



**BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY
CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Item Description: Creation of a Fund for Home-based Child Care Providers

Date to be opened: December 5th 2022

Issuing Department: Mayor's Office

QUESTIONS

- Please direct questions relative to the bidding process, how to fill out forms, and how to submit a bid (Pages 1-8) to the Purchasing Department.
 - Email: purchasing@providenceri.gov
 - Please use the subject line “**RFP Question**”
- Please direct questions relative to the Minority and Women's Business Enterprise Program and the corresponding forms (Pages 9-13) to the MBE/WBE Outreach Director for the City of Providence, Grace Diaz
 - Phone: (401) 680-5766
 - Email: gdiaz@providenceri.gov
 - Please use subject line “**MBE WBE Forms**”
- Please direct questions relative to the specifications outlined (beginning on page 14) to the issuing department's subject matter expert:
 - Tom Kerr-Vanderslice, Director of Program and Initiatives
 - tkerrvanderslice@providenceri.gov

Pre-bid Conference

N/a



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

Bids may be submitted up to **2:15 P.M.** on the above meeting date at the **Department of the City Clerk, Room 311, City Hall, 25 Dorrance Street, Providence.** At 2:15 P.M. all bids will be publicly opened and read at the Board of Contract Meeting in the City Council Chambers, on the 3rd floor of City Hall.

- Bidders must submit **2 copies** of their bid in sealed envelopes or packages labeled with the captioned **Item Description** and the **City Department to which the RFP and bid are related and must include the company name and address on the envelope as well.** (On page 1).
- If required by the Department, please keep the original bid bond and check in only one of the envelopes.
- Communications to the Board of Contract and Supply that are not competitive sealed bids (i.e. product information/samples) should have **“NOT A BID”** written on the envelope or wrapper.
- Only use form versions and templates included in this RFP. If you have an old version of a form **do not recycle it for use in this bid.**
- The bid envelope and information relative to the bid must be addressed to:

**Board of Contract and Supply
Department of the City Clerk – City Hall, Room 311
25 Dorrance Street
Providence, RI 02903**

****PLEASE NOTE:** This bid may include details regarding information that you will need to provide (such as proof of licenses) to the issuing department before the formalization of an award.

*This information is **NOT** requested to be provided in your initial bid by design.*

All bids submitted to the City Clerk become public record. Failure to follow instructions could result in information considered private being posted to the city’s Open Meetings Portal and made available as a public record. The City has made a conscious effort to avoid the posting of sensitive information on the City’s Open Meetings Portal, by requesting that such sensitive information be submitted to the issuing department only at their request.



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BID PACKAGE CHECKLIST

Digital forms are available in the City of Providence Purchasing Department Office or online at <http://www.providenceri.gov/purchasing/how-to-submit-a-bid/>

The bid package **MUST** include the following, in this order:

- Bid Form 1: Bidder's Blank as the cover page/ 1st page (*see page 6 of this document*)
- Bid Form 2: Certification of Bidder as 2nd page (*see page 7 of this document*)
- Bid Form 3: Certificate Regarding Public Records (*see page 8 of this document*)
- Forms from the Minority and Women Business Enterprise Program: Based on Bidder Category. *See forms and instructions enclosed (pages 9-13) or on: <https://www.providenceri.gov/purchasing/minority-women-owned-business-mbewbe-procurement-program/>*

***Please note: MBE/WBE forms must be completed for EVERY bid submitted and must be inclusive of ALL required signatures. Forms without all required signatures will be considered incomplete.**

- Bidder's Proposal/Packet: Formal response to the specifications outlined in this RFP, including pricing information and details related to the good(s) or service(s) being provided. Please be mindful of formatting responses as requested to ensure clarity.
- Financial Assurance, *if requested* (as indicated on page 5 of this document under "Bid Terms")

All of the above listed documents are REQUIRED. (With the exception of financial assurances, which are only required if specified on page 5.)

******Failure to meet specified deadlines, follow specific submission instructions, or enclose all required documents with all applicable signatures will result in disqualification, or in an inability to appropriately evaluate bids.***



**BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY
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NOTICE TO VENDORS

1. The Board of Contract and Supply will make the award to the lowest qualified and responsible bidder.
2. In determining the lowest responsible bidder, cash discounts based on preferable payment terms will not be considered.
3. Where prices are the same, the Board of Contract and Supply reserves the right to award to one bidder, or to split the award.
4. No proposal will be accepted if the bid is made in collusion with any other bidder.
5. Bids may be submitted on an “equal in quality” basis. The City reserves the right to decide equality. Bidders must indicate brand or the make being offered and submit detailed specifications if other than brand requested.
6. A bidder who is an out-of-state corporation shall qualify or register to transact business in this State, in accordance with the Rhode Island Business Corporation Act, RIGL Sec. 7-1.2-1401, et seq.
7. The Board of Contract and Supply reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
8. Competing bids may be viewed in person at the Department of the City Clerk, City Hall, Providence, immediately upon the conclusion of the formal Board of Contract and Supply meeting during which the bids were unsealed/opened. Bids may also be accessed electronically on the internet via the City’s [Open Meetings Portal](#).
9. As the City of Providence is exempt from the payment of Federal Excise Taxes and Rhode Island Sales Tax, prices quoted are not to include these taxes.
10. In case of error in the extension of prices quoted, the unit price will govern.
11. The contractor will **NOT** be permitted to: a) assign or underlet the contract, or b) assign either legally or equitably any monies or any claim thereto without the previous written consent of the City Purchasing Director.
12. Delivery dates must be shown in the bid. If no delivery date is specified, it will be assumed that an immediate delivery from stock will be made.
13. A certificate of insurance will normally be required of a successful vendor.
14. For many contracts involving construction, alteration and/or repair work, State law provisions concerning payment of prevailing wage rates apply ([RIGL Sec. 37-13-1 et seq.](#))
15. No goods should be delivered, or work started without a Purchase Order.
16. **Submit 2 copies of the bid to the City Clerk, unless the specification section of this document indicates otherwise.**
17. Bidder must certify that it does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation and/or religion in its business and hiring practices and that all of its employees are lawfully employed under all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations. (See Bid Form 2.)



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BID TERMS

1. Financial assurances may be required in order to be a successful bidder for Commodity or Construction and Service contracts. If either of the first two checkboxes below is checked, the specified assurance must accompany a bid, or the bid will not be considered by the Board of Contract and Supply. The third checkbox indicates the lowest responsible bidder will be contacted and required to post a bond to be awarded the contract.
 - a) A certified check for \$_____ must be deposited with the City Clerk as a guarantee that the Contract will be signed and delivered by the bidder.
 - b) A bid bond in the amount of _____ per centum (%) of the proposed total price, must be deposited with the City Clerk as a guarantee that the contract will be signed and delivered by the bidder; and the amount of such bid bond shall be retained for the use of the City as liquidated damages in case of default.
 - c) A performance and payment bond with a satisfactory surety company will be posted by the bidder in a sum equal to one hundred per centum (100%) of the awarded contract.
 - d) No financial assurance is necessary for this item.
2. Awards will be made within **sixty (60) days of bid opening**. All bid prices will be considered firm, unless qualified otherwise. Requests for price increases will not be honored.
3. Failure to deliver within the time quoted or failure to meet specifications may result in default in accordance with the general specifications. It is agreed that deliveries and/or completion are subject to strikes, lockouts, accidents and Acts of God.

The following entry applies only for COMMODITY BID TERMS:

4. Payment for partial delivery will not be allowed except when provided for in blanket or term contracts.

The following entries apply only for CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICE BID TERMS:

5. Only one shipping charge will be applied in the event of partial deliveries for blanket or term contracts.
6. Prior to commencing performance under the contract, the successful bidder shall attest to compliance with the provisions of the Rhode Island Worker's Compensation Act, RIGL 28-29-1, et seq. If exempt from compliance, the successful bidder shall submit a sworn Affidavit by a corporate officer to that effect, which shall accompany the signed contract.
7. Prior to commencing performance under the contract, the successful bidder shall, submit a certificate of insurance, in a form and in an amount satisfactory to the City.



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BID FORM 1: Bidders Blank

1. Bids must meet the attached specifications. Any exceptions or modifications must be noted and fully explained.
2. Bidder's responses must be in ink or typewritten, and all blanks on the bid form should be completed.
3. The price or prices proposed should be stated both in **WRITING** and in **FIGURES**, and any proposal not so stated may be rejected. **Contracts exceeding twelve months must specify annual costs for each year.**
4. Bids **SHOULD BE TOTALED** so that the final cost is clearly stated (unless submitting a unit price bid), however **each item should be priced individually**. Do not group items. Awards may be made on the basis of *total* bid or by *individual items*.
5. All bids **MUST BE SIGNED IN INK.**

Name of Bidder (Firm or Individual): _____

Contact Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone #: _____

Contact Email Address: _____

Agrees to bid on (Write the "Item Description" here): _____

If the bidder's company is based in a state *other than Rhode Island*, list name and contact information for a local agent for service of process that *is located within Rhode Island* _____

Delivery Date (if applicable): _____

Name of Surety Company (if applicable): _____

Total Amount in Writing*: _____

Total Amount in Figures*: _____

**** If you are submitting a unit price bid, please insert "Unit Price Bid"***

Use additional pages if necessary for additional bidding details.

Signature of Representation

Title



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BID FORM 2: Certification of Bidder
(Non-Discrimination/Hiring)

Upon behalf of _____ (Firm or Individual Bidding),

I, _____ (Name of Person Making Certification),

being its _____ (Title or "Self"), hereby certify that:

1. Bidder does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation and/or religion in its business and hiring practices.
2. All of Bidder's employees have been hired in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.

I affirm by signing below that I am duly authorized on behalf of Bidder, on
this _____ day of _____ 20_____.

Signature of Representation

Printed Name



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BID FORM 3: Certificate Regarding Public Records

Upon behalf of _____ (Firm or Individual Bidding),

I, _____ (Name of Person Making Certification),

being its _____ (Title or "Self"), hereby certify an

understanding that:

1. All bids submitted in response to Requests for Proposals (RFP's) and Requests for Qualification (RFQ's), documents contained within, and the details outlined on those documents become public record upon receipt by the City Clerk's office and opening at the corresponding Board of Contract and Supply (BOCS) meeting.
2. The Purchasing Department and the issuing department for this RFP/RFQ have made a conscious effort to request that sensitive/personal information be submitted directly to the issuing department and only at request if verification of specific details is critical the evaluation of a vendor's bid.
3. The requested supplemental information may be crucial to evaluating bids. Failure to provide such details may result in disqualification, or an inability to appropriately evaluate bids.
4. If sensitive information that has not been requested is enclosed or if a bidder opts to enclose the defined supplemental information prior to the issuing department's request in the bidding packet submitted to the City Clerk, the City of Providence has no obligation to redact those details and bears no liability associated with the information becoming public record.
5. The City of Providence observes a public and transparent bidding process. Information required in the bidding packet may not be submitted directly to the issuing department at the discretion of the bidder in order to protect other information, such as pricing terms, from becoming public. Bidders who make such an attempt will be disqualified.

I affirm by signing below that I am duly authorized on behalf of Bidder, on

this _____ day of _____ 20 _____.

Signature of Representation

Printed Name



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WBE/MBE Form Instructions

The City of Providence actively seeks Minority and Women business enterprises to participate in bids to meet the City's procurement needs. Pursuant to the City of Providence Code of Ordinances, Chapter 21, Article II, Sec. 21-52 (Minority and Women's Business Enterprise) and Rhode Island General Laws (as amended), Chapter 31-14, et seq. (Minority Business Enterprise), Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to contracts.

The goal for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation is **10%** of the total bid value.

The goal for Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation is **10%** of the total bid value.

The goal for combined MBE/WBE participation is **20%** of the total bid value.

Only businesses certified with the State of Rhode Island as minority and/or women business enterprises are counted towards the City's goals. Eligible minority or women-owned businesses are encouraged to seek certification from the State of Rhode Island Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office at: <http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/>

Note: MBE certification with the State of Rhode Island on the basis of Portuguese heritage is not currently recognized by the City of Providence's MBE program.

Bid Requirements:

All Bidders: All bidders **must complete and submit the *MBE/WBE Participation Affidavit*** indicating whether or not they are a state-certified MBE/WBE and acknowledging the City's participation goals. Submission of this form is **required with every bid**. **Your bid will not be accepted without an affidavit.**

Bidders who will be subcontracting: *In addition to the MBE/WBE Participation Affidavit*, Bidders who will be subcontracting must submit the ***Subcontractor Disclosure Form*** as part of their bid submission. All subcontractors, regardless of MBE/WBE status, must be listed on this form. Business NAICS codes can be found at <https://www.naics.com/search/>. Awarded bidders are required to submit

Subcontractor Utilization and Payment Reports with each invoice.

Waiver Requests:

- a) If the percentage of the total amount of the bid being awarded to MBE or WBE vendors is less than 20% (Box F on the Subcontractor Disclosure Form) and the prime contractor is not a Rhode Island State-certified MBE or WBE, the Bidder must complete the *MBE/WBE Waiver Request Form* for review.
- b) If the prime contractor company has the capacity to perform the whole project, the City of Providence requires the contractor to meet the city's goal of a combined 20% of MBE and WBE participation.
- c) If the contractor is a nonprofit organization, the City of Providence requires the nonprofit organization to provide the *MBE/WBE Participation Affidavit Form* and proof of its nonprofit status.
- d) If the contractor has researched the RI Certified minority list (<http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/mbe-wbe.php>) and the state does not have any companies in the desired trade, the City of Providence requires the contractor to provide the *MBE/WBE Participation Affidavit Form*.
- e) Waivers will be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis.



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Verifying MBE/WBE Certification

It is the responsibility of the bidder to confirm that every MBE or WBE named in a proposal and included on a contract is certified by the Rhode Island Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office. The current MBE/WBE directory is available at the State of RI MBE Office, One Capitol Hill, 2nd Floor, Providence, RI, or online at <http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/mbe-wbe.php>. You can also call (401) 574-8670 to verify certification, expiration dates, and services that the MBE/WBE is certified to provide. Note: MBE certification with the State of Rhode Island on the basis of Portuguese heritage is not currently recognized by the City of Providence's MBE program.

Form Instructions:

Access all bid forms from <http://www.providenceri.gov/oeo/> or <http://www.providenceri.gov/purchasing/minority-women-owned-business-mbewbe-procurement-program/>. Download the forms as blank PDFs. Once saved on your computer, fill them out using the Adobe program. The fillable PDFs must be completed in Adobe in order to be saved properly. Google Chrome and similar platforms do not allow for the forms to be saved as filled PDFs. Therefore, please download the blank forms to your computer, then fill them out and save.

Assistance with Form Requirements

Examples of completed forms can be found on the City of Providence website at <http://www.providenceri.gov/oeo/> or <http://www.providenceri.gov/purchasing/minority-women-owned-business-mbewbe-procurement-program/>.

Contract Requirements:

Prime contractors engaging subcontractors must submit the *Subcontractor Utilization and Payment Report* to the City Department's Fiscal Agent with every invoice and request for final payment. A copy of all forms should be sent to the MBE/WBE Outreach Director Office, Grace Diaz at gdiaz@providenceri.gov. This form is not submitted as a part of the initial bid package.

For contracts with durations of less than 3 months, this form must be submitted along with the contractor's request for final payment. The form must include all subcontractors utilized on the contract, both MBE/WBE and non- MBE/WBE, the total amount paid to each subcontractor for the given period and to date. A copy of all forms should be sent to the MBE/WBE Outreach Director Office, Grace Diaz at gdiaz@providenceri.gov. During the term of the contract, any unjustified failure to comply with the MBE/WBE participation requirements is a material breach of contract.

Questions?

For more information or for assistance with MBE/WBE Forms, contact the City of Providence MBE/WBE Outreach Director, Grace Diaz, at gdiaz@providenceri.gov or (401) 680-5766.



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MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION AFFIDAVIT

Project /Item Description (as seen on RFP):

Prime Bidder: _____ Contact Email and Phone _____

Company Name, Address and Trade: _____

Which one of the following describes your business' status in terms of Minority and/or Woman-Owned Business Enterprise certification with the State of Rhode Island? _____ MBE _____ WBE _____ Neither MBE nor WBE

By initialing the following sections and signing the bottom of this document in my capacity as the contractor or an authorized representative of contractor, I make this Affidavit:

It is the policy of the City of Providence that minority business enterprises (MBEs) and women business enterprises (WBEs) should have the maximum opportunity to participate in procurements and projects as prime contractors and vendors. Pursuant to Sec. 21-52 of the Providence Code of Ordinances and Chapter 31-14 *et seq.* of the Rhode Island General Laws (as amended), MBE and WBE participation goals apply to contracts.

The goal for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation is 10% of the total bid value.
The goal for Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation is 10% of the total bid value.
The goal for combined MBE/WBE participation is 20% of the total bid value.

I acknowledge the City of Providence's goals of supporting MBE/WBE certified businesses. Initial _____

If awarded the contract, I understand that my company must submit to the Minority and Women's Business Coordinator at the City of Providence (MBE/WBE Office), copies of all executed agreements with the subcontractor(s) being utilized to achieve the participation goals and other requirements of the RI General Laws. **I understand that these documents must be submitted prior to the issuance of a notice to proceed.** Initial _____

I understand that, if awarded the contract, my firm must submit to the MBE/WBE Office canceled checks and reports required by the MBE/WBE Office on a quarterly basis verifying payments to the subcontractors(s) utilized on the contract. Initial _____

If I am awarded this contract and find that I am unable to utilize the subcontractor(s) identified in my Statement of Intent, I understand that I must substitute another certified MBE and WBE firm(s) to meet the participation goals. **I understand that I may not make a substitution until I have obtained the written approval of the MBE/WBE Office.**
Initial _____

If awarded this contract, I understand that authorized representatives of the City of Providence may examine the books, records and files of my firm from time to time, to the extent that such material is relevant to a determination of whether my firm is complying with the City's MBE/WBE participation requirements.
Initial _____

I do solemnly declare and affirm under the penalty of perjury that the contents of the foregoing Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Signature of Bidder

Printed Name

Company Name

Date



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SUBCONTRACTOR DISCLOSURE FORM

Fill out this form only if you WILL SUBCONTRACT with other parties. If you will not subcontract any portion of the proposed bid, do not fill out this form.

Prime Bidder: _____ Primary NAICS _____

Code: _____

Item Description (as seen on RFP): _____

Please list all Subcontractors below. Include the total dollar value that you propose to share with each subcontractor and the dollar amount to be subcontracted. Please check off MBE and WBE where applicable. The directory of all state-certified MBE/WBE firms is located at www.mbe.ri.gov. Business NAICS codes can be found at

<https://www.naics.com/search/>

Proposed Subcontractor	MBE	WBE	Primary NAICS Code	Date of Mobilization	\$ Value of Subcontract
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
A. MBE SUBCONTRACTED AMOUNT:					\$
B. WBE SUBCONTRACTED AMOUNT:					\$
C. NON-MBE WBE SUBCONTRACTED AMOUNT:					\$
D. DOLLAR AMOUNT OF WORK DONE BY THE PRIME CONTRACTOR:					\$
E. TOTAL AMOUNT OF BID (SUM OF A, B, C, & D):					\$
F. PERCENTAGE OF BID SUBCONTRACTED TO MBEs AND WBEs. (Divide the sum of A and B by E and multiply result by 100).					%

Please read and initial the following statement acknowledging you understand. If the percentage of the total amount of the bid being awarded to MBE or WBE vendors is less than 20% (Box (F) and the prime contractor is NOT a Rhode Island State-certified MBE or WBE, you must fill out the MBE/WBE WAIVER REQUEST FORM for consideration by City of Providence MBE/WBE Outreach Director. Initial _____ Required

Signature of Bidder

Printed Name



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MBE/WBE Waiver Request Form

Fill out this form only if you did not meet the 20% MBE/WBE participation goal.
State-certified MBE or WBE Prime Bidders are NOT REQUIRED to fill out this form.

Submit this form to the City of Providence MBE/WBE Outreach Director, Grace Diaz, at mbe-wbe@providenceri.gov, for review **prior to bid submission**. This waiver applies only to the current bid which you are submitting to the City of Providence and does not apply to other bids your company may submit in the future. **In case a waiver is need it City Department Directors should not** recommend a bidder for award if this form is not included, absent or is not signed by the city of Providence MBE/WBE director.

Prime Bidder: _____ Contact Email and Phone _____
 Company Name, Address: _____ Trade _____
 Project /Item Description (as seen on RFP): _____

To receive a waiver, you must list the certified MBE and/or WBE companies you contacted, the name of the primary individual with whom you interacted, and the reason the MBE/WBE company could not participate on this project.

MBE/WBE Company Name	Individual's Name	Company Name	Why did you choose not to work with this company?

I acknowledge the City of Providence’s goal of a combined MBE/WBE participation is 20% of the total bid value. I am requesting a waiver of _____ % MBE/WBE (20% minus the value of **Box F** on the Subcontractor Disclosure Form). If an opportunity is identified to subcontract any task associated with the fulfillment of this contract, a good faith effort will be made to select MBE/WBE certified businesses as partners.

 Signature of Prime Contractor / or Duly Authorized Representative
 Date Signed

 Printed Name

 Signature of City of Providence (or Designee (Only))
 MBE/WBE Outreach Director

 Printed Name of City of Providence
 MBE/WBE Outreach Director

 Date Signed



BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY
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BID PACKAGE SPECIFICATIONS

SECTION 1: Background

In March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 into law to bring direct and immediate relief to families and workers. The act provides \$350 billion in funding to states, counties, municipalities and other governmental units across the country. These funds-Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)- are to be used by state and local governments to address the devastating public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Providence received approximately \$166M in SLRF funds, which were distributed via municipal ordinance into various categories in May 2021 and June 2022.

The June 2022 ordinance included an infusion of \$10M into the COVID-19 Equities Program. The purpose of this funding is to address the lingering disparities resulting from injuries suffered by African Heritage and Indigenous communities as outlined in Truth-Telling and Reconciliation phases of a three-phase process. A municipal reparations commission was formed to provide clear recommendations to the City on appropriate policies, programs and projects to begin addressing lingering disparities. The commission authored a detailed 11-point investment strategy that articulates specific recommendations, grounded in community feedback and research, for how the City should spend the \$10M COVID-19 Equities Fund. Further, the commission authored a set of ARPA-compliant eligibility criteria that specifies the intended recipients of the funding and/or programming resulting in the administration of the \$10M. Details of the eligibility criteria can be found on pages 12-14 of the 11-point investment strategy report.

Within that plan, Providence has allocated \$250,000 for the creation of a fund for home-based day care providers. "The Providence Day Care Business Assistance Program" will work to ensure that all children thrive in high quality childcare systems by providing technical and certification assistance and other professional development opportunities for childcare business owners and their staff, with an emphasis on those that serve within Qualified Census Tract neighborhoods, and related COVID-19 impacted populations.

SECTION 2: Goals

Early learning programs help children develop important social and cognitive skills, provide a supportive developmental environment for children, and offer an essential service allowing parents and guardians to provide for their families. Since child care programs reopened after COVID-19 quarantines, providers have been faced with severe staffing, enrollment, and operational issues. To support this vital industry, the City of Providence has invested in supporting this essential industry and working towards a goal of universal Pre-K access for all residents.

Home-based child care providers offer a deeply important neighborhood-based service for families, with over 70% offered primarily in a language other than English. This connection of neighborhood, culture, and language, combined with more flexible scheduling from these providers make them hugely important to Providence communities, and, essentially, in efforts to close the racial wealth gap. Home-based providers are often small operations or sole proprietor businesses within a profession that can often be isolating without strong peer and external support networks. Business development, legal support, technical assistance, and guidance on regulatory compliance can strain or be beyond the financial and staffing capacity of these providers.

The Providence Municipal Reparations Commission believes that Providence can lead the nation on how we tell the story of all residents by advancing public education. The Commission believes that reconciliation and healing start with education and learning. These funds will serve the dual purpose of supporting small- and micro-enterprises that are predominately owned and operated by residents who have experienced systemic racism in addition to improving educational outcomes of Providence's youngest residents.



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This Request for Proposals (RFP) is seeking a bidder to pilot a shared service model for early learning providers, in which essential business-side services are offered collectively to a cohort of early learning providers in order to accelerate business growth, increase programmatic stability, and reduce financial burdens on child care providers. Proposals should encompass recruiting and working alongside providers to identify the most at-need areas, delivering a collective network of vetted and customized services, and evaluate and report on the impact of this project. (more detail in “Scope of Work” and “Required Activities” sections.)

Child care and early learning can often be isolating without strong peer and external support networks. The goals for this program include:

1. Reduce the inequity of access to essential business services faced by small and sole proprietor child care providers.
2. Identify and alleviate the largest back-office burdens on child care providers, staff, and businesses.
3. Expand access to these essential businesses within the communities in which they are based.

SECTION 3: Scope of Services

The City of Providence is seeking one or more bidders to design and launch a pilot of a shared service cohort for home-based child care providers in Providence. This funding originates from the 11th recommendation within the Providence Municipal Reparations Commission, Expansion of Cultural Engagement and Educational Opportunities for African Heritage and Indigenous Communities. In recognizing the facility grants currently available from the State of Rhode Island and the City of Providence, as well as professional development opportunities made available by state departments and the SEIU education and support fund, this RFP is intended to support home-based child care by centralizing key business services and expenses that providers struggle to access consistently.

This shared service cohort will allow member organizations to strengthen back-office expertise and alleviate the financial and capacity burdens that business-side responsibilities present for sole providers and small family-based providers. This shared service cohort will allow providers to focus on education and child-centric care and create a better opportunity for financial stability. This model should be targeted towards providers offering fully subsidized care to families, as subsidy rates remain well below their actual operating costs. The shared service cohort must be designed to meet the eligibility criteria enumerated within the municipal reparations commission’s report. This pilot will encompass recruitment of one or more cohorts of providers, coordination with these providers to prioritize and customize services to meet their unique needs, and evaluation and assessment of the result and impact of this shared services model.

The City may accept up to two proposals to best serve both the unionized and non-unionized community of providers in Providence. If a bidder applies to serve only one of these groups, they must indicate in their proposal and budget that limited scope of service. Bidders may choose to submit a proposal to serve both communities of providers, or to sub-divide providers into two unique groups of unionized and non-unionized individuals to customize and deliver needed support services.

Shared collective vendor services can include bookkeeping and payroll, audit services, insurance, HR support with hiring or staff management, property management, IT, technical support, legal support, and/or regulatory compliance. A successful bid will include plans for recruiting a cohort of providers that meet the eligibility requirements contained within the Report of the Providence Municipal Reparations Commission, working alongside providers to select a best needed service, vet prospective vendors for their knowledge of the field of early education and unique needs of these providers as micro-enterprises, oversee the delivery of services, and evaluation and report on the success of this program.

SECTION 4: Required Activities

The submitted proposal should include plans for:

1. Cohort recruitment:



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- a. Bidders may outline plans to recruit one or more provider groups.
 - b. Members of the shared services cohort must meet guidelines highlighted in pages 12-14 of the [Report of the Providence Municipal Reparations Commission](#) reflected in the four eligibility categories of: Indigenous people; African heritage people; Qualified Census tracts and neighborhoods, and; Residents facing poverty.
 - c. Bidding organizations should identify concrete strategies for communication, recruitment, and collaboration with home-based providers in Providence.
2. Prioritization and customization of services:
 - a. Coordinate alongside providers to identify, prioritize, and customize the shared services identified as the highest need.
 - b. Shared services should be targeted towards addressing the continued racial wealth and income equity gap in Providence, and can include, but is not limited to, services such as bookkeeping and payroll, audit services, insurance, HR support with hiring or staff management, property management, IT, technical support, legal support, and/or regulatory compliance.
 3. Vetting and contracting with relevant vendors:
 - a. Identify eligible service vendors to meet the identified needs of members of the cohort.
 - b. Vet potential service-providers based on their knowledge of early educational spaces, understanding of the racial wealth gap, accessibility of services to providers with a diversity of language, background, and business expertise. Ensure they possess a cultural understanding of the unique challenges faced by home-based providers and micro-enterprises lead by Indigenous people, African heritage people, and people struggling with poverty or systemic inequity.
 - c. Contract with a service-provider for technical or back-office support services delivered to the cohort of providers.
 4. Oversight of shared services model:
 - a. Coordinate the cohort to ensure equity of access and usage.
 - b. Communicate best practices and assist the cohort of providers to take full advantage of services that are being offered.
 5. Assessing and reporting on impact of shared services pilot:
 - a. The City will expect a full assessment and report of outcomes and outputs in Section 5.
 - b. Work to identify and communicate the model to potential future funders.

SECTION 5: Outcomes and/or Outputs

As a pilot, the evaluation and assessment of this shared service model is essential to securing longer-term funding and sustaining this fund. As such, bidders should be prepared to:

- Report on number of providers recruited to join the initial cohort(s) of this shared service network.
- Work alongside each member organization to identify tangible service goals during their participation in the cohort.
- Report on hours of vendor services that were provided to initial members of the cohort.
- Report on any and all changes to capacity, service, or enrollment of organizations as a result of their participation in this shared services cohort.

Key outcomes for this pilot should include:

- Addressing one or more of the three key financing principles that underlie a sustainable home-based child care business: Consistent enrollment; Collection of fees and eligible funding, and; Budgeting to ensure that revenues exceed costs.
- Supporting members of the shared services model to identify additional systemic barriers to their business' success.
- Increased enrollment of fully subsidized children in providers.



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Categories	Total Points
<p>Project Proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed work plan supports the project's goals, tasks, and activities • Methods of achieving the goals and conducting project tasks are clearly described • Number of providers served that match eligibility guidelines • Time commitment of staff is appropriate to the project • Proposal includes all required documentation • Proposal demonstrates thorough understanding of the field of early childhood care, and existing partnerships and relationships to support recruitment, vetting, or contracting with relevant vendors 	35
<p>Timeline Proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeline of work is feasible • Timeline clearly describes the steps necessary to complete the work plan 	15
<p>Organization Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated success on past projects of similar scope and complexity • If included, supporting documents are relevant in demonstrating the organization's experience with similar projects 	20
<p>Experience Implementing Responsive Programming with Historically Underinvested Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated previous experience implementing programming that is responsive to the needs of historically underinvested communities 	15



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively engaged in ensuring existing programs are responsive to the needs of historically underinvested communities Has a clear plan to acquire skills/knowledge/capacity to deliver programming that is responsive to the needs of historically underinvested communities 	
Evaluation of Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal has identified clear methodology and plan for assessing and publicizing results of the shared services pilot 	5
Total Technical Specification Eligible Points	90

SECTION 6: Proposal Components

Contact Information: Individual or organization name, address, phone, and email. If applying as a collaborative, please identify a lead applicant and provide the information for each partner organization.

Proposal Narrative (maximum 10 pages, single-spaced)

- a. **Organizational Experience:** Describe the organization’s experience providing shared services to home-based providers or similar small businesses and microenterprises. Please respond directly to the Qualifications - Organizational Capacity section.
- b. **Work Plan Proposal:** Describe the proposed work plan to meet the RFP’s goals and activities set out in the Scope of Services.
- c. **Staffing:** Provide the following:
 - i. Roles and qualifications of all relevant organization staff
 - ii. If you’re collaborating with other organizations to staff or consult on this project, please identify the roles and responsibilities of all partnering organizations.

Timeline - On a separate sheet include the proposed timeline of work. The timeline should not exceed December 31, 2024.

Resumes - Provide resumes of all relevant lead organization staff. Include copies of any certifications, credentials, or documentation of experience, as appropriate. Please do not submit original documents. If applying with partners, provide letters of commitment from all partner organizations (other than lead) certifying their role and responsibilities in the proposed work plan.

Supporting documents - (maximum 10 pages) Optional: Provide documents, links, communications materials, etc. that provide any relevant background information about the organization and experience with similar projects.

Budget

- a. **Funding proposal:** In Excel format, provide a spreadsheet that includes costs and descriptions for allowable expenses. Additional budget lines or categories may be added or removed as appropriate.
- b. **Funding timeline:** In Excel or Word format, please identify how your proposed budget will be spent by December 31, 2021.

Certificate of Good Standing of the organization’s 501c(3) status



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Letters of Recommendation (not required):

- a. Provide letters of recommendation from previous clients or relevant organizations.

SECTION 7: Proposal Evaluation

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated in a two-step process, first technical specifications, then budgetary. Only proposals that achieve a score of 70 or higher in step one will be eligible to advance to step two. From there, per City ordinance, proposals with the lowest bid amount will be awarded.

Cost Proposal - Budget is in alignment with the proposed activities	10
Total Budget Eligible Points	10

Technical Specifications - Bidders must receive a minimum score of 70 to be eligible to move on to the budget evaluation.



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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

If the issuing department for this RFP determines that your firm's bid is best suited to accommodate their need, you will be asked to provide proof of the following prior to formalizing an award.

An inability to provide the outlined items at the request of the department may lead to the disqualification of your bid.

*This information is **NOT** requested to be provided in your initial bid that you will submit to the City Clerk's office by the "date to be opened" noted on page 1. This list only serves as a list of items that your firm should be ready to provide on request.*

All bids submitted to the City Clerk become public record. Failure to follow instructions could result in information considered private being posted to the city's Open Meetings Portal and made available as a public record.

You must be able to provide:

- Business Tax ID will be requested after an award is approved by the Board of Contract and Supply.
- **USE THESE BULLETS TO OUTLINE ITEMS YOU WILL NEED VENDORS TO PRODUCE ON REQUEST IF YOU SEEK TO AWARD THIS BID TO THEM.**
- **E.G. PROOF OF INSURANCE**



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**ARPA Requirements Addendum
*Federal and State Contract and Purchasing Requirements***

The following terms and conditions apply to all contractors, vendors, or subrecipients of the City of Providence and all subrecipients of subrecipients of the City of Providence and all contractors or vendors hired by the subrecipient, according to the City's Award Terms and Conditions; by ARPA and its implementing regulations; and as established by the Treasury Department.

1. Equal Opportunity.

Contractor shall comply with Executive Order 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity," as amended by EO 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and as supplemented by regulations at 41 CFR part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor."

2. Minority and Women Business Enterprises (if applicable to this Contract)

Contractor hereby agrees to comply with the following when applicable: The requirements of Executive Orders 11625 and 12432 (concerning Minority Business Enterprise), and 12138 (concerning Women's Business Enterprise), when applicable. Accordingly, the Contractor hereby agrees to take affirmative steps to assure that women and minority businesses are utilized when possible as sources of supplies, equipment, construction, and services. Affirmative steps shall include the following:

- a) Including qualified women's business enterprises and small and minority businesses on solicitation lists;
- b) Assuring that women's enterprises and small and minority businesses are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
- c) When economically feasible, dividing total requirements into smaller tasks or quantities so as to permit maximum participation by small and minority business, and women's business enterprises;
- d) Where the requirement permits, establishing delivery schedules which will encourage participation by women's business enterprises and small and minority business;
- e) Using the services and assistance of the Small Business Administration, and the U.S. Office of Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce; and
- f) If any subcontracts are to be let, requiring the prime Contractor to take the affirmative steps in a through e above.

For the purposes of these requirements, a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) is defined as an enterprise that is at least 51 percent owned and controlled in its daily operation by members of the following groups: Black, Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, Native American, or Alaskan Natives. Women Business Enterprise (WBE) is defined as an enterprise that is at least 51 percent owned and controlled in its daily operation by women.

3. Suspension and Debarment. (Applies to all purchases.)



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- (A) This contract is a covered transaction for purposes of 2 CFR pt. 180 and 2 CFR pt. 3000. As such, the Contractor is required to verify that none of Contractor's principals (defined at 2 CFR § 180.995) or its affiliates (defined at 2 CFR § 180.905) are excluded (defined at 2 CFR § 180.940) or disqualified (defined at 2 CFR § 180.935).
- (B) The Contractor must comply with 2 CFR pt. 180, subpart C and 2 CFR pt. 3000, subpart C, and must include a requirement to comply with these regulations in any lower tier covered transaction it enters into.
- (C) This certification is a material representation of fact relied upon by the City of PROVIDENCE. If it is later determined that the contractor did not comply with 2 CFR pt. 180, subpart C and 2 CFR pt. 3000, subpart C, in addition to remedies available to the City, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment.
- (D) The Contractor agrees to comply with the requirements of 2 CFR pt. 180, subpart C and 2 CFR pt. 3000, subpart C while this offer is valid and throughout the period of any contract that may arise from this offer. The Contractor further agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions.

4. Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment, 31 U.S.C. § 1352, as amended. (Applies to all purchases.)

Contractor certifies that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant, or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. § 1352. Contractor shall also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the recipient who in turn will forward the certification(s) to the awarding agency.

Purchases over \$100,000 - Contractors must sign the certification on the last page of this addendum

5. Access to Records. (Applies to all purchases.)

- A. The Contractor agrees to provide the City of PROVIDENCE, the U.S. Department of Treasury, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to this contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions. The Contractor agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed and agrees to cooperate with all such requests.
- B. The Contractor agrees to provide the Treasury Department or authorized representatives access to construction or other work sites pertaining to the work being completed under the contract.
- C. No language in this contract is intended to prohibit audits or internal reviews by the Treasury Department or the Comptroller General of the United States.

6. Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement.

Contracts or agreements for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work shall provide for the rights of the Federal Government and the recipient in any resulting invention in accordance with 37 CFR part 401,



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"Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any applicable implementing regulations.

7. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327 through 333) (applies only to purchases over \$100,000, when laborers or mechanics are used.)

Where applicable, all contracts in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers shall include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 5). Under Section 3702 of the Act, each contractor shall be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard workweek of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard workweek is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than 1 1/2 times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the workweek. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provides that no laborer or mechanic shall be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

8. Clean Air Act & Federal Water Pollution Control Act (applies to purchases of more than \$150,000.)

A. The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.

B. The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.

C. The Contractor agrees to report each violation of the Clean Air Act and the Water Pollution Control Act to the City of PROVIDENCE

D. and understands and agrees that the City will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.

E. Contractor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance.

9. Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment (Huawei and ZTE)

Contractor is prohibited from obligating or expending loan or grant funds to:

1. Procure or obtain;
2. Extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; or
3. Enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. As described in Public Law 115-232, section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).



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- I. For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
- II. Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.
- III. Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country.

10. Buy USA - Domestic Preference for certain procurements using federal funds.

Contractor should, to the greatest extent practicable under a federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of this section must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this award. For purposes of this section:

1. "Produced in the United States" means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.
2. "Manufactured products" means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.

11. Procurement of Recovered Materials: (applies only if the work involves the use of materials)

- A. In the performance of this contract, the Contractor shall make maximum use of products containing recovered materials that are EPA-designated items unless the product cannot be acquired:
 - I. Competitively within a timeframe providing for compliance with the contract performance schedule;
 - II. Meeting contract performance requirements; or
 - III. At a reasonable price.
- B. Information about this requirement, along with the list of EPA - designated items, is available at EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines web site, <https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive-procurement-guideline-cpg-program>.
- C. The Contractor also agrees to comply with all other applicable requirements of Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

12. Publications.



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Any publications produced with funds from this award must display the following language: "This project [is being] [was] supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number [enter project FAIN] awarded to [name of Recipient] by the U.S. Department of the Treasury."

13. Increasing Seat Belt Use in the United States.

Pursuant to Executive Order 13043, 62 FR 19217 (Apr. 18, 1997), Contractor is encouraged to adopt and enforce on-the-job seat belt policies and programs for your employees when operating company-owned, rented or personally owned vehicles.

14. Reducing Text Messaging While Driving.

Pursuant to Executive Order 13513, 74 FR 51225 (Oct. 6, 2009), Contractor is encouraged to adopt and enforce policies that ban text messaging while driving, and establish workplace safety policies to decrease accidents caused by distracted drivers.

15. Iran Divestment Act.

Pursuant to the North Carolina General Assembly (S.L. 2015-118; SB455), The Iran Divestment Act is to implement the authority granted to states by federal law to impose state-level sanctions against companies that engage in certain investment activities in the energy sector of Iran.

Additional Federal Regulations Applicable to ARPA (is hereby incorporated by reference):

1. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, other than such provisions as Treasury may determine are inapplicable to this Award and subject to such exceptions as may be otherwise provided by Treasury. Subpart F – Audit Requirements of the Uniform Guidance, implementing the Single Audit Act, shall apply to this award.
2. Universal Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM), 2 C.F.R. Part 25, pursuant to which the award term set forth in Appendix A to 2 C.F.R. Part 25 is hereby incorporated by reference
3. Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information, 2 C.F.R. Part 170, pursuant to which the award term set forth in Appendix A to 2 C.F.R. Part 170 is hereby incorporated by reference.
4. OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement), 2 C.F.R. Part 180, including the requirement to include a term or condition in all lower tier covered transactions (contracts and subcontracts described in 2 C.F.R. Part 180, subpart B) that the award is subject to 2 C.F.R. Part 180 and Treasury's implementing regulation at 31 C.F.R. Part 19.
5. Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters, pursuant to which the award term set forth in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix XII to Part 200 is hereby incorporated by reference.
6. Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace, 31 C.F.R. Part 20.
7. New Restrictions on Lobbying, 31 C.F.R. Part 21.



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8. Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisitions Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§ 4601-4655) and implementing regulations.
9. Generally applicable federal environmental laws and regulations.

Statutes and regulations prohibiting discrimination applicable to ARPA awards include, without limitation, the following:

1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d et seq.) and Treasury's implementing regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 22, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin under programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance;
2. The Fair Housing Act, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§ 3601 et seq.), 4 which prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, or disability;
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance;
4. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 et seq.), and Treasury's implementing regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 23, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance; and

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under programs, activities, and services provided or made available by state and local governments or instrumentalities or agencies thereto.



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CITY OF PROVIDENCE STANDARD TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. The terms “you” and “your” contained herein refer to the person or entity that is a party to the agreement with the City of Providence (“the City”) and to such person’s or entity’s employees, officers, and agents.
2. The Request For Proposals (“RFP”) and these Standard Terms and Conditions together constitute the entire agreement of the parties (“the Agreement”) with regard to any and all matters. By your submission of a bid proposal or response to the City’s RFP, you accept these Standard Terms & Conditions and agree that they supersede any conflicting provisions provided by bid or in any terms and conditions contained or linked within a bid and/or response. Changes in the terms and conditions of the Agreement, or the scope of work thereunder, may only be made by a writing signed by the parties.
3. You are an independent contractor and in no way does this Agreement render you an employee or agent of the City or entitle you to fringe benefits, workers’ compensation, pension obligations, retirement or any other employment benefits. The City shall not deduct federal or state income taxes, social security or Medicare withholdings, or any other taxes required to be deducted by an employer, and this is your responsibility to yourself and your employees and agents.
4. You shall not assign your rights and obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the City. Any assignment without prior written consent of the City shall be voidable at the election of the City. The City retains the right to refuse any and all assignments in the City’s sole and absolute discretion.
5. Invoices submitted to the City shall be payable sixty (60) days from the time of receipt by the City. Invoices shall include support documentation necessary to evidence completion of the work being invoiced. The City may request any other reasonable documentation in support of an invoice. The time for payment shall not commence, and invoices shall not be processed for payment, until you provide reasonably sufficient support documentation. In no circumstances shall the City be obligated to pay or shall you be entitled to receive interest on any overdue invoice or payment. In no circumstances shall the City be obligated to pay any costs associated with your collection of an outstanding invoice.
6. For contracts involving construction, alteration, and/or repair work, the provisions of applicable state labor law concerning payment of prevailing wage rates (R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 37-13-1 et seq., as amended) and the City’s First Source Ordinance (Providence Code of Ordinances §§ 21-91 et seq., as amended) apply.
7. With regard to any issues, claims, or controversies that may arise under this Agreement, the City shall not be required to submit to dispute resolution or mandatory/binding arbitration. Nothing prevents the parties from mutually agreeing to settle any disputes using mediation or non-binding arbitration.
8. To the fullest extent permitted by law, you shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the City, its employees, officers, agents, and assigns from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, allegations, demands, actions, causes of action, suits, obligations, fines, penalties, judgments, liabilities, costs and expenses, including but not limited to attorneys’ fees, of any nature whatsoever arising out of, in connection with, or resulting from the performance of the work provided in the Agreement.
9. You shall maintain throughout the term of this Agreement the insurance coverage that is required by the RFP or, if none is required in the RFP, insurance coverage that is considered in your industry to be commercially reasonable, and you agree to name the City as an additional insured on your general liability policy and on any umbrella policy you carry.
10. The City shall not subject itself to any contractual limitations on liability. The City shall have the time permitted within the applicable statute of limitations, and no less, to bring or assert any and all causes of action, suits, claims or demands the City may have arising out of, in connection with, or resulting from the performance of the work provided in the Agreement, and in no event does the City agree to limit your liability to the price of the Agreement or any other monetary limit.
11. The City may terminate this Agreement upon five (5) days’ written notice to you if you fail to observe any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, or if the City believes your ability to perform the



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terms and conditions of this Agreement has been materially impaired in any way, including but in no way limited to loss of insurance coverage, lapsing of a surety bond, if required, declaration of bankruptcy, or appointment of a receiver. In the event of termination by the City, you shall be entitled to just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed and expenses incurred up to the date of termination.

12. Written notice hereunder shall be deemed to have been duly served if delivered in person to the individual or member of the firm or entity or to an officer of the entity for whom it was intended, or if delivered at or sent by registered or certified mail to the last business address known by the party providing notice.
13. In no event shall the Agreement automatically renew or be extended without a writing signed by the parties.
14. You agree that products produced or resulting from the performance of the Agreement are the sole property of the City and may not be used by you without the express written permission of the City.
15. For any Agreement involving the sharing or exchange of data involving potentially confidential and/or personal information, you shall comply with any and all state and/or federal laws or regulations applicable to confidential and/or personal information you receive from the City, including but not limited to the Rhode Island Identity Theft Protection Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 11-49.3-1, during the term of the Agreement. You shall implement and maintain appropriate physical, technical, and administrative security measures for the protection of, and to prevent access to, use, or disclosure of, confidential and/or personal information. In the event of a breach of such information, you shall notify the City of such breach immediately, but in no event later than twenty-four (24) hours after discovery of such breach.
16. The Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Rhode Island. You expressly submit yourself to and agree that any and all actions arising out of, in connection with, or resulting from the performance of the Agreement or relationship between the parties shall occur solely in the venue and jurisdiction of the State of Rhode Island or the federal court located in Rhode Island.
17. The failure of the City to require performance of any provision shall not affect the City's right to require performance at any time thereafter, nor shall a waiver of any breach or default of this Agreement constitute a waiver of any subsequent breach or default or a waiver of the provision itself.
18. If any term or provision of this Agreement, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall, in any extent, be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby, and each term and provision shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.