



**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
On behalf of the PACIFIC NORTHWEST HYDROGEN ASSOCIATION (PNWH2)  
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND QUOTATIONS  
RFQQ NO. PNWHUB22**

***NOTE:** If you download this RFQQ from the Department of Commerce website, you are responsible for sending your name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number to the RFQQ Coordinator in order for your organization to receive any RFQQ amendments or bidder questions/agency answers.*

**PROJECT TITLE: Pacific NW Hydrogen Association HUB Contractor**

**RESPONSE DUE DATE: August 24, 2022, 5 p.m.**

**EXPECTED TIME PERIOD FOR CONTRACT: Dependent on Designation and Award from the U.S. Department of Energy.**

**CONSULTANT ELIGIBILITY:** This procurement is open to those contractors/consultants which satisfy the minimum qualifications stated herein and that are available for work in Washington State.

**CONTENTS OF THE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND QUOTATIONS:**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. General Information for Consultants**
- 3. Response Contents**
- 4. Evaluation and Award**
- 5. Exhibits**
  - A. Certifications and Assurances**
  - B. Diverse Business Inclusion Plan**
  - C. Workers' Rights Certification**
  - D. Service Contract with General Terms and Conditions**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. Introduction .....</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1 Purpose and Background.....	3
1.2 Objective .....	3
1.3 Minimum Qualifications .....	3
1.4 Funding .....	3
1.5 Period of Performance .....	3
1.6 Definitions.....	3
1.7 ADA .....	4
<b>2. General Information for Consultants .....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1 RFQQ Coordinator .....	5
2.2 Estimated Schedule of Procurement Activities .....	5
2.3 Bidders' Conference.....	6
2.4 Submission of Responses.....	6
2.5 Proprietary Information/Public Disclosure.....	6
2.6 Revisions to the RFQQ .....	7
2.7 Diverse Business Inclusion Plan .....	7
2.8 Acceptance Period .....	7
2.9 Complaints .....	7
2.10 Responsiveness.....	7
2.11 Most Favorable Terms .....	7
2.12 Contract and General Terms & Conditions .....	8
2.13 Costs to Propose.....	8
2.14 No Obligation to Contract.....	8
2.15 Rejection of Responses .....	8
2.16 Commitment of Funds.....	8
2.17 Insurance Coverage.....	8
<b>3. Response Contents .....</b>	<b>11</b>
3.1 Letter of Submittal .....	11
3.2 Qualifications Section.....	11
3.2.1 Business Information.....	11
3.2.2 Qualifications.....	12
3.3 Quotations Section .....	13
3.3.1 Identification of Costs.....	13
3.3.2 Computation.....	13
<b>4. Evaluation and Contract Award .....</b>	<b>14</b>
4.1 Evaluation Procedure .....	14
4.2 Clarification of Response.....	14
4.3 Evaluation Weighting and Scoring .....	14
4.4 Oral Presentations Required.....	14
4.5 Notification to Proposers .....	15
4.6 Debriefing of Unsuccessful Proposers .....	15
4.7 Protest Procedure .....	15
<b>5. RFQQ Exhibits.....</b>	<b>17</b>
Exhibit A Certifications and Assurances	
Exhibit B Diverse Business Inclusion Plan	
Exhibit C Workers' Rights Certification	
Exhibit D Sample Service Contract Format including General Terms and Conditions (GT&Cs)	

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Pacific Northwest Hydrogen Association (PNWH2), with the support of the Washington State Department of Commerce (COMMERCE) looks to partner with a Consultant and/or a Management and Operating (M&O) Contractor (hereafter referred to as Contractor) who shares the same vision and has the necessary experience required to reach our goals. First and foremost, the desired Contractor will have exceptional Operations Management, Business Services, and Mission Support skills. Additionally, we seek an Contractor familiar with processes and procedures related to evaluating, hiring, and managing Dept. Of Energy subcontracts. Specifically, our desired Contractor will have a history of working with Federal subcontractors in the fields of construction logistics and production, industrial H2 applications, transportation, agriculture and institutionalizing hydrogen.

### OBJECTIVE

We are expecting the contractor to implement the objectives of the Board as it relates to funding by the Department of Energy through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ([Public Law 117-58](#)), specifically for the DOE Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs solicitations. The Contractor will be expected to help manage and work with PNWH2 during the following phases:

1. Phase 1 – Hub Planning (DOE RFP forthcoming). This phase would focus on initial hub planning, which may include activities such as analysis of key metrics such as the decarbonization potential and energy resources/infrastructure/workforce in the Northwest, hub design, financing, and preliminary National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and related reviews. This phase is expected to be \$1M-\$4M with the proposal being submitted by PNWH2.
2. Phase 2 – Hub Construction and Deployment (DOE RFP forthcoming). This phase would be focused on the development and build-out of the Phase 1 design after completing NEPA reviews, permitting, etc. during the early stages of Phase 2. Phase 2 would include multiple Budget Periods with defined activities per Budget Period. The Department of Energy is in the process of defining activities for each Budget Period; however, for example, Phase 2 may include:
  - a. Phase 2a: Project Development (e.g., Front-End Engineering Design, completed NEPA reviews, siting, permitting, finalizing off-taker agreements and volumes, etc.)
  - b. Phase 2b: Hub Construction/Deployment
  - c. Phase 2c: Operation

Consultant/Contractor(s) may respond to this RFQQ for completion of solely Phase 1 or solely Phase 2, and will be scored based upon their individual submission. Or, Consultant/Contractors may submit their response for both Phase 1 & Phase 2. Scoring will be based upon the Contractors qualifications for each Phase.

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COMMERCE may award one or more contracts to consultants/contractors who submit Responses as a result of this RFQQ.

### 1.2 MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

In order to be considered responsive, Applicant must:

1. Experience executing or managing DOE or other similar Federal agency work in excess of \$1B with annual budgets of \$200M or greater.
2. Experience in providing comprehensive management services for a H2 Hub consortium including business, finance, and associated support systems.
3. Experience managing an organization in accordance with the federal cost accounting and audit standards.

4. Experience managing hazardous substances such as hydrogen and/or other similar chemicals and gases.
5. Construction, startup, and commissioning experience for projects of over \$50M, including expertise in managing multiple subcontracts and a wide range of project vendors.
6. Ability to provide experienced Business Development personnel and resources for the development of the RFP/FOA Phase 1 and Phase 2 proposals.
7. Ability to provide experienced and capable personnel to serve in a management and operation integration oversight organization.
8. Demonstrate the ability to work with Washington State regulatory agencies and have operations located in the State of Washington.
9. Experience working with Washington State Unions, Tribes, underserved populations, and other stakeholders.
10. Possess relevant successful DOE or other Federal Agency performance evaluations (and Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting Systems Reports) within the last five (5) years and will provide evidence of such.

Proposals that do not clearly meet or exceed all minimum qualifications listed above are non-responsive and will not be evaluated.

Bidders who do not meet these minimum qualifications will be rejected as non-responsive and will not receive further consideration. Any Response that is rejected as non-responsive will not be evaluated or scored.

### **1.3 FUNDING**

Responses should not exceed \$500,000 for the initial Phase 1 of the RFQQ, for managing and working with PNWH2 through the Hydrogen HUBS application development and submission to the DOE. Any Phase 1 responses in excess of \$500,000 will be considered non-responsive and will not be evaluated. In the event additional funding becomes available, any contract awarded may be renegotiated to provide for additional related services.

Should PNWH2 be formally designated and funded as one of the Hydrogen Hubs through the DOE process Phase 2 of the project would commence. Quotes for Phase 2 of the project should be based upon the understanding of work needed, from previous experience of the Contractor managing DOE related projects, and continue to serve as management and operation integration oversight organization.

Administration and management costs will be taken into consideration through scoring of the qualification and quotation sections of this RFQQ. PNWH2 and Commerce want to ensure efficient use of funds that limit the overuse of administrative charges.

Any contract(s) awarded as a result of this procurement is contingent upon the availability of funding.

### **1.4 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

The period of performance of any contract(s) resulting from this RFQQ is tentatively scheduled to begin on or about **September 30, 2022** and will end dependent on formal designation of PNWH2 as a DOE Hydrogen HUB, and the related work under Phase 2 of the RFQQ. Otherwise, the project will end once Phase 1 is completed and DOE gives notice of non-award.

COMMERCE reserves the option at its sole discretion to extend the contract for two additional one-year periods.

### **1.5 DEFINITIONS**

Definitions for the purposes of this RFQQ include:

**Apparently Successful Bidder (ASB).** The Consultant(s) selected to enter into negotiations leading to a fully executed contract for the work described in this procurement document.

**COMMERCE.** The Department of Commerce is the agency of the state of Washington that is issuing this RFQQ.

**Consultant.** Individual, company, or firm submitting a Response in order to attain a contract with COMMERCE.

**Contractor.** Individual or company whose Response has been accepted by COMMERCE and is awarded a fully executed, written contract.

**Request for Qualifications and Quotations (RFQQ).** Formal procurement document in which needed services are identified and firms are invited to submit their qualifications via a written Response to provide the services and their hourly rates; this procurement document.

**Response.** A formal offer submitted in response to this solicitation.

### **1.6 ADA**

COMMERCE complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Consultants may contact the RFQQ Coordinator to receive this Request for Qualifications and Quotations in Braille or on tape.

## 2 GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CONSULTANTS

### 2.1 RFQQ COORDINATOR

The RFQQ Coordinator is the sole point of contact in COMMERCE for this procurement. All communication between the Consultant and COMMERCE upon receipt of this RFQQ shall be with the RFQQ Coordinator, as follows:

Name	Jaclyn Perez
E-Mail Address	Jaclyn.Perez@commerce.wa.gov

Any other communication will be considered unofficial and non-binding on COMMERCE. Consultants are to rely on written statements issued by the RFQQ Coordinator. *Communication directed to parties other than the RFQQ Coordinator may result in disqualification of the Consultant.*

### 2.2 ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES

Issue Request for Qualifications and Quotations	August 5, 2022
Question & answer period	August 5-11, 2022
Answers issued no later than	August 12, 2022
Responses due	August 24, 2022
Evaluate responses	August 25-30, 2022
Conduct oral interviews with finalists, if required	September 6 -7, 2022
Announce "Apparent Successful Bidder" and send notification via e-mail to unsuccessful proposers	September 8, 2022
Hold debriefing conferences (if requested)	September 9, 2022
Negotiate contract	September 9-23, 2022
Begin contract work	September 30, 2022

COMMERCE reserves the right to revise the above schedule.

### 2.3 SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES

#### ELECTRONIC RESPONSES:

The Response must be **received by the RFQQ Coordinator** no later than 5 p.m., Pacific Standard Time, in Olympia, Washington, on Aug 24, 2022.

Responses must be submitted electronically as an attachment to an e-mail to the RFQQ Coordinator, at the e-mail address listed in Section 2.1. Attachments to e-mail shall be in Microsoft Word format or PDF. Zipped files cannot be received by COMMERCE and cannot be used for submission of Responses. The cover submittal letter and the Certifications and Assurances form must have a scanned signature of the individual within the organization authorized to bind the Consultant to the offer. COMMERCE does not assume responsibility for problems with Consultant's e-mail. If COMMERCE email is not working, appropriate allowances will be made.

Responses may not be transmitted using facsimile transmission.

Consultants should allow sufficient time to ensure timely receipt of the Response by the RFQQ Coordinator. Late Responses will not be accepted and will be automatically disqualified from further consideration, unless COMMERCE e-mail is found to be at fault. All Responses and any accompanying documentation become the property of COMMERCE and will not be returned.

#### **2.4 PROPRIETARY INFORMATION/PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

Responses submitted in response to this competitive procurement shall become the property of COMMERCE. All Responses received shall remain confidential until the Apparent Successful Bidder is announced; thereafter, the Responses shall be deemed public records as defined in Chapter 42.56 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

Any information in the Response that the Consultant desires to claim as proprietary and exempt from disclosure under the provisions of Chapter 42.56 RCW, or other state or federal law that provides for the nondisclosure of your document, must be clearly designated. The information must be clearly identified and the particular exemption from disclosure upon which the Consultant is making the claim must be cited. Each page containing the information claimed to be exempt from disclosure must be clearly identified by the words "Proprietary Information" printed on the lower right hand corner of the page. Marking the entire Response exempt from disclosure or as Proprietary Information will not be honored.

If a public records request is made for the information that the Consultant has marked as "Proprietary Information" COMMERCE will notify the Consultant of the request and of the date that the records will be released to the requester unless the Consultant obtains a court order enjoining that disclosure. If the Consultant fails to obtain the court order enjoining disclosure, COMMERCE will release the requested information on the date specified. If a Consultant obtains a court order from a court of competent jurisdiction enjoining disclosure pursuant to Chapter 42.56 RCW, or other state or federal law that provides for nondisclosure, COMMERCE shall maintain the confidentiality of the Consultant's information per the court order.

A charge will be made for copying and shipping, as outlined in RCW 42.56. No fee shall be charged for inspection of contract files, but twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the RFQQ Coordinator is required. All requests for information should be directed to the RFQQ Coordinator.

#### **2.5 REVISIONS TO THE RFQQ**

In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFQQ, addenda will be provided via e-mail to all individuals who have made the RFQQ Coordinator aware of their interest. Addenda will also be published on Washington's Electronic Bid System (WEBS). The website can be located at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ga/webs/>. For this purpose, the published questions and answers and any other pertinent information shall be provided as an addendum to the RFQQ and will be placed on the website.

If you downloaded this RFQQ from the Agency website located at [www.commerce.wa.gov](http://www.commerce.wa.gov), you are responsible for sending your name, e-mail address, and telephone number to the RFQQ Coordinator in order for your organization to receive any RFQQ addenda.

COMMERCE also reserves the right to cancel or to reissue the RFQQ in whole or in part, prior to execution of a contract.

#### **2.5 DIVERSE BUSINESS INCLUSION PLAN**

Responders will be required to submit a Diverse Business Inclusion Plan with their Response. In accordance with legislative findings and policies set forth in RCW 39.19, the state of Washington encourages participation in all contracts by firms certified by the office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE), set forth in RCW 43.60A.200 for firms certified by the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs, and set forth in RCW 39.26.005 for firms that are Washington



Small Businesses. Participation may be either on a direct basis or on a subcontractor basis. However, no preference on the basis of participation is included in the evaluation of Diverse Business Inclusion Plans submitted, and no minimum level of minority- and women-owned business enterprise (MWBE), Washington Small Business, or Washington State certified Veteran Business participation is required as a condition for receiving an award. Any affirmative action requirements set forth in any federal Governmental Rules included or referenced in the contract documents will apply.

COMMERCE has the following agency goals:

- 10% participation by Minority Owned Business
- 6% participation by Women Owned Business
- 5% participation by Veteran Owned Business
- 5% participation by Small Businesses

## **2.6 ACCEPTANCE PERIOD**

Responses must provide 60 days for acceptance by COMMERCE from the due date for receipt of Responses.

## **2.7 COMPLAINT PROCESS**

Vendors may submit a complaint to COMMERCE based on any of following:

- a) The solicitation unnecessarily restricts competition;
- b) The solicitation evaluation or scoring process is unfair; or
- c) The solicitation requirements are inadequate or insufficient to prepare a Response.

A complaint may be submitted to COMMERCE at any time prior to 5 days before the bid response deadline. The complaint must meet the following requirements:

- a) The complaint must be in writing;
- b) The complaint must be sent to the RFQQ coordinator in a timely manner;
- c) The complaint should clearly articulate the basis for the complaint; and
- d) The complaint should include a proposed remedy.

The RFQQ coordinator will respond to the complaint in writing. The response to the complaint and any changes to the solicitation will be posted on WEBS. The Director of COMMERCE will be notified of all complaints and will be provided a copy of COMMERCE'S response. The complaint may not be raised again during the protest period. COMMERCE'S action or inaction in response to the complaint will be final. There is no appeal process.

## **2.8 RESPONSIVENESS**

All Responses will be reviewed by the RFQQ Coordinator to determine compliance with administrative requirements and instructions specified in this RFQQ. The Consultant is specifically notified that failure to comply with any part of the RFQQ may result in rejection of the Response as non-responsive.

COMMERCE reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to waive minor administrative irregularities.

## **2.9 MOST FAVORABLE TERMS**

COMMERCE reserves the right to make an award without further discussion of the Response submitted. Therefore, the Response should be submitted initially on the most favorable terms which the Consultant can propose. COMMERCE does reserve the right to contact a Consultant for clarification of its Response.

The Consultant should be prepared to accept this RFQQ for incorporation into a contract resulting from this RFQQ. Contract negotiations may incorporate some, or all, of the Consultant's Response. It is understood that the Response will become a part of the official procurement file on this matter without obligation to COMMERCE.

### **2.10 CONTRACT AND GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS**

The apparent successful bidder will be expected to enter into a contract which is substantially the same as the sample contract and its general terms and conditions attached as Exhibit C. In no event is a Consultant to submit its own standard contract terms and conditions in response to this solicitation. The Consultant may submit exceptions as allowed in the Certifications and Assurances section, Exhibit A to this solicitation. COMMERCE will review requested exceptions and accept or reject the same at its sole discretion.

It is anticipated the first deliverable under the contract will be a scoping plan, which will define the specific services to be provided by the CONTRACTOR based upon agreement between COMMERCE and the CONTRACTOR.

### **2.11 COSTS TO PROPOSE**

COMMERCE will not be liable for any costs incurred by the Consultant in preparation of a Response submitted in response to this RFQQ, in conduct of a presentation, or any other activities related to responding to this RFQQ.

### **2.12 NO OBLIGATION TO CONTRACT**

This RFQQ does not obligate the state of Washington or COMMERCE to contract for services specified herein.

### **2.13 REJECTION OF RESPONSES**

COMMERCE reserves the right at its sole discretion to reject any and all Responses received without penalty and not to issue a contract as a result of this RFQQ.

### **2.14 COMMITMENT OF FUNDS**

The Director of COMMERCE or the Director's delegate are the only individuals who may legally commit COMMERCE to the expenditures of funds for a contract resulting from this RFQQ. No cost chargeable to the proposed contract may be incurred before receipt of a fully executed contract.

### **2.15 INSURANCE COVERAGE**

The Contractor is to furnish COMMERCE with a certificate of insurance executed by a duly authorized representative of each insurer, showing compliance with the insurance requirements set forth below.

The Contractor shall, at Contractor's own expense, obtain and keep in force insurance coverage, which shall be maintained in full force and effect during the term of the contract. The Contractor shall furnish evidence in the form of a Certificate of Insurance that insurance shall be provided, and a copy shall be forwarded to COMMERCE within fifteen (15) days of the contract effective date.

#### **Liability Insurance**

*Commercial General Liability Insurance (CGL):* Contractor shall maintain general liability insurance and, if necessary, commercial umbrella insurance, with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 per each occurrence. If CGL insurance contains aggregate limits, the general aggregate limit shall be at least twice the "each occurrence" limit. CGL insurance shall have products-completed operations aggregate limit of at least two times the "each occurrence" limit. CGL insurance shall be written on ISO occurrence from CG 00 01 (or a substitute form providing equivalent coverage). All insurance shall cover liability

assumed under an insured contract (including the tort liability of another assumed in a business contract), and contain separation of insureds (cross liability) condition.

Additionally, the Contractor is responsible for ensuring that any subcontractors provide adequate insurance coverage for the activities arising out of subcontracts.

*Business Auto Policy:* As applicable, the Contractor shall maintain business auto liability and, if necessary, commercial umbrella liability insurance with a limit not less than \$1,000,000 per accident. Such insurance shall cover liability arising out of "Any Auto." Business auto coverage shall be written on ISO form CA 00 01, 1990 or later edition, or substitute liability form providing equivalent coverage.

#### **Employers Liability ("Stop Gap") Insurance**

In addition, the Contractor shall buy employers liability insurance and, if necessary, commercial umbrella liability insurance with limits not less than \$1,000,000 each accident for bodily injury by accident or \$1,000,000 each employee for bodily injury by disease.

#### **Additional Provisions**

Above insurance policy shall include the following provisions:

- **Additional Insured.** COMMERCE, its elected and appointed officials, agents and employees shall be named as an additional insured on all general liability, excess, umbrella and property insurance policies. All insurance provided in compliance with this contract shall be primary as to any other insurance or self-insurance programs afforded to or maintained by the state.
- **Cancellation.** COMMERCE shall be provided written notice before cancellation or non-renewal of any insurance referred to therein, in accord with the following specifications. Insurers subject to 48.18 RCW (Admitted and Regulation by the Insurance Commissioner): The insurer shall give the state 45 days advance notice of cancellation or non-renewal. If cancellation is due to non-payment of premium, the state shall be given 10 days advance notice of cancellation. Insurers subject to 48.15 RCW (Surplus lines): The state shall be given 20 days advance notice of cancellation. If cancellation is due to non-payment of premium, the state shall be given 10 days advance notice of cancellation.
- **Identification.** Policy must reference the COMMERCE contract number and the agency name.
- **Insurance Carrier Rating.** All insurance and bonds should be issued by companies admitted to do business within the state of Washington and have a rating of A-, Class VII or better in the most recently published edition of Best's Reports. Any exception shall be reviewed and approved by COMMERCE, the risk manager for the state of Washington, before the contract is accepted or work may begin. If an insurer is not admitted, all insurance policies and procedures for issuing the insurance policies must comply with Chapter 48.15 RCW and 284-15 WAC.
- **Excess Coverage.** By requiring insurance herein, the state does not represent that coverage and limits will be adequate to protect Contractor, and such coverage and limits shall not limit Contractor's liability under the indemnities and reimbursements granted to the state in this contract.

#### **Workers' Compensation Coverage**

The Contractor will at all times comply with all applicable workers' compensation, occupational disease, and occupational health and safety laws, statutes, and regulations to the full extent applicable. The state will not be held responsive in any way for claims filed by the Contractor or their employees for services performed under the terms of this contract.

### 3 RESPONSE CONTENTS

#### **ELECTRONIC RESPONSES:**

Responses must be written in English and submitted electronically to the RFQQ Coordinator in the order noted below:

1. Letter of Submittal, including signed Certifications and Assurances (Exhibit A to this RFQQ)
2. Qualifications
3. Quotation
4. Diverse Business Inclusion Plan (Exhibit B to this RFQQ)
5. Workers' Rights Certification (Exhibit C to this RFQQ)

Responses must provide information in the same order as presented in this document with the same headings. This will not only be helpful to the evaluators of the Response, but should assist the Consultant in preparing a thorough response.

Items in this section marked "mandatory" must be included as part of the Response for the Response to be considered responsive, however, these items are not scored. Items marked "scored" are those that are awarded points as part of the evaluation conducted by the evaluation team.

#### **3.1 LETTER OF SUBMITTAL (MANDATORY)**

The Letter of Submittal and the attached Certifications and Assurances form (Exhibit A to this RFQQ) must be signed and dated by a person authorized to legally bind the Applicant to a contractual relationship, e.g., the President or Executive Director if a corporation, the managing partner if a partnership, or the proprietor if a sole proprietorship. Along with introductory remarks, the Letter of Submittal is to include the following information about the Applicant and any proposed subcontractors:

1. Name, address, principal place of business, telephone number, and e-mail address of legal entity or individual with whom contract would be written.
2. Location of the facility from which the Applicant would operate.
3. Name, address, and telephone number of each principal officer (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, etc.)
4. Legal status of the Applicant (sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, etc.) and the year the entity was organized to do business as the entity now substantially exists.
5. Federal Employer Tax Identification number or Social Security number and the Washington Uniform Business Identification (UBI) number issued by the state of Washington Department of Revenue. If the Applicant does not have a UBI number, the Applicant must state that it will become licensed in Washington within thirty (30) calendar days of being selected as the Apparently Successful Applicant.
6. If the Applicant has had a contract terminated for default in the last ten (10) years, describe such incident. Termination for default is defined as notice to stop performance due to the Applicant's non-performance or poor performance and the issue of performance was either (a) not litigated due to inaction on the part of the Applicant, or (b) litigated and such litigation determined that the Applicant was in default.
7. Submit full details of the terms for default including the other party's name, address, and phone number. Present the Applicant's position on the matter. PNWH2 will evaluate the facts and may, at its sole discretion, reject the application on the grounds of the past experience. If no such termination for default has been experienced by the Applicant in the past ten (10) years, so indicate.
8. List names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of three (3) business references for the Applicant and three (3) business references for the lead staff person for whom work has been accomplished and briefly describe the type of service provided. Do not include current

PNWH2 staff as references. By submitting a proposal in response to this Request for Applications (RFA), the vendor and team members grant permission to PNWH2 to contact these references and others, who from PNWH2's perspective, may have pertinent information. PNWH2 may or may not, at PNWH2's discretion, contact references. PNWH2 may evaluate references at the PNWH2's discretion.

9. Describe in depth how you or the organization meet the minimum qualifications of this RFQQ.

### **3.1.1 BUSINESS INFORMATION (MANDATORY)**

1. State the name of the company, address, phone number, fax number, e-mail address, legal status of entity (ownership) and year entity was established as it now substantially exists.
2. Provide the firm's Federal Employer Tax Identification number or Social Security number and the Washington Uniform Business Identification (UBI) number issued by the state of Washington Department of Revenue.
3. Indicate how many employees are with the firm. Name the firm principles and their roles.
4. Identify any state employees or former state employees employed by the Consultant or on the Consultant's governing board as of the date of the Response. Include their position and responsibilities within the Consultant's organization. If following a review of this information, it is determined by COMMERCE that a conflict of interest exists, the Consultant may be disqualified from further consideration for the award of a contract.
5. If the Consultant's staff or subcontractor's staff was an employee of the state of Washington during the past 24 months, or is currently a Washington State employee, identify the individual by name, the agency previously or currently employed by, job title or position held, and separation date.
6. If the Consultant has had a contract terminated for default in the last five years, describe such incident. Termination for default is defined as notice to stop performance due to the Consultant's non-performance or poor performance and the issue of performance was either (a) not litigated due to inaction on the part of the Proposer, or (b) litigated and such litigation determined that the Proposer was in default.
7. Submit full details of the terms for default, including the other party's name, address, and phone number. Present the Consultant's position on the matter. COMMERCE will evaluate the facts and may, at its sole discretion, reject the Response on the grounds of the past experience. If no such termination for default has been experienced by the Consultant in the past five years, so indicate.

### **3.1.2 QUALIFICATIONS**

#### **1. EXPERIENCE (SCORED) \*no more than 5 pages of additional information**

- A. Describe services provided by the Consultant that indicate the firm's ability to provide the services described in this RFQQ.
- B. Describe the firm's recent experience with:

Have the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls, and any technical skills, including but not limited to:

- i. A strong business development team
- ii. A strong management team
- iii. Experienced and qualified key personnel
- iv. Adequate financial resources to perform the duties

PNWH2 is expecting the Contractor to demonstrate that they:

- b. Have the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls, and any technical skills, including but not limited to:
  - a. A strong business development team
  - b. A strong management team
  - c. Experienced and qualified key personnel
  - d. Adequate financial resources to perform the duties
- c. Have the necessary production, construction, and technical equipment, systems, and facilities, or the ability to obtain them
  - a. Preferred qualifications include experience in Hydrogen/Chemical production and distribution expertise

In addition, the Contractor shall describe the following:

- General Qualifications (20 pts)
  - Washington State Operational Experience
  - Washington State Agency Reputation
  - Degree willing to participate and manage in Cost/Effort Sharing
  - Hydrogen/Chemical Production Expertise
  - Hydrogen/Chemical Distribution Expertise
- DOE or other Proposal Development (30 pts)
  - Business Services available to provide for proposal(s)
  - Contracting, Business Systems, and related capabilities
  - Proposal development and submission support
  - Quality of Construction or oversight of Construction
  - Quality of Systems Engineering
  - Past Department of Energy Performance
  - Ability to bring together and integrate diverse organizations
- Construction, Operations, and Deployment (40 pts)
  - Key Personnel offered for effort
  - Demonstrated ability to integrate a complex M&O
  - Demonstrated ability to meet Cost, Scope, Schedule
  - Ability to work with WA State Unions and other stakeholders
  - Demonstrated ability to safely manage operational hazards
  - Ability to integrate and support a large number of subcontractors
  - Ability to oversee construction, startup, and commissioning
- Additional considerations or Capabilities (10 pts)
  - Permitting and regulatory expertise
  - Ability to engage and include underserved groups
  - IT/Cyber or other capabilities to optimize ops/reporting
  - Effectiveness or efficiency improvement abilities

The qualifications section of the Response must contain information that will demonstrate to the evaluation committee the Consultant's understanding of the types of services proposed, the firm's ability to accomplish them, and the ability to meet tight timeframes.

Have the necessary production, construction, and technical equipment, systems, and facilities, or the ability to obtain them

Preferred qualifications include experience in Hydrogen/Chemical production and distribution expertise.

Proposals that do not clearly meet or exceed all minimum qualifications listed above are non-responsive and will not be evaluated.

## **2. STAFFING (SCORED)**

- A. Provide a description of the proposed project team structure and internal controls to be used during the course of the project, including any subcontractors.
- B. Provide the name and a resume' of the person who will be the lead contact for the project. Provide names and resumes' for other staff, which includes information on the individual's particular skills related to this project, education, experience, significant accomplishments and any other pertinent information.
- C. List any sub-consultants you may want to include to complete your roster of services. Describe what services each would provide. Provide the information in Section 3.2.1 about each.

## **3. SCHEDULE (SCORED)**

Describe the firm's ability to meet deadlines, especially on a short timeframe, and give examples of how past tight deadlines have been successfully met.

## **4. REFERENCE (MANDATORY)**

List names, addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers and e-mail addresses of three business references for whom work has been accomplished and briefly describe the type of service provided for them. By submitting a Response in response to this Work Request, the vendor and team members grant permission to COMMERCE to contact these references and others, who from COMMERCE'S perspective, may have pertinent information. COMMERCE may or may not, at COMMERCE'S discretion, contact references. Do not include current COMMERCE staff as references.

## **5. OMWBE CERTIFICATION (OPTIONAL AND NOT SCORED)**

Include proof of certification issued by the Washington State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises if certified minority-owned firm and/or women-owned firm(s) will be participating on this project.

### **3.2 QUOTATIONS SECTION**

#### **3.2.1 IDENTIFICATION OF COSTS (SCORED)**

The Quotations section must list all hourly rates for services anticipated under the proposed contract. The hourly rates are to represent fully weighted costs. This includes the hourly rates of staff that would be assigned to the project, administrative costs, local travel costs, or any other applicable fees that would be charged under this contract.

Costs for subcontractors are to be broken out separately. Please note if any subcontractors are certified by the Washington State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises.

Consultants are required to collect and pay Washington State taxes as applicable.

The evaluation process is designed to award this procurement not necessarily to the Consultant of least cost, but rather to the Consultant whose Response best meets the requirements of this RFQQ. Consultants are encouraged, however, to submit Responses which are consistent with state government efforts to conserve state resources.

**3.2.2 COMPUTATION**

The score for the cost Response will be computed by dividing the lowest average hourly rate received by the Consultant's average hourly rate. Then the resultant number will be multiplied by the maximum possible points for the cost section.



**4 EVALUATION AND CONTRACT AWARD**

**4.1 EVALUATION PROCEDURE**

Responsive Responses will be evaluated strictly in accordance with the requirements stated in this solicitation and any addenda issued. The evaluation of Responses shall be accomplished by an evaluation team to be designated by COMMERCE, which will determine the ranking of the Responses.

COMMERCE, at its sole discretion, may select the top-scoring firms as finalists for an oral presentation.

**4.2 CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSE**

The RFQQ Coordinator may contact the Consultant for clarification of any portion of the Consultant's Response.

**4.3 EVALUATION AND SCORING**

The following weighting and points will be assigned to the Response for evaluation purposes:

Qualifications Section – 60%	60 points
Quotation Section – 40%	<u>40 points</u>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b><u>100 Points</u></b>

Additionally, those firms which certify they **do not** require their employees to sign an individual arbitration clause as a condition of employment will receive an extra 5% added to their score (see Attachment C).

**4.4 ORAL PRESENTATIONS MAY BE REQUIRED**

Oral presentations, if considered necessary by PNWH2 or COMMERCE, may be utilized in selecting the winning Response. PNWH2, at its sole discretion, may select the top-scoring firm(s) from the written evaluation for an oral presentation and contact the top-scoring firm(s) to schedule a date, time and location for an oral presentation. Commitments made by the Consultant at the oral interview, if any, will be considered binding.

If held, the oral presentation shall determine the apparently successful bidder.

**4.5 NOTIFICATION TO PROPOSERS**

Firms whose Responses have not been selected for further negotiation or award will be notified by e-mail.

**4.6 DEBRIEFING OF UNSUCCESSFUL PROPOSERS**

Upon request, a debriefing conference will be scheduled with an unsuccessful Proposer. The request for a debriefing conference must be received by the RFQQ Coordinator within three (3) business days after the Notification of Unsuccessful Consultant notice is emailed to the Consultant. The debriefing must be scheduled within three (3) business days of the request.

Discussion will be limited to a critique of the requesting Consultant's Response. *Comparisons between Responses or evaluations of the other Responses will not be allowed.* Debriefing conferences may be conducted in person or by telephone and will be scheduled for a maximum of thirty (30) minutes.

#### **4.7 PROTEST PROCEDURE**

This procedure is available to Consultants who submitted a response to this solicitation document and who have participated in a debriefing conference. Upon completing the debriefing conference, the Consultant is allowed five (5) business days to file a protest of the acquisition with the RFQQ Coordinator. Protests may be submitted by facsimile, but should be followed by the original document.

Consultants protesting this procurement shall follow the procedures described below. Protests that do not follow these procedures shall not be considered. This protest procedure constitutes the sole administrative remedy available to Consultants under this procurement.

All protests must be in writing and signed by the protesting party or an authorized agent. The protest must state the grounds for the protest with specific facts and complete statements of the action(s) being protested. A description of the relief or corrective action being requested should also be included. All protests shall be addressed to the RFQQ Coordinator.

Only protests stipulating an issue of fact concerning the following subjects shall be considered:

- A matter of bias, discrimination or conflict of interest on the part of the evaluator
- Errors in computing the score
- Non-compliance with procedures described in this procurement document or current COMMERCE policy

Protests not based on procedural matters will not be considered. Protests will be rejected as without merit if they address issues such as: 1) An evaluator's professional judgment on or assessment of the quality of a Response, or 2) COMMERCE'S assessment of its own and/or other agencies' needs or requirements.

Upon receipt of a protest, a protest review will be held by the COMMERCE. The COMMERCE Director or an employee designated by the Director who was not involved in the procurement, will consider the record and all available facts and issue a decision within ten (10) business days of receipt of the protest. If additional time is required, the protesting party will be notified of the delay.

In the event a protest may affect the interest of another Consultant that submitted a Response, such Consultant will be given an opportunity to submit its views and any relevant information on the protest to the RFQQ Coordinator.

The final determination of the protest shall:

- Find the protest lacking in merit and uphold COMMERCE'S action, or
- Find only technical or harmless errors in COMMERCE'S acquisition process and determine COMMERCE to be in substantial compliance and reject the protest, or
- Find merit in the protest and provide COMMERCE options which may include:
  - Correct the errors and re-evaluate all Responses
  - Reissue the solicitation document and begin a new process
  - Make other findings and determine other courses of action as appropriate

If COMMERCE determines that the protest is without merit, COMMERCE will enter into a contract with the apparently successful bidder. If the protest is determined to have merit, one of the alternatives noted in the preceding paragraph will be taken.

**5 RFQQ EXHIBITS**

- Exhibit A Certifications and Assurances
- Exhibit B Diverse Business Inclusion Plan
- Exhibit C Workers' Rights Certification
- Exhibit D Service Contract Format including General Terms and Conditions (GT&Cs)

**CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES**

1. I/we make the following certifications and assurances as a required element of the Response to which it is attached, understanding that the truthfulness of the facts affirmed here and the continuing compliance with these requirements are conditions precedent to the award or continuation of the related contract(s):
2. I/we declare that all answers and statements made in the Response are true and correct.
3. The prices and/or cost data have been determined independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement with others for the purpose of restricting competition. However, I/we may freely join with other persons or organizations for the purpose of presenting a single Response.
4. The attached Response is a firm offer for a period of 60 days following receipt, and it may be accepted by COMMERCE without further negotiation (except where obviously required by lack of certainty in key terms) at any time within the 60-day period.
5. In preparing this Response, I/we have not been assisted by any current or former employee of the state of Washington whose duties relate (or did relate) to this Response or prospective contract, and who was assisting in other than his or her official, public capacity. (Any exceptions to these assurances are described in full detail on a separate page and attached to this document.)
6. I/we understand that COMMERCE will not reimburse me/us for any costs incurred in the preparation of this Response. All Responses become the property of COMMERCE, and I/we claim no proprietary right to the ideas, writings, items, or samples, unless so stated in this Response.
7. Unless otherwise required by law, the prices and/or cost data that have been submitted have not been knowingly disclosed by the Proposer and will not knowingly be disclosed by him/her prior to opening, directly or indirectly to any other Proposer or to any competitor.
8. I/we agree that submission of the attached Response constitutes acceptance of the solicitation contents and the attached sample contract and general terms and conditions. If there are any exceptions to these terms, I/we have described those exceptions in detail on a page attached to this document.
9. No attempt has been made or will be made by the Proposer to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a Response for the purpose of restricting competition.
10. I/we grant COMMERCE the right to contact references and others, who may have pertinent information regarding the Proposer's prior experience and ability to perform the services contemplated in this procurement.
11. If any staff member(s) who will perform work on this contract has retired from the State of Washington under the provisions of the 2008 Early Retirement Factors legislation, his/her name(s) is noted on a separately attached page.

We (circle one) **are / are not** submitting proposed Contract exceptions. (See Section 2.12, Contract and General Terms and Conditions.) If Contract exceptions are being submitted, I/we have attached them to this form.

**On behalf of the Consultant submitting this Response, my name below attests to the accuracy of the above statement. We are submitting a scanned signature on this form with our Response.**

---

Signature of Proposer

---

Title

---

Date

**DIVERSE BUSINESS INCLUSION PLAN**

Do you anticipate using, or is your firm, a State Certified Minority Business?	Y/N
Do you anticipate using, or is your firm, a State Certified Women’s Business?	Y/N
Do you anticipate using, or is your firm, a State Certified Veteran Business?	Y/N
Do you anticipate using, or is your firm, a Washington State Small Business?	Y/N

If you answered No to all of the questions above, please explain:

---

Please list the approximate percentage of work to be accomplished by each group:

Minority	___%
Women	___%
Veteran	___%
Small Business	___%

Please identify the person in your organization to manage your Diverse Inclusion Plan responsibility.

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_





**Services Contract with**

**<Individual or contractor organization here>**

**through**

**<Name of COMMERCE program issuing/administering contract here>**

**For**

**<List project title, if applicable, and/or describe the primary purpose for the funding or the intended outcome/deliverables in approx. 25 words or less>**

**Start date:      <Month> <Day>, <Year>**



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Special Terms and Conditions**..... 1

**Face Sheet**..... 1

    1.    **Contract Management** ..... 2

    2.    **Compensation**..... 2

    3.    **Billing Procedures and Payment** ..... 2

    4.    **Subcontractor Data Collection**..... 3

    5.    **Insurance**..... 3

    6.    **Fraud and Other Loss Reporting**.....4

    7.    **Order of Precedence**..... 4

**General Terms and Conditions** ..... 5

    1.    **Definitions** ..... 5

    2.    **Access to Data**..... 5

    3.    **Advance Payments Prohibited** ..... 5

    4.    **All Writings Contained Herein** ..... 5

    5.    **Amendments**..... 5

    6.    **Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)** ..... 5

    7.    **Assignment**..... 5

    8.    **Attorneys’ Fees**..... 5

    9.    **Confidentiality/Safeguarding of Information** ..... 6

    10.   **Conflict of Interest**..... 7

    11.   **Copyright** ..... 7

    12.   **Disputes** ..... 8

    13.   **Duplicate Payment**..... 8

    14.   **Governing Law and Venue**..... 8

    15.   **Indemnification** ..... 8

    16.   **Independent Capacity of the Contractor**..... 9

    17.   **Industrial Insurance Coverage**..... 9

    18.   **Laws** ..... 9

    19.   **Licensing, Accreditation and Registration** ..... 9

    20.   **Limitation of Authority** ..... 9

    21.   **Noncompliance With Nondiscrimination Laws**..... 10

    22.   **Pay Equity** ..... 10

    23.   **Political Activities**..... 10

    24.   **Publicity** ..... 10

    25.   **Recapture**..... 10

    26.   **Records Maintenance**..... 10

    27.   **Registration With Department of Revenue** ..... 10

    28.   **Right of Inspection**.....10

    29.   **Savings**..... 11

    30.   **Severability** ..... 11

    31.   **Site Security**..... 11

    32.   **Subcontracting** ..... 11

    33.   **Survival** ..... 11

34.	<b>Taxes .....</b>	<b>11</b>
35.	<b>Termination for Cause.....</b>	<b>11</b>
36.	<b>Termination for Convenience .....</b>	<b>12</b>
37.	<b>Termination Procedures.....</b>	<b>12</b>
38.	<b>Treatment of Assets .....</b>	<b>13</b>
39.	<b>Waiver.....</b>	<b>13</b>

**Attachment A, Scope of Work**

**Attachment B, Budget**

**FACE SHEET**

Contract Number: <Insert Number>

Washington State Department of Commerce

<Select Division, Board, or Commission>  
 <Insert Unit or Office>  
 <Insert Program(s) and/or Project(s)>

<b>1. Contractor</b> <Insert legal name> <Insert mailing address> <Insert physical address> <Insert location>		<b>2. Contractor Doing Business As (optional)</b> <Insert DBA name> <Insert DBA mailing address> <Insert DBA physical address> <Insert DBA location>	
<b>3. Contractor Representative</b> <Insert name> <Insert title> <Insert phone> <Insert FAX> <Insert e-mail>		<b>4. COMMERCE Representative</b> <Insert name>                      <Insert mailing address> <Insert title>                      <Insert physical address> <Insert phone>                      <Insert location> <Insert FAX> <Insert e-mail>	
<b>5. Contract Amount</b> <Insert \$ amount>	<b>6. Funding Source</b> Federal: <input type="checkbox"/> State: <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> N/A: <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>7. Start Date</b> <Insert date>	<b>8. End Date</b> <Insert date>
<b>9. Federal Funds (as applicable)</b> <Insert \$ amount>		Federal Agency: <u>CFDA Number</u> <Insert name>                              <Insert number>	
<b>10. Tax ID #</b> <Insert number>	<b>11. SWV #</b> <Insert number>	<b>12. UBI #</b> <Insert number>	<b>13. UEI #</b> <Insert number>
<b>14. Contract Purpose</b> <Briefly describe contract purpose>			
COMMERCE, defined as the Department of Commerce, and the Contractor, as defined above, acknowledge and accept the terms of this Contract and attachments and have executed this Contract on the date below to start as of the date and year referenced above. The rights and obligations of both parties to this Contract are governed by this Contract and the following other documents incorporated by reference: Contractor Terms and Conditions including Attachment "A" - <insert title>, Attachment "B" – <insert title>, Attachment "C" – <insert title>, <etc.>			
<b>FOR CONTRACTOR</b>  _____ <insert name>, <insert title>  _____ Date		<b>FOR COMMERCE</b>  _____ <insert name>, <insert title>  _____ Date  APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY BY ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL APPROVAL ON FILE	

**SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

**1. CONTRACT MANAGEMENT**

The Representative for each of the parties shall be responsible for and shall be the contact person for all communications and billings regarding the performance of this Contract.

The Representative for COMMERCE and their contact information are identified on the Face Sheet of this Contract.

The Representative for the Contractor and their contact information are identified on the Face Sheet of this Contract.

**2. COMPENSATION**

COMMERCE shall pay an amount not to exceed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the performance of all things necessary for or incidental to the performance of work as set forth in the Scope of Work. Contractor's compensation for services rendered shall be based on the following rates or in accordance with the following terms:

**EXPENSES**

Contractor shall receive reimbursement for travel and other expenses as identified below or as authorized in advance by COMMERCE as reimbursable. The maximum amount to be paid to the Contractor for authorized expenses shall not exceed \$ \_\_\_\_\_, which amount is included in the Contract total above.

Such expenses may include airfare (economy or coach class only), other transportation expenses, and lodging and subsistence necessary during periods of required travel. Contractor shall receive compensation for travel expenses at current state travel reimbursement rates.

**3. BILLING PROCEDURES AND PAYMENT**

COMMERCE will pay Contractor upon acceptance of services provided and receipt of properly completed invoices, which shall be submitted to the Representative for COMMERCE [*not more often than monthly.*]

The invoices shall describe and document, to COMMERCE's satisfaction, a description of the work performed, the progress of the project, and fees. The invoice shall include the Contract Number \_\_\_\_\_. If expenses are invoiced, provide a detailed breakdown of each type. A receipt must accompany any single expenses in the amount of \$50.00 or more in order to receive reimbursement.

Payment shall be considered timely if made by COMMERCE within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of properly completed invoices. Payment shall be sent to the address designated by the Contractor.

COMMERCE may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Contract or withhold payments claimed by the Contractor for services rendered if the Contractor fails to satisfactorily comply with any term or condition of this Contract.

No payments in advance or in anticipation of services or supplies to be provided under this Agreement shall be made by COMMERCE.

**Invoices and End of Fiscal Year**

Invoices are due on the 20th of the month following the provision of services.

Final invoices for a state fiscal year may be due sooner than the 20th and Commerce will provide notification of the end of fiscal year due date.

The grantee must invoice for all expenses from the beginning of the contract through June 30, regardless of the contract start and end date.

**SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

**Duplication of Billed Costs**

The Contractor shall not bill COMMERCE for services performed under this Agreement, and COMMERCE shall not pay the Contractor, if the Contractor is entitled to payment or has been or will be paid by any other source, including grants, for that service.

**Disallowed Costs**

The Contractor is responsible for any audit exceptions or disallowed costs incurred by its own organization or that of its subcontractors.

COMMERCE may, in its sole discretion, withhold ten percent (10%) from each payment until acceptance by COMMERCE of the final report or completion of the project.

**4. SUBCONTRACTOR DATA COLLECTION**

Contractor will submit reports, in a form and format to be provided by Commerce and at intervals as agreed by the parties, regarding work under this Contract performed by subcontractors and the portion of Contract funds expended for work performed by subcontractors, including but not necessarily limited to minority-owned, woman-owned, and veteran-owned business subcontractors. "Subcontractors" shall mean subcontractors of any tier.

**5. INSURANCE**

The Contractor shall provide insurance coverage as set out in this section. The intent of the required insurance is to protect the state should there be any claims, suits, actions, costs, damages or expenses arising from any loss, or negligent or intentional act or omission of the Contractor or Subcontractor, or agents of either, while performing under the terms of this Contract. Failure to maintain the required insurance coverage may result in termination of this Contract.

The insurance required shall be issued by an insurance company authorized to do business within the state of Washington. Except for Professional Liability or Errors and Omissions Insurance, the insurance shall name the state of Washington, its agents, officers, and employees as additional insureds under the insurance policy. All policies shall be primary to any other valid and collectable insurance. The Contractor shall provide COMMERCE thirty (30) calendar days' advance notice of any insurance cancellation, non-renewal or modification.

The Contractor shall submit to COMMERCE within fifteen (15) calendar days of the Contract start date OR a written request by COMMERCE, a certificate of insurance which outlines the coverage and limits defined in this insurance section. During the term of the Contract, if required or requested, the Contractor shall submit renewal certificates not less than thirty (30) calendar days prior to expiration of each policy required under this section.

The Contractor shall provide, at COMMERCE's request, copies of insurance instruments or certifications from the insurance issuing agency. The copies or certifications shall show the insurance coverage, the designated beneficiary, who is covered, the amounts, the period of coverage, and that COMMERCE will be provided thirty (30) days' advance written notice of cancellation.

The Contractor shall provide insurance coverage that shall be maintained in full force and effect during the term of this Contract, as follows:

**Commercial General Liability Insurance Policy.** Provide a Commercial General Liability Insurance Policy, including contractual liability, written on an occurrence basis, in adequate quantity to protect against legal liability arising out of contract activity but no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Additionally, the Contractor is responsible for ensuring that any Subcontractors provide adequate insurance coverage for the activities arising out of subcontracts.

**Automobile Liability.** In the event that performance pursuant to this Contract involves the use of vehicles, owned or operated by the Contractor or its Subcontractor, automobile

**SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

liability insurance shall be required. The minimum limit for automobile liability is \$1,000,000 per occurrence, using a Combined Single Limit for bodily injury and property damage.

**Professional Liability, Errors and Omissions Insurance.** The Contractor shall maintain Professional Liability or Errors and Omissions Insurance. The Contractor shall maintain minimum limits of no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence to cover all activities by the Contractor and licensed staff employed or under contract to the Contractor. The state of Washington, its agents, officers, and employees need *not* be named as additional insureds under this policy.

**Fidelity Insurance.** Every officer, director, employee, or agent who is authorized to act on behalf of the Contractor for the purpose of receiving or depositing funds into program accounts or issuing financial documents, checks, or other instruments of payment for program costs shall be insured to provide protection against loss:

- A. The amount of fidelity coverage secured pursuant to this Contract shall be \$100,000 or the highest of planned reimbursement for the Contract period, whichever is lowest. Fidelity insurance secured pursuant to this paragraph shall name COMMERCE as beneficiary.
- B. Subcontractors that receive \$10,000 or more per year in funding through this Contract shall secure fidelity insurance as noted above. Fidelity insurance secured by Subcontractors pursuant to this paragraph shall name the Contractor as beneficiary.

**6. FRAUD AND OTHER LOSS REPORTING**

Contractor/Grantee shall report in writing all known or suspected fraud or other loss of any funds or other property furnished under this Contract immediately or as soon as practicable to the Commerce Representative identified on the Face Sheet.

**7. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE**

In the event of an inconsistency in this Contract, the inconsistency shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order:

- Applicable federal and state of Washington statutes and regulations
- Special Terms and Conditions
- General Terms and Conditions
- Attachment A – Scope of Work
- Attachment B – Budget
- add any other attachments incorporated by reference on the Face Sheet

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

**1. DEFINITIONS**

As used throughout this Contract, the following terms shall have the meaning set forth below:

- A. "Authorized Representative" shall mean the Director and/or the designee authorized in writing to act on the Director's behalf.
- B. "COMMERCE" shall mean the Department of Commerce.
- C. "Contract" or "Agreement" means the entire written agreement between COMMERCE and the Contractor, including any Exhibits, documents, or materials incorporated by reference. E-mail or Facsimile transmission of a signed copy of this contract shall be the same as delivery of an original.
- D. "Contractor" shall mean the entity identified on the face sheet performing service(s) under this Contract, and shall include all employees and agents of the Contractor.
- E. "Personal Information" shall mean information identifiable to any person, including, but not limited to, information that relates to a person's name, health, finances, education, business, use or receipt of governmental services or other activities, addresses, telephone numbers, social security numbers, driver license numbers, other identifying numbers, and any financial identifiers.
- F. "State" shall mean the state of Washington.
- G. "Subcontractor" shall mean one not in the employment of the Contractor, who is performing all or part of those services under this Contract under a separate contract with the Contractor. The terms "subcontractor" and "subcontractors" mean subcontractor(s) in any tier.

**2. ACCESS TO DATA**

In compliance with RCW 39.26.180, the Contractor shall provide access to data generated under this Contract to COMMERCE, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee, and the Office of the State Auditor at no additional cost. This includes access to all information that supports the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Contractor's reports, including computer models and the methodology for those models.

**3. ADVANCE PAYMENTS PROHIBITED**

No payments in advance of or in anticipation of goods or services to be provided under this Contract shall be made by COMMERCE.

**4. ALL WRITINGS CONTAINED HEREIN**

This Contract contains all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the parties. No other understandings, oral or otherwise, regarding the subject matter of this Contract shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the parties hereto.

**5. AMENDMENTS**

This Contract may be amended by mutual agreement of the parties. Such amendments shall not be binding unless they are in writing and signed by personnel authorized to bind each of the parties.

**6. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) OF 1990, PUBLIC LAW 101-336, also referred to as the "ADA" 28 CFR Part 35**

The Contractor must comply with the ADA, which provides comprehensive civil rights protection to individuals with disabilities in the areas of employment, public accommodations, state and local government services, and telecommunications.

**7. ASSIGNMENT**



**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

Neither this Contract, nor any claim arising under this Contract, shall be transferred or assigned by the Contractor without prior written consent of COMMERCE.

**8. ATTORNEYS' FEES**

Unless expressly permitted under another provision of the Contract, in the event of litigation or other action brought to enforce Contract terms, each party agrees to bear its own attorneys' fees and costs.

**9. CONFIDENTIALITY/SAFEGUARDING OF INFORMATION**

A. "Confidential Information" as used in this section includes:

- i. All material provided to the Contractor by COMMERCE that is designated as "confidential" by COMMERCE;
- ii. All material produced by the Contractor that is designated as "confidential" by COMMERCE; and
- iii. All personal information in the possession of the Contractor that may not be disclosed under state or federal law. "Personal information" includes but is not limited to information related to a person's name, health, finances, education, business, use of government services, addresses, telephone numbers, social security number, driver's license number and other identifying numbers, and "Protected Health Information" under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

B. The Contractor shall comply with all state and federal laws related to the use, sharing, transfer, sale, or disclosure of Confidential Information. The Contractor shall use Confidential Information solely for the purposes of this Contract and shall not use, share, transfer, sell or disclose any Confidential Information to any third party except with the prior written consent of COMMERCE or as may be required by law. The Contractor shall take all necessary steps to assure that Confidential Information is safeguarded to prevent unauthorized use, sharing, transfer, sale or disclosure of Confidential Information or violation of any state or federal laws related thereto. Upon request, the Contractor shall provide COMMERCE with its policies and procedures on confidentiality. COMMERCE may require changes to such policies and procedures as they apply to this Contract whenever COMMERCE reasonably determines that changes are necessary to prevent unauthorized disclosures. The Contractor shall make the changes within the time period specified by COMMERCE. Upon request, the Contractor shall immediately return to COMMERCE any Confidential Information that COMMERCE reasonably determines has not been adequately protected by the Contractor against unauthorized disclosure.

C. Unauthorized Use or Disclosure. The Contractor shall notify COMMERCE within five (5) working days of any unauthorized use or disclosure of any confidential information, and shall take necessary steps to mitigate the harmful effects of such use or disclosure.

**10. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Notwithstanding any determination by the Executive Ethics Board or other tribunal, COMMERCE may, in its sole discretion, by written notice to the CONTRACTOR terminate this contract if it is found after due notice and examination by COMMERCE that there is a violation of the Ethics in Public Service Act, Chapters 42.52 RCW and 42.23 RCW; or any similar statute involving the CONTRACTOR in the procurement of, or performance under this contract.

Specific restrictions apply to contracting with current or former state employees pursuant to chapter 42.52 of the Revised Code of Washington. The CONTRACTOR and their subcontractor(s) must identify any person employed in any capacity by the state of Washington that worked with the COMMERCE program executing this Contract, including but not limited to formulating or drafting the legislation, participating in grant procurement planning and

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

execution, awarding grants, and monitoring grants, during the 24-month period preceding the start date of this Contract. Identify the individual by name, the agency previously or currently employed by, job title or position held, and separation date. If it is determined by COMMERCE that a conflict of interest exists, the CONTRACTOR may be disqualified from further consideration for the award of a Contract.

In the event this contract is terminated as provided above, COMMERCE shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against the CONTRACTOR as it could pursue in the event of a breach of the contract by the CONTRACTOR. The rights and remedies of COMMERCE provided for in this clause shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law. The existence of facts upon which COMMERCE makes any determination under this clause shall be an issue and may be reviewed as provided in the "Disputes" clause of this contract.

**11. COPYRIGHT**

Unless otherwise provided, all Materials produced under this Contract shall be considered "works for hire" as defined by the U.S. Copyright Act and shall be owned by COMMERCE. COMMERCE shall be considered the author of such Materials. In the event the Materials are not considered "works for hire" under the U.S. Copyright laws, the Contractor hereby irrevocably assigns all right, title, and interest in all Materials, including all intellectual property rights, moral rights, and rights of publicity to COMMERCE effective from the moment of creation of such Materials.

"Materials" means all items in any format and includes, but is not limited to, data, reports, documents, pamphlets, advertisements, books, magazines, surveys, studies, computer programs, films, tapes, and/or sound reproductions. "Ownership" includes the right to copyright, patent, register and the ability to transfer these rights.

For Materials that are delivered under the Contract, but that incorporate pre-existing materials not produced under the Contract, the Contractor hereby grants to COMMERCE a nonexclusive, royalty-free, irrevocable license (with rights to sublicense to others) in such Materials to translate, reproduce, distribute, prepare derivative works, publicly perform, and publicly display. The Contractor warrants and represents that the Contractor has all rights and permissions, including intellectual property rights, moral rights and rights of publicity, necessary to grant such a license to COMMERCE.

The Contractor shall exert all reasonable effort to advise COMMERCE, at the time of delivery of Materials furnished under this Contract, of all known or potential invasions of privacy contained therein and of any portion of such document which was not produced in the performance of this Contract. The Contractor shall provide COMMERCE with prompt written notice of each notice or claim of infringement received by the Contractor with respect to any Materials delivered under this Contract. COMMERCE shall have the right to modify or remove any restrictive markings placed upon the Materials by the Contractor.

**12. DISPUTES**

Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, when a dispute arises between the parties and it cannot be resolved by direct negotiation, either party may request a dispute hearing with the Director of COMMERCE, who may designate a neutral person to decide the dispute.

The request for a dispute hearing must:

- be in writing;
- state the disputed issues;
- state the relative positions of the parties;
- state the Contractor's name, address, and Contract number; and
- be mailed to the Director and the other party's (respondent's) Contract Representative within three (3) working days after the parties agree that they cannot resolve the dispute.

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

The respondent shall send a written answer to the requestor's statement to both the Director or the Director's designee and the requestor within five (5) working days.

The Director or designee shall review the written statements and reply in writing to both parties within ten (10) working days. The Director or designee may extend this period if necessary by notifying the parties.

The decision shall not be admissible in any succeeding judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding.

The parties agree that this dispute process shall precede any action in a judicial or quasi-judicial tribunal.

Nothing in this Contract shall be construed to limit the parties' choice of a mutually acceptable alternate dispute resolution (ADR) method in addition to the dispute hearing procedure outlined above.

**13. DUPLICATE PAYMENT**

COMMERCE shall not pay the Contractor, if the Contractor has charged or will charge the State of Washington or any other party under any other contract or agreement, for the same services or expenses.

**14. GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE**

This Contract shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the state of Washington, and the venue of any action brought hereunder shall be in the Superior Court for Thurston County.

**15. INDEMNIFICATION**

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the state of Washington, COMMERCE, agencies of the state and all officials, agents and employees of the state, from and against all claims for injuries or death arising out of or resulting from the performance of the contract. "Claim" as used in this contract, means any financial loss, claim, suit, action, damage, or expense, including but not limited to attorney's fees, attributable for bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death, or injury to or the destruction of tangible property including loss of use resulting therefrom.

The Contractor's obligation to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless includes any claim by Contractor's agents, employees, representatives, or any subcontractor or its employees.

The Contractor expressly agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State for any claim arising out of or incident to Contractor's or any subcontractor's performance or failure to perform the contract. Contractor's obligation to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State shall not be eliminated or reduced by any actual or alleged concurrent negligence of State or its agents, agencies, employees and officials.

The Contractor waives its immunity under Title 51 RCW to the extent it is required to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the state and its agencies, officers, agents or employees.

**16. INDEPENDENT CAPACITY OF THE CONTRACTOR**

The parties intend that an independent contractor relationship will be created by this Contract. The Contractor and its employees or agents performing under this Contract are not employees or agents of the state of Washington or COMMERCE. The Contractor will not hold itself out as or claim to be an officer or employee of COMMERCE or of the state of Washington by reason hereof, nor will the Contractor make any claim of right, privilege or benefit which would accrue to such officer or employee under law. Conduct and control of the work will be solely with the Contractor.

**17. INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE COVERAGE**

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable provisions of Title 51 RCW, Industrial Insurance. If the Contractor fails to provide industrial insurance coverage or fails to pay premiums or

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

penalties on behalf of its employees as may be required by law, COMMERCE may collect from the Contractor the full amount payable to the Industrial Insurance Accident Fund. COMMERCE may deduct the amount owed by the Contractor to the accident fund from the amount payable to the Contractor by COMMERCE under this Contract, and transmit the deducted amount to the Department of Labor and Industries, (L&I) Division of Insurance Services. This provision does not waive any of L&I's rights to collect from the Contractor.

**18. LAWS**

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, codes, regulations and policies of local, state, and federal governments, as now or hereafter amended.

**19. LICENSING, ACCREDITATION AND REGISTRATION**

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal licensing, accreditation and registration requirements or standards necessary for the performance of this Contract.

**20. LIMITATION OF AUTHORITY**

Only the Authorized Representative or the Authorized Representative's delegate by writing (delegation to be made prior to action) shall have the express, implied, or apparent authority to alter, amend, modify, or waive any clause or condition of this Contract. Furthermore, any alteration, amendment, modification, or waiver of any clause or condition of this contract is not effective or binding unless made in writing and signed by the Authorized Representative.

**21. NONCOMPLIANCE WITH NONDISCRIMINATION LAWS**

During the performance of this Contract, the Contractor shall comply with all federal, state, and local nondiscrimination laws, regulations and policies. In the event of the Contractor's non-compliance or refusal to comply with any nondiscrimination law, regulation or policy, this Contract may be rescinded, canceled or terminated in whole or in part, and the Contractor may be declared ineligible for further contracts with COMMERCE. The Contractor shall, however, be given a reasonable time in which to cure this noncompliance. Any dispute may be resolved in accordance with the "Disputes" procedure set forth herein.

The funds provided under this contract may not be used to fund religious worship, exercise, or instruction. No person shall be required to participate in any religious worship, exercise, or instruction in order to have access to the facilities funded by this contract.

**22. PAY EQUITY**

The Contractor agrees to ensure that "similarly employed" individuals in its workforce are compensated as equals, consistent with the following:

- A. Employees are "similarly employed" if the individuals work for the same employer, the performance of the job requires comparable skill, effort, and responsibility, and the jobs are performed under similar working conditions. Job titles alone are not determinative of whether employees are similarly employed;
- B. Contractor may allow differentials in compensation for its workers if the differentials are based in good faith and on any of the following:
  - (i) A seniority system; a merit system; a system that measures earnings by quantity or quality of production; a bona fide job-related factor or factors; or a bona fide regional difference in compensation levels.
  - (ii) A bona fide job-related factor or factors may include, but not be limited to, education, training, or experience that is: Consistent with business necessity; not based on or derived from a gender-based differential; and accounts for the entire differential.

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

(iii) A bona fide regional difference in compensation level must be: Consistent with business necessity; not based on or derived from a gender-based differential; and account for the entire differential.

This Contract may be terminated by the Department, if the Department or the Department of Enterprise services determines that the Contractor is not in compliance with this provision.

**23. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES**

Political activity of Contractor employees and officers are limited by the State Campaign Finances and Lobbying provisions of Chapter 42.17A RCW and the Federal Hatch Act, 5 USC 1501 - 1508.

No funds may be used for working for or against ballot measures or for or against the candidacy of any person for public office.

**24. PUBLICITY**

The Contractor agrees not to publish or use any advertising or publicity materials in which the state of Washington or COMMERCE's name is mentioned, or language used from which the connection with the state of Washington's or COMMERCE's name may reasonably be inferred or implied, without the prior written consent of COMMERCE.

**25. RECAPTURE**

In the event that the Contractor fails to perform this Contract in accordance with state laws, federal laws, and/or the provisions of this Contract, COMMERCE reserves the right to recapture funds in an amount to compensate COMMERCE for the noncompliance in addition to any other remedies available at law or in equity.

Repayment by the Contractor of funds under this recapture provision shall occur within the time period specified by COMMERCE. In the alternative, COMMERCE may recapture such funds from payments due under this Contract.

**26. RECORDS MAINTENANCE**

The Contractor shall maintain books, records, documents, data and other evidence relating to this contract and performance of the services described herein, including but not limited to accounting procedures and practices that sufficiently and properly reflect all direct and indirect costs of any nature expended in the performance of this contract.

The Contractor shall retain such records for a period of six years following the date of final payment. At no additional cost, these records, including materials generated under the contract, shall be subject at all reasonable times to inspection, review or audit by COMMERCE, personnel duly authorized by COMMERCE, the Office of the State Auditor, and federal and state officials so authorized by law, regulation or agreement.

If any litigation, claim or audit is started before the expiration of the six (6) year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved.

**27. REGISTRATION WITH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

If required by law, the Contractor shall complete registration with the Washington State Department of Revenue.

**28. RIGHT OF INSPECTION**

The Contractor shall provide right of access to its facilities to COMMERCE, or any of its officers, or to any other authorized agent or official of the state of Washington or the federal government, at all reasonable times, in order to monitor and evaluate performance, compliance, and/or quality assurance under this contract.

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

**29. SAVINGS**

In the event funding from state, federal, or other sources is withdrawn, reduced, or limited in any way after the effective date of this Contract and prior to normal completion, COMMERCE may suspend or terminate the Contract under the "Termination for Convenience" clause, without the ten calendar day notice requirement. In lieu of termination, the Contract may be amended to reflect the new funding limitations and conditions.

**30. SEVERABILITY**

The provisions of this contract are intended to be severable. If any term or provision is illegal or invalid for any reason whatsoever, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the contract.

**31. SITE SECURITY**

While on COMMERCE premises, Contractor, its agents, employees, or subcontractors shall conform in all respects with physical, fire or other security policies or regulations.

**32. SUBCONTRACTING**

The Contractor may only subcontract work contemplated under this Contract if it obtains the prior written approval of COMMERCE.

If COMMERCE approves subcontracting, the Contractor shall maintain written procedures related to subcontracting, as well as copies of all subcontracts and records related to subcontracts. For cause, COMMERCE in writing may: (a) require the Contractor to amend its subcontracting procedures as they relate to this Contract; (b) prohibit the Contractor from subcontracting with a particular person or entity; or (c) require the Contractor to rescind or amend a subcontract.

Every subcontract shall bind the Subcontractor to follow all applicable terms of this Contract. The Contractor is responsible to COMMERCE if the Subcontractor fails to comply with any applicable term or condition of this Contract. The Contractor shall appropriately monitor the activities of the Subcontractor to assure fiscal conditions of this Contract. In no event shall the existence of a subcontract operate to release or reduce the liability of the Contractor to COMMERCE for any breach in the performance of the Contractor's duties.

Every subcontract shall include a term that COMMERCE and the State of Washington are not liable for claims or damages arising from a Subcontractor's performance of the subcontract.

**33. SURVIVAL**

The terms, conditions, and warranties contained in this Contract that by their sense and context are intended to survive the completion of the performance, cancellation or termination of this Contract shall so survive.

**34. TAXES**

All payments accrued on account of payroll taxes, unemployment contributions, the Contractor's income or gross receipts, any other taxes, insurance or expenses for the Contractor or its staff shall be the sole responsibility of the Contractor.

**35. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE**

In the event COMMERCE determines the Contractor has failed to comply with the conditions of this contract in a timely manner, COMMERCE has the right to suspend or terminate this contract. Before suspending or terminating the contract, COMMERCE shall notify the Contractor in writing of the need to take corrective action. If corrective action is not taken within 30 calendar days, the contract may be terminated or suspended.

In the event of termination or suspension, the Contractor shall be liable for damages as authorized by law including, but not limited to, any cost difference between the original contract

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

and the replacement or cover contract and all administrative costs directly related to the replacement contract, e.g., cost of the competitive bidding, mailing, advertising and staff time.

COMMERCE reserves the right to suspend all or part of the contract, withhold further payments, or prohibit the Contractor from incurring additional obligations of funds during investigation of the alleged compliance breach and pending corrective action by the Contractor or a decision by COMMERCE to terminate the contract. A termination shall be deemed a "Termination for Convenience" if it is determined that the Contractor: (1) was not in default; or (2) failure to perform was outside of his or her control, fault or negligence.

The rights and remedies of COMMERCE provided in this contract are not exclusive and are, in addition to any other rights and remedies, provided by law.

**36. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE**

Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, COMMERCE may, by ten (10) business days written notice, beginning on the second day after the mailing, terminate this Contract, in whole or in part. If this Contract is so terminated, COMMERCE shall be liable only for payment required under the terms of this Contract for services rendered or goods delivered prior to the effective date of termination.

**37. TERMINATION PROCEDURES**

Upon termination of this contract, COMMERCE, in addition to any other rights provided in this contract, may require the Contractor to deliver to COMMERCE any property specifically produced or acquired for the performance of such part of this contract as has been terminated. The provisions of the "Treatment of Assets" clause shall apply in such property transfer.

COMMERCE shall pay to the Contractor the agreed upon price, if separately stated, for completed work and services accepted by COMMERCE, and the amount agreed upon by the Contractor and COMMERCE for (i) completed work and services for which no separate price is stated, (ii) partially completed work and services, (iii) other property or services that are accepted by COMMERCE, and (iv) the protection and preservation of property, unless the termination is for default, in which case the Authorized Representative shall determine the extent of the liability of the Authorized Representative. Failure to agree with such determination shall be a dispute within the meaning of the "Disputes" clause of this contract. COMMERCE may withhold from any amounts due the Contractor such sum as the Authorized Representative determines to be necessary to protect COMMERCE against potential loss or liability.

The rights and remedies of COMMERCE provided in this section shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.

After receipt of a notice of termination, and except as otherwise directed by the Authorized Representative, the Contractor shall:

- A. Stop work under the contract on the date, and to the extent specified, in the notice;
- B. Place no further orders or subcontracts for materials, services, or facilities except as may be necessary for completion of such portion of the work under the contract that is not terminated;
- C. Assign to COMMERCE, in the manner, at the times, and to the extent directed by the Authorized Representative, all of the rights, title, and interest of the Contractor under the orders and subcontracts so terminated, in which case COMMERCE has the right, at its discretion, to settle or pay any or all claims arising out of the termination of such orders and subcontracts;
- D. Settle all outstanding liabilities and all claims arising out of such termination of orders and subcontracts, with the approval or ratification of the Authorized Representative to the extent the Authorized Representative may require, which approval or ratification shall be final for all the purposes of this clause;

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
STATE FUNDS**

- E. Transfer title to COMMERCE and deliver in the manner, at the times, and to the extent directed by the Authorized Representative any property which, if the contract had been completed, would have been required to be furnished to COMMERCE;
- F. Complete performance of such part of the work as shall not have been terminated by the Authorized Representative; and
- G. Take such action as may be necessary, or as the Authorized Representative may direct, for the protection and preservation of the property related to this contract, which is in the possession of the Contractor and in which COMMERCE has or may acquire an interest.

**38. TREATMENT OF ASSETS**

Title to all property furnished by COMMERCE shall remain in COMMERCE. Title to all property furnished by the Contractor, for the cost of which the Contractor is entitled to be reimbursed as a direct item of cost under this contract, shall pass to and vest in COMMERCE upon delivery of such property by the Contractor. Title to other property, the cost of which is reimbursable to the Contractor under this contract, shall pass to and vest in COMMERCE upon (i) issuance for use of such property in the performance of this contract, or (ii) commencement of use of such property in the performance of this contract, or (iii) reimbursement of the cost thereof by COMMERCE in whole or in part, whichever first occurs.

- A. Any property of COMMERCE furnished to the Contractor shall, unless otherwise provided herein or approved by COMMERCE, be used only for the performance of this contract.
- B. The Contractor shall be responsible for any loss or damage to property of COMMERCE that results from the negligence of the Contractor or which results from the failure on the part of the Contractor to maintain and administer that property in accordance with sound management practices.
- C. If any COMMERCE property is lost, destroyed or damaged, the Contractor shall immediately notify COMMERCE and shall take all reasonable steps to protect the property from further damage.
- D. The Contractor shall surrender to COMMERCE all property of COMMERCE prior to settlement upon completion, termination or cancellation of this contract

All reference to the Contractor under this clause shall also include Contractor's employees, agents or Subcontractors.

**39. WAIVER**

Waiver of any default or breach shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any subsequent default or breach. Any waiver shall not be construed to be a modification of the terms of this Contract unless stated to be such in writing and signed by Authorized Representative of COMMERCE.



Scope of Work

**Budget**