

**Golden Crescent
Workforce Development Board**
d.b.a.
Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
for
Financial Auditing Services
RFP: FY26-03-AUD

Issue Date: June 3, 2026

Response Deadline: 5:00 PM, July 14, 2026

Evaluation of Bids: July 27-30, 2026

Contract Negotiations: September 14, 2026

Initial Contract: October 1, 2026

Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent is an equal opportunity employer/programs and auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to include individuals with disabilities. RELAY Texas service at 711 or (TDD) 1-800-735-2989/ 1-800-735-2988 (voice)

INTRODUCTION

This is a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the provision of Financial Auditing Services for the Golden Crescent Workforce Development Board, d.b.a. Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent (Board) for programs and services in the seven-county Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area (WDA) which includes Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, and Victoria counties.

Procurement for an audit firm shall be in compliance with Subpart F of 2 CFR 200, Federal Circular A-102, Procurement Standards, and the provisions of applicable Federal Law or Executive Orders, as well as state and local policies for procurement. Solicitation via this RFP shall ensure services are obtained efficiently and economically while maintaining maximum and open competition.

Such services include an annual audit which shall be performed in accordance with Federal regulations to ensure compliance with Single Audit requirements per the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Financial Manual for Grants and Contracts (FMGC), and the Agency Board Agreement (ABA). Further it complies with the Board's Pre-Award, Fiscal Integrity, and Single Audit Policy #1-03 FISA Rev. A, approved May 28, 2026, and in accordance with federal and state regulations, including 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F, Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS) and 40 TAC §802.21.

This RFP contains the technical specifications, which define the services solicited herein, as well as the standards and requirements for this procurement.

CONTRACT DELIVERABLES

Audits Due

Fiscal Year 2026 Audit is due on or about May 15, 2027. Subsequent audits will be due on or before May 15th of each following year (pending contract renewal).

Fiscal Year

October 1 - September 30

Contract Period

Initial: October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027, with annual renewals not to exceed five years total. Contract renewals are contingent on funds availability and performance.

Staff Assistance

When audit fieldwork begins, fiscal staff will be available to prepare schedules, pull reports and produce documents as needed.

CONTACT PERSON

The Board is not responsible for the accuracy of information obtained from sources other than the authorized contact person for this procurement. Communication with any Board staff person or Board member, other than the contact person for this procurement in reference to this RFP, is prohibited unless prior written approval is obtained from the contact person. Failure to follow this provision may be grounds for disqualification of the Proposal, at the sole discretion of the Board.

Please direct all questions regarding this procurement to:

Kristy Pfister, Procurement Specialist
Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent
P. O. Box 1936 1905 Leary Lane
Victoria, TX 77902 Victoria, TX 77901
Phone (361) 576-5872 FAX (361) 573-0225
e-mail: kristypfister@gcworkforce.org

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

The Board is the responsible authority for handling complaints or protests regarding the procurement and proposal selection process. No protest shall be accepted by the grantor (State) until all administrative remedies at the Grantee (Board) level have been exhausted. This includes, but is not limited to: disputes, claims, protests of award or non-selection for award, source evaluation, or other matters of a contractual or procurement nature. Matters concerning violation of law shall be referred to such authority as may have proper jurisdiction.

Bidders/proposers who wish to protest a decision must utilize the following process:

Step 1. Request for Debriefing

A request for a debriefing may be submitted within 15 calendar days of the receipt of notification of the procurement decision by any unsuccessful bidder **not filing an appeal**. The purpose of the debriefing is to promote the exchange of information, explain the procurement process, including proposal evaluation process, and help unsuccessful bidders understand why they were not selected. Debriefings serve an important educational function for proposers, which hopefully will help them to improve the quality of any future proposals. The Board will acknowledge receipt of the request for debriefing in writing within 10 business days of receipt, along with the time, date and place of the scheduled debriefing. The debriefing shall be scheduled as soon as possible but no later than 30 calendar days from the receipt of the Request for Debriefing.

Step 2. Debriefing

The purpose of the debriefing is to promote the exchange of information, explain the proposal evaluation system, and help unsuccessful proposers understand why they were not selected. Debriefings serve an important educational function for new proposers, which hopefully, will help them to improve the quality of any future proposals. Debriefings may occur in person or verbally on the phone. Materials may be provided in the debriefing to include: a blank copy of the proposal scoring sheet used by readers; rankings provided to the Board; and a summary of proposal scores and evaluator comments. Bidders/proposers who are selected for contract negotiations are

offered similar feedback during negotiations. Designee will meet with the unsuccessful proposer and review how their proposal or bid was scored or ranked. Bidders/proposers can gain a better understanding of the procurement processes and how to improve their bids or proposals, while staff get direct feedback to help improve future procurements.

Step 3. Written Notice of Appeal

Bidders will follow the Board's Integrated Complaints, Hearings and Appeals policy.

NOTE: Scoring is not grounds for an appeal unless there were material violations of the procurement process.

BACKGROUND

The Golden Crescent Workforce Development Board is incorporated under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act exclusively for non-profit purposes that qualify the Corporation as an exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The mission of the Golden Crescent Workforce Development Board is to serve the needs of the regional business community by providing employment and training activities designed to increase employment opportunities. The Board provides training and employment services to a seven-county area comprised of Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, and Victoria counties.

The Board administers the following programs:

- 1) Child Care Services - to subsidize the cost of child care for the purpose of preventing abuse and neglect of children and enabling low income parents to work or receive training leading to employment.
- 2) Communities In Schools (CIS) – connects schools with the resources students need through on-site case management of at-risk youths and leveraging of appropriate community resources.
- 3) Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment & Training – provides rapid reentry into the workforce to reduce the time a Food Stamp recipient needs public assistance.
- 4) Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) training services to Youth, Adult and Dislocated workers that meet program eligibility requirements. This includes skills assessment, vocational training, personal barriers removal, and placement services.
- 5) Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) CHOICES Program – provides rapid reentry into the workforce to reduce welfare recipients need for public assistance. A limited number of TANF recipients may be co-enrolled into the WIOA program for intensive employment and training services.
- 6) Non-Custodial Parent (NCP) Choices Program – provides help to NCPs who have substantial barriers to employment and career advancement.
- 7) Services to Veterans – provides priority employment and training services including job referrals, job development (the practice of seeking out an appropriate employer to meet the veteran's unique needs), counseling and training services.
- 8) Wagner Peyser Employment Services – provides job seekers a resource room where they can conduct a self-directed job search, explore labor market information, and use equipment to develop and transmit resumes, etc.; provides employer services in filing and matching job orders with qualified applicants and in providing job seekers with one-on-one and group assistance in seeking employment; and

- provides job seekers with skills testing, employment, and career counseling.
- 9) Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA)- provides counseling and possible reemployment services to Unemployment Insurance claimants identified as most likely to exhaust their UI benefits.
- 10) Other Board and agency contracts, grants, and directives, TBD annually.

AUDIT CRITERIA AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Audit Requirements

The following current publications and guidelines shall govern:

- Federal regulations codified at 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200 Subpart F;
- Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS) and 40 TAC §802.21.
- GCWDB Pre-Award, Fiscal Integrity, and Single Audit Policy #1-03 FISA Rev. A, approved May 28, 2026;
- Single Audit Act of 1984, as amended July 1996 (P.L. 104-156);
- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Industry Audit Guide, Audits of State and Local Government Units;
- Government Auditing Standards, Comptroller General;
- Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statement of positions 80-2, Accounting and Financial Reporting by Government Units;
- OMB's Compliance Supplement for Single Audits of state and local governments;
- The TWC Financial Manual for Grants and Contracts (FMGC), WIOA Issuance's, and WIOA Official Notification, the state compliance and resolution monitoring guides;
- Financial/Programmatic Monitoring Reports, Incident Reports, Investigative Reports of the Office of Inspector General, which may have potential audit implications; and
- WIOA and the Federal Regulations.

Description of the Entity and Records to be Audited

The Board is a non-profit quasi-governmental entity with an operating budget of approximately \$16.7 million and a working staff of nine employees. The modified accrual basis of accounting is utilized throughout the year of its funding.

Fund accounting is utilized for all grants.

Scope of Services

- Provide an annual financial and compliance audit of the Board's records. **The scope of the Initial FY2026 Fiscal Audit Year encompasses 12 months from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. Subsequent audits beginning FY2027 will cover periods beginning October 1st through September 30th.**
- Renewals for an additional four (4) one-year periods, not to exceed 5 years total and contingent upon performance and availability of funds.
- Work papers and work to be performed by bidder are to be identified in the proposal.
- Records will be available the first day of the contract period.
- Review report timing and number of copies:
 - a) Exposure draft is to be presented to Board Executive Director on or before May 15, 2027 (and mid-May in subsequent years, pending contract renewal).
 - b) Final report is to be submitted to the Board Executive Director on or before May 21, 2027 (and May 21st in subsequent years, pending contract renewal).
 - c) Audit report must contain all elements as required by TWC Financial Manual for Grants and Contracts and other applicable entities.
 - d) Instances of fraud, waste, abuse (FWA) and illegal acts or indications of such, including all questioned costs must be covered.
 - e) Management Report is to be submitted as a separate report.
 - f) Work papers are to be retained for a minimum of three years from the date of audit.
 - g) A final Audit presentation will be made to the Board (virtually or in-person) on May 27, 2027 (and 4th Thursday of May in subsequent years, pending contract renewal).
- A copy of the most current audit will be made available (upon request) with all RFP's disseminated; If you received this RFP by electronic transmission you may request an electronic copy of the audit. You may request a hard copy of the audit if so desired.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Board considers conflict of interest a serious issue. Proposers may not hire Board members, management or support staffs that are involved in the evaluation and/or selection process under this Proposal in order to provide services under this Proposal for at least one year from the issuance of this RFP.

Bidders shall not, under penalty of law, offer or provide any gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value to any officer, member, employee, or agent of the Board for the

purpose of or having the effect of influencing favorable disposition toward their own Proposal or any other Proposal submitted hereunder.

Bidders shall not engage in any activity that will restrict or eliminate competition. Violation of this provision may cause a bidder's response to be rejected.

PROPOSER SELECTION PROCESS

The primary consideration in selecting a provider of auditing services shall be its effectiveness in delivering comparable or related services as based on demonstrated performance.

The proposal review process may include: evaluation, rating, and ranking of proposals by Board staff, combination of Board Staff and Board Members, and/or independent outside reviewers.

The following shall apply to the selection process:

- 1) All proposals considered must be received on time and be responsive to the RFP instructions.
- 2) Where the quality of two or more proposals are equal, award may be made based upon the following criteria:
 - Cost;
 - A Proposal considered most advantageous to the Board;
 - VetHUB (Veteran Heroes United in Business) Certification.
- 3) Awards of contracts shall be made only to "Responsible Providers". Board may base its selection on the following, including but not limited to:
 - mandatory criteria for professional qualification;
 - a satisfactory record of past performance;
 - provider's integrity and business ethics;
 - accountability;
 - ability to meet report deadline
 - financial stability;
 - technical resources;
 - provider's ability to meet performance and design criteria; and
 - Reasonableness of the price/cost.

DISCLAIMERS

A response to the RFP does not commit Golden Crescent Workforce Development Board to a purchase agreement or contract, or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of such response. The Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals received, to cancel this RFP in part or its entirety, and to reissue this RFP at its discretion. The Board reserves the right to withdraw, or reduce the amount of an award, or to cancel any contract resulting from this procurement if adequate funding is not received from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) or the Federal Government.

The Board reserves the right to hold proposals for a period of thirty (30) working days

after the response deadline.

The Board reserves the right to negotiate the final terms of any and all purchase agreements with bidders selected and such agreements negotiated as a result of this RFP may be renegotiated and/or amended in order to successfully meet the needs of the audit contract.

The Board reserves the right to waive any defect in this procurement process or to make changes to this solicitation, as it deems necessary.

The Board will provide notifications of such changes to all bidders of record (Distribution Log/Receipts Record) as having received or requested an RFP.

The Board reserves the right to contact any individual; agencies or employers listed in a proposal, to contact others who may have experience and/or knowledge of the bidder's relevant performance and/or qualifications; and to request additional information from any and all proposers. This may include a personal interview of all finalist proposers. Points will be reevaluated for the section of the Scoring Sheet that is appropriate to include the evaluation of such interview.

The Board also reserves the right to conduct a review of systems, procedures, etc. of any bidder selected. This may occur prior to, or subsequent to the award of a purchase agreement. Misrepresentation of the proposer's ability to perform as stated in the proposals may result in cancellation of any award.

The only purpose of this RFP is to ensure uniform information in the solicitation of proposals and procurement of auditing services. This RFP is not to be construed as a purchase agreement or contract as a commitment of any kind, nor does it commit Board to pay for costs incurred prior to the execution of a formal contract.

The contents of a successful proposal may become a contractual obligation, if selected for award of a contract. Failure of the proposer to accept this obligation may result in cancellation of the award. No pleas of error or mistake shall be available to successful proposer(s) as a basis for release of proposed services at stated price/costs. Any damages accruing to Board as a result of the proposer's failure to contract may be recovered from the proposer.

Solicitation and selection of proposals must conform to relevant state and federal laws and regulations and local policies governing the procurement of supplies, equipment, and services under state and federal guidelines. Bidders are responsible for familiarizing themselves with these laws and regulations.

Bidders not selected for award or contract may receive a debriefing to determine the reasons for non-selection if the debriefing is requested in writing to the contact person for this procurement, and the request is made within 15 days of the date notification letter is postmarked.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION AND SUBMITTAL OF PROPOSAL

Provide GCWDB with one (1) signed copies of your proposal response with the required cover sheet, qualifications, cost for services, and appropriate attachments contained herein and designated under, **PROPOSAL CONTENT** Section below.

RESPONSE DEADLINE

All Proposals and/or modifications to Proposals must be received and recorded no later than 5 p.m. on July 14, 2026, electronically (email), mail, or in-person to address listed in the Contact Person section of this RFP. No protests of submissions will be heard for proposals received after the submission deadline. The Board is not responsible for any errors of omission on the part of the U.S. Postal Service or other carrier regarding proof of delivery. GCWDB will not return proposal responses or exhibits to proposers.

PROPOSAL CONTENT

Proposals must be submitted in the following order with each section clearly marked:

- Transmittal Letter containing
 - Proposer's understanding of this request, its requirements, and services to be performed;
 - Statement from authorized signatory that proposal is valid for thirty (30) days after submittal deadline; and
 - A positive statement of commitment to perform the services within the period specified or pay a penalty in the form of a discount on cost of services performed.
- Cover Sheet (attached)
- Proposer's Qualifications:
 - Name(s) and credentials of proposer.
 - Describe any recent, local, and regional office audit experience similar to the type requested; include experience with programs listed in this RFP.
 - Provide names and telephone numbers of client officials responsible for three of the last audits performed by your company.
 - Identify audit managers, field supervisors, and other staff who will work on the audit, including staff from other than the local office.
 - Provide as an attachment, resumes including relevant experience and continuing education for auditor in charge up to the individual with final responsibility.
 - If other auditors are to participate in the audit, similar information must be provided for those auditors.
- Proposer's Profile:
 - Organization and size, local, regional, national, or international in operation.
 - Location of business headquarters, office where work is to be done, and number of professional staff by staff level at that office.

- Range of services performed by local office such as auditing, accounting, tax services, or management services.
- Approach to Audit
 - Work Plan
 - 1) Submit a work plan to accomplish the scope of the audit defined herewith. Include time estimate for each segment of the work plan by staff level to be assigned. Where possible, individual staff members should be named and their titles provided; the planned use of specialists should be specified.
 - 2) The audit work plan should demonstrate the auditor's understanding of the audit requirements of a Single Audit as specified in OMB Circulars listed on page 5 of this RFP and the audit tests and procedures to be applied in completing the audit plan. The audit work plan should specify what work will be accomplished to allow the auditor to render:
 - An opinion report on the financial statements;
 - A report on the study and evaluation and report on internal control systems; and
 - A report on the organization's control system to assure compliance.
- Reporting Requirements

Describe proposer's understanding of, and ability to meet reporting requirements, including type and number of reports and exit conferences.
- Time Requirements

Describe in detail plan to meet timeline and reporting deadline requirements.
- Compensation

Total cost of services proposed should be specified. All fees, expenses, and other requirements associated with providing audit services to Board shall be stated.
- Appendices (attached)

Certifications Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Drug-Free Workplace, Conflict of Interest and Certification of Professional Qualifications.
- VetHUB (Veteran Heroes United in Business) Certificate, if applicable
- Resume(s) of Key Staff

An officer, director, or official who is authorized to sign the contract, if awarded, must sign the proposal coversheet and all other attachments requiring signatures.

PROPOSAL COVER SHEET

Contact Person _____

Organization Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ FAX _____

e-mail _____ Federal ID# _____

Certified VetHUB? Yes _____ No _____
(attach Certificate)

Check if applicable:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Educational Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Organized Labor Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community-Based Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-Profit Organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For-Profit Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Governmental Entity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

I attest that the contents of this proposal are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Authorized Signature

Date

Title

ASSURANCES/CERTIFICATIONS

SECTION 1 - Lobbying

This certification is required by the Federal Regulations, implementing Section 1352 of the Program Fraud and Civil Remedies Act, Title 31 U.S. Code, for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3018), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 93), Department of Education (34 CFR Part 82), Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 93).

The undersigned certifies that:

- 1.1 No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal Contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement.
- 1.2 If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal Contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form -LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying", in accordance with its instructions.

SECTION 2 - Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters

This certification is required by the Federal Regulations, implementing Executive Order 12549, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension, for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3017), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 98), Department of Education (34 CFR Part 85), Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 76).

The undersigned certifies that neither it nor its principals:

- 2.1 Are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or Agency.
- 2.2 Have, within a three-year period preceding this Contract, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state or local) transaction or Contract under a public transaction,

violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

- 2.3 Are presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in Paragraph 2.2 of this certification; and
- 2.4 Have had, within a three-year period preceding this Contract, one or more public transactions terminated for cause or default.

SECTION 3 - Drug-Free Workplace

This certification is required by the Federal Regulations, implementing Sections 5151-5160 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, 41 U.S.C. 701; for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3017), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 98), Department of Education (34 CFR Part 85), and Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 76).

The undersigned certifies that it shall provide a drug-free workplace by:

- 3.1 Publishing a policy statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the consequences of any such action by an employee;
- 3.2 Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees of the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the Provider's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, the availability of counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed on employees for drug abuse violations in the workplace;
- 3.3 Providing each employee with a copy of the policy statement;
- 3.4 Notifying the employees in the policy statement that as a condition of employment under this Contract, employees shall abide by the terms of the policy statement and notifying the employer in writing within five days after any conviction for a violation by the employee of a criminal drug statute in the workplace;
- 3.5 Notifying the Board within ten days of receipt of a notice of a conviction of an employee; and
- 3.6 Taking appropriate personnel action against an employee convicted of violating a criminal drug statute or requiring such employee to participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program.

SECTION 4 - Conflict of Interest

Proposer covenants and affirms that:

- (1) no manager, employee or paid consultant of the Proposer is a member of the Policy Board, the President, or manager of the Board;
- (2) no manager or paid consultant of the Proposer is a spouse to a member of the Policy Board, the President, or manager of the Board;
- (3) no member of the Policy Board, the President or an employee of the Board owns or controls more than 10 percent in the Proposer;
- (4) no spouse of a member of the Policy Board, President or employee of the Board is a manager or paid consultant of the Proposer;
- (5) no member of the Policy Board, President, or employee of the Board receives compensation from Proposer for lobbying activities as defined in federal laws or Chapter 305 of the Texas Government Code;
- (6) Proposer has disclosed within the Proposal any interest, fact, or circumstance, which does or may present a potential conflict of interest;
- (7) Should Proposer fail to abide by the foregoing covenants and affirmations regarding conflict of interest, Proposer shall not be entitled to the recovery of any costs or expenses incurred in relation to any contract with them and shall immediately refund to the Board any fees or expenses that may have been paid under the contract and shall further be liable for any other costs incurred or damages sustained by the Board relating to that contract.

SECTION 5 – Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity

CERTIFICATION OF NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Board is an equal opportunity employer and complies fully with the laws regarding nondiscrimination and equal opportunity. As a condition to the award of financial assistance from the Department of Labor under Title 1 of WIOA, as defined in Section 29 part 38, the grant applicant assures that it will comply fully with the nondiscrimination and equal opportunity provisions of the following laws and will remain in compliance for the duration of the award of federal financial assistance:

- Section 188 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which prohibits discrimination against all individuals in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, transgender status, and gender identity), national origin (including limited

English Proficiency), age, disability, political affiliation or belief, and against beneficiaries on the basis of either citizenship/status as a lawfully admitted immigrant authorized to work in the United States or participation in any WIOA Title I- financially assisted program or activity;

- Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color and national origin;
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities;
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; and
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs.

Other Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination must also be followed. These include, but are not limited to:

- The Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse
 - The Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (Public Law 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism
 - §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records
 - Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental, or financing of housing
 - Any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for federal assistance is being made
 - The requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply
- Applicant's signature below indicates organization is agreeing to comply with these certifications

Name of Proposer/Organization

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature of Authorized Representative

Date

SECTION 6 - Certification of Professional Qualifications

Proposer understands that the evaluation of its proposal shall be based on the below-listed criteria and that unless the proposer meets said mandatory criteria, it shall not be considered further for evaluation and selection in this procurement process.

Proposer positively affirms and guarantees that s/he meets each of the following criterion by the affixation of **authorized signatory's initials**:

_____ Proposer is an independent auditor, properly licensed by the Texas State Board of Public Accounting.

_____ Proposer meets the independent requirements of the Standards for Audit of Governmental Organizations, Programs, Activities and Functions, published by the U.S. General Accounting Office.

_____ Proposer does not have a record of substandard audit work.

_____ Proposer meets all specific requirements imposed by State or local law or rules and regulations.

Certification

These certifications are a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when entering into this transaction. Signature by an authorized representative of the awardee and return of this document to the Board are prerequisites for finalizing the award.

Where the undersigned awardee is unable to certify to any of the statements above, an explanation shall be attached.

The undersigned certifies that the indicated statements are true and correct and understands that making a false statement is a material breach of the Contract and is grounds for Contract cancellation.

The person signing this Contract on behalf of the awardee hereby warrants that he/she has been fully authorized to execute this Contract on behalf of the awardee and to legally bind the awardee to all the terms, performances and provisions herein set forth.

Signature Date

Typed Name and Title of Authorized Representative