VENDOR REGISTRATION:** You must have a University vendor number to be awarded a contract. To obtain a University vendor number, visit <http://www.clemson.edu/cfo/procurement/vendors/index.html> and select "Vendor Registration." If you are already registered, you can update your information by selecting "Update Vendor Registration." (Please note that vendor registration does not substitute for any obligation to register with the S.C. Secretary of State or S.C. Department of Revenue. You can register with the agencies at <http://www.scbos.com/default.htm>.)

**WITHDRAWAL OR CORRECTION OF OFFER:** Offers may be withdrawn by "retracting" your bid at any time before the exact time set for closing. The withdrawal and correction of Offers is governed by S.C. Code Section 11-35-1520 and Regulation 19-445.2085.

**QUALIFICATION OF OFFEROR:** To be eligible for award of a contract, a prospective contractor must be responsible. In evaluating an Offeror's responsibility, the State Standards of Responsibility [R.19-445.2125] and information from any other source may be considered. An Offeror must, upon request of the University, furnish satisfactory evidence of its ability to meet all contractual requirements. Unreasonable failure to supply information promptly in connection with a responsibility inquiry may be grounds for determining that you are ineligible to receive an award. S.C. Code Section 11-35-1810.

**BIDS RECEIVED AFTER AWARD – FIXED PRICE BIDDING:** Offerors not responding to the initial solicitation may be added to the awarded vendors' list provided the bidder furnishes evidence of responsibility and responsiveness to the University's original fixed price bid as authorized by the solicitation.

**COMPETITION FROM PUBLIC ENTITIES:** If a South Carolina governmental entity submits an offer, the Procurement Officer will, when determining the lowest offer, add to the price provided in any offers submitted by non-governmental entities a percentage equivalent to any applicable sales or use tax. S.C. Code Ann. Regs 117-304.1 (Supp. 2004).

**UNIT PRICE GOVERNS:** In determining award, unit prices will govern over extended prices unless otherwise stated.