



TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

William B. Travis Building
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701-1494

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

RFP #701-17-007

Physical Fitness Assessment Data Analysis

Authorized by TEC §38.104 and 84th Texas Legislature 2015, General Appropriations Act (GAA), Article III, Rider 67

<p>PROPOSAL DELIVERY LOCATION:</p> <p>Purchasing, Contracts and Agency Services Division Texas Education Agency 1701 N. Congress Ave., Rm. 2-125 Austin, TX 78701-1494 (512) 463-9041</p>	<p>REFER INQUIRIES TO:</p> <p>Debra Rosas TEAContracts@tea.texas.gov</p>
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**WITHOUT EXCEPTION - PROPOSAL MUST BE TIME AND DATE STAMPED BY THE TEA PURCHASING, CONTRACTS AND AGENCY SERVICES DIVISION OFFICE BEFORE:
Tuesday, November 15, 2016 - 2:00 P.M., CT**

Pursuant to the Provisions of the Texas Government Code §§2156.121 – 2156.127, sealed proposals will be received until the date and time established for receipt. After receipt, names, prices and other proposal details may only be divulged after award of a contract, if a contract is awarded. The award notice will be posted to the Electronic State Business Daily at <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>.

Pursuant to Texas Government Code §§2151.004(d) and 2155.131, the Office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts has delegated authority to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to conduct this Solicitation and to award a contract for the purposes stated herein. All written requests for information will be communicated to all applicants known to TEA. All proposals shall become the property of the State of Texas upon receipt.

All proposals must be delivered to TEA Purchasing, Contracts and Agency Services (PCAS) Division as required by the instructions within this Solicitation. All addenda to and interpretation of this Solicitation shall be in writing. The state shall not be legally bound by an addenda or interpretation that is not in writing.

Proposer understands and agrees that no public disclosures or news releases pertaining to this Solicitation, negotiations, subsequent award, or any results or findings based on information provided or obtained to fulfill requirements of this Solicitation shall be made without prior written approval of TEA.

NOTE: Failure to formalize the terms of the proposal by signing the *Execution of Offer, Contract Terms and Conditions and Affirmations* will result in disqualification of the offer contained within the proposal. **Proposers must indicate in writing and offer alternative language to any Contract Terms and Conditions that are not feasible with the submission of the proposal to this Solicitation.** If a proposal is signed and submitted without including a specific identification of all Contract Terms and Conditions to which Proposer takes exception, TEA will not negotiate the Contract Terms and Conditions and reserves the right to commence negotiations with other Proposers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<u>SECTION ONE INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE</u>	
1.1 PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)	3
1.2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION	3
1.3 CONTRACT TERM/OPTION TO EXTEND	3
1.4 BUDGET	4
1.5 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS	4
1.6 PROJECT DELIVERABLES	6
1.7 COLLABORATION	8
<u>SECTION TWO GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND STANDARD PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS</u>	
2.1 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION, DATE, AND TIME	9
2.2 EXPECTED SEQUENCE OF EVENTS/CRITICAL DATES	10
2.3 QUESTIONS RECEIVED PRIOR TO OPENING OF PROPOSALS	11
2.4 STANDARD PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS	11
2.5 STATE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION COSTS	11
2.6 DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENT	11
2.7 HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS (HUB) SUBCONTRACTING PLAN	12
2.8 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS	13
<u>SECTION THREE PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT</u>	
3.1 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT	13
3.2 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT AND METHODOLOGY	14
3.3 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT	14
3.4 TASK ACTIVITY PLAN	15
3.5 COST PROPOSAL	15
3.6 PROPOSER'S FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	15
<u>SECTION FOUR REVIEW OF PROPOSALS</u>	
4.1 REVIEW OF PROPOSALS	16
4.2 SELECTION CRITERIA	16
<u>SECTION FIVE CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS</u>	
5.1 CONTRACTOR'S PROPOSAL	17
5.2 PROJECT REVIEW REQUIREMENT	17
5.3 PAYMENT	17
<u>SECTION SIX ATTACHMENTS</u>	
ATTACHMENT A – NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL	
ATTACHMENT B – EXECUTION OF OFFER, CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS AND PROPOSAL PREFERENCES	
ATTACHMENT C – HUB SUBCONTRACTING PLAN (HSP) – SEPARATE DOCUMENT	
ATTACHMENT D – SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR PROPOSAL COVER PAGE	
ATTACHMENT E – SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR COST PROPOSAL	
ATTACHMENT F – TASK ACTIVITY PLAN	
ATTACHMENT G – SAMPLE ANALYSIS PLAN MATRIX	
ATTACHMENT H – TEA DATA SOURCES	
ATTACHMENT I – ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION/CERTIFICATION OF DATA DESTRUCTION	
ATTACHMENT J – ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – TEA AGENT AGREEMENT	

SECTION ONE INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

It is the intent of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to solicit proposals to provide analysis of physical fitness assessment results for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 academic years required under Texas Education Code (TEC), Subchapter C, Sec. §38.104 and in accordance with all requirements stated herein. The selected Contractor will be required to provide TEA with the deliverables as specified in this RFP and as agreed upon under any contract(s) resulting from this RFP.

Eligible Proposers are nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, private or public companies, regional education service centers, local education agencies, education research centers, and individuals with extensive experience conducting data analysis or evaluations on education-related programs. Eligible Proposers must not have a subsidiary or subcontract relationship with any Contractor that monitors the FitnessGram® program at the state level.

1.2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Authorized by TEC §38.101-38.105 and General Appropriations Act (GAA), Article III, Rider 67 (84th Texas Legislature, Regular Session), TEA requires that districts assess the fitness levels of all students in grades 3-12 enrolled in a physical education course, substitute course, or activity at least once annually and that school districts submit the results to TEA each school year. TEA is seeking a Contractor to fulfill the requirements of analysis of the physical fitness's assessment results. The required data analysis must address any correlation between the physical fitness assessment results received by the agency and identified for each school district and student academic achievement, attendance, obesity, disciplinary problems, and school meal programs.

In 2007, TEA identified FitnessGram® as the assessment tool to be used by all school districts. FitnessGram® is an assessment and reporting software program which allows schools to 1) gather physical fitness data from Texas students and 2) report data to TEA. The software was created by The Cooper Institute and US Games serves as sole source provider of the program. TEA entered into agreements with US Games, MMS Education, and The Cooper Institute to provide a statewide license to FitnessGram® 2015 at no cost to schools.

All students in grades 3-12 enrolled in a physical education course or substitute activity must be assessed once annually using the FitnessGram® assessment instrument. The assessment includes a variety of health-related physical fitness activities designed to assess aerobic capacity; muscular strength, muscular endurance, and flexibility; and body composition. Scores from these assessments are compared to Healthy Fitness Zone standards to determine students' overall physical fitness and suggest areas for improvement when appropriate. The Healthy Fitness Zone standards are not based on class averages or any other peer comparisons. They are criterion referenced standards that are based on levels of fitness needed for good health.

Schools are required to submit the results of the assessment to the TEA either through the web-based FitnessGram® software or TEA's Physical Fitness Assessment Initiative (PFAI) web application. The data collected from the physical fitness assessments are used to drive curriculum and health-related program improvements, which include healthy nutrition, increased self-esteem among students, appropriate professional development opportunities for school health professionals, and parental involvement.

For more information regarding FitnessGram® or FitnessGram® 2015, please visit <http://www.fitnessgram.net/>. For more information regarding TEA's PFAI web application, visit http://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Schools/Safe_and_Healthy_Schools/Physical_Fitness_Assessment_Initiative/. The Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 103, Subchapter AA, (TAC §103.1001) establishes guidelines to support TEC Subchapter C, Sec. §38.101-38.105.

1.3 CONTRACT TERM/OPTION TO EXTEND

The term of any contract resulting from this RFP shall be from contract award until September 30, 2017. TEA, at its own discretion, may extend any contract awarded pursuant to this RFP for up to two additional fiscal years under the same or different terms subject to appropriation of funds by the Texas Legislature for this project.

1.4 BUDGET

One fixed price contract will be awarded in an approximate amount not to exceed \$300,000 as a result of this RFP. Proposals must include a detailed proposed budget and Task Activity Plan in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.5 of this RFP. In completing the proposed budget, Proposers should delineate costs related to all proposed tasks and subtasks in connection to corresponding deliverables for the contract period. Upon contract award, procedures for monthly invoicing and payments will be established in line with a fixed price contract based on the submission of subtask-deliverables.

1.5 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS

The proposed research project should include satisfactory evidence of the Proposer's capability to conduct a statistical analysis and the appropriate types of activities required to achieve the objectives of the RFP. The proposed research project must provide evidence that the required objectives, requirements and expectations of this research project, as described in TEC §38.104, can be fulfilled. The proposed research project can include additional areas that expand the understanding of the project's outcomes as determined by the research staff. The proposal must describe how funds will be allocated to accomplish the scope of the work and the final deliverables.

All proposals in response to this request must meet the following conditions in order to be considered. Failure to meet these conditions shall result in disqualification of proposal and the proposal shall receive no further consideration.

- A.** As required by statute, TEC §1.005, the selected Contractor must work through an Education Research Center (ERC) in order to access the data and complete the data analysis requirements of this project.

The ERC P-20/Workforce Data Repository is a comprehensive database that houses data from TEA, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) from the 1990s to the most recent data available from the cooperating agencies. New datasets are added to the ERC P-20/Workforce Data Repository as data become available. Both ERCs house the same data sources. Note that although the ERC P-20/Workforce Data Repository is a comprehensive data base, not every data element from the cooperating agencies is available in the database and the date range of the data elements may vary. Note also that only those data elements approved by TEA for use with this research project will be made available to the Contractor. It is suggested that the Proposer review the data inventory list available from an ERC website for full understanding of available data <http://www.utdallas.edu/research/tsp-erc/data-holdings.html> or http://www.utaustinerc.org/includes/inventory/ERC_Data_Inventory_July232015.htm

- B.** The selected Contractor will be expected to abide by the policies and processes required by the ERC for data access, analysis, and security. Per ERC policies:
1. The Contractor must be physically present at the ERC to access and manipulate the data in the P-20/Workforce Data Repository. Proposers should keep this in mind when budgeting and/or staffing the project. There are two ERCs in operation within the state of Texas. They are located at the University of Texas at Austin, <https://research.utexas.edu/erc/> and at the University of Texas at Dallas <http://www.utdallas.edu/research/tsp-erc/utd-erc.html>
 2. Data access fees may be required by the ERC. The Contractor will budget and pay for any data access fees required by the ERC. Data access fees can vary up to \$15,000. Using funds allocated to this project as described in Section 1.4 is allowable and must be included in the proposed budget. The Proposer may want to discuss data access fees with the ERCs to form the proposed budget for this research project.
- C.** The proposal for the research project should include detailed descriptions of the proposed design, methodology, project activities, and tools used to analyze the data. The selected Contractor will be expected to address all of the major components of the research project.

1. Research Project Objectives – The Contractor will be expected to analyze the data, compile the findings, and develop reports that identify any correlations between the results of the FitnessGram® assessment i.e., the Healthy Fitness Zone Standards and the following school level data for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years:
 - a) Student academic achievement
 - b) Student attendance
 - c) Student obesity
 - d) Student disciplinary problems
 - e) School meal programs
2. Prior experience – Proposer must provide evidence of an understanding and/or prior experience with related studies and research, research designs and methodologies, tasks, activities, and potential problems in completing the project.
3. Staffing – The proposed research project should identify the project manager who will direct the overall project throughout the duration of the contract, as well as staff members who coordinate major activities during each phase of the project, contract, and renewal periods. Résumés of all project staff members are required to be submitted as an appendix to the proposed research project.
4. Research Project Design – Proposer should include detailed descriptions of the proposed design, methodology, evaluation activities, and analysis tools for carrying out the objectives and requirements of this project.
5. Methodology – Quantitative and qualitative data should be analyzed descriptively and with the appropriate statistical procedures and analyses to address the project objectives.
6. Description of Activities, Deliverables, Budget, and Timeline – The Proposer should include the detailed description in the text and a table or appendix that provides a summarized overview of proposed objectives and research project, see Attachment G for a sample format. The Proposer is required to be responsive to the required deliverables as outlined in Section 1.6 and the following:
 - a) Proposer is expected to address the method and manner in which the objectives and expectations in relation to the deliverables and timeline, see Section 1.6.
 - b) The proposed research project must provide a complete description of the activities used to accomplish the work, which includes the allocation of funding and a timeline.

D. Reports

The reports may reveal any areas in which districts should and can revise district curricular, strategies, programs, policies and practices where necessary to increase student physical health.

E. Other Requirements

Each Proposer in this project must sign an agreement acknowledging and ensuring the following:

1. The Proposer does not have a conflict of interest related to specific research projects, Local Education Agencies (LEAs), TEA staff, or other entities and/or staff associated with the project.
2. The Proposer will comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and policies.
3. The Proposer will comply with all policies and procedures established by the ERC to protect the confidentiality of the data, including but not limited to copying, storing, or removing TEA data from the ERC.
4. The Proposer will establish protocols to ensure the security of the data.

5. The Proposer will follow required ERC and TEA protocols to ensure the security of the data. The Proposer/Researcher demonstrates their experience in using techniques to mask data.
6. The Proposer agrees to the ERC Data and ERC Research Policies under TEC Title 1, Chapter 1, Section 1.005 and 1.006. For additional information on ERC policies, visit <https://research.utexas.edu/erc/researchers-of-approved-projects/>

F. Availability of statewide data

1. The Contractor will retrieve data from the P-20/Workforce Data Repository accessible only at one of the two ERCs.
2. The Contractor will follow the ERC policies for accessing and evaluating the data must be physically present at the ERC to access and manipulate the data in the P-20/Workforce Data Repository.
3. If additional data is required for the completion of the study, the TEA will work with the ERC to secure additional data as available. The data can only be used for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of this project.
4. The TEA will not be responsible for providing data directly to the Contractor.
5. The Contractor will be expected to follow the ERC's policies for accessing confidential data including assigning any confidentiality agreements with the ERC.
6. At the end of the project and prior to the completion of the contract period, all datasets created and used for analysis will be requested by TEA.
7. Upon approval of the submitted data by TEA, the Contractor will destroy all data including any aggregate datasets removed from the ERC and provide a certification to TEA that all such data have been destroyed at the end of the project period, see Attachment I.
8. A table outlining examples of when new TEA data is typically available is attached, see Attachment H. However, additional time is needed to process and provide new datasets to the ERC. Proposers should carefully review the general availability of certain data to appropriately plan data analyses. The following websites may be useful resources to Proposers for identifying the types of data currently collected by TEA.
 - a) Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS):
<http://tea.texas.gov/index4.aspx?id=25769817518>
http://tea.texas.gov/Reports_and_Data/Data_Submission/PEIMS/PEIMS_Data_Standards/PEIMS_Data_Standards/
 - b) State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®):
http://tea.texas.gov/index4.aspx?id=2147485762&menu_id=793
<http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/datafileformats/>
 - c) Texas Education Directory (AskTED):
<http://mansfield.tea.state.tx.us/tea.askted.web/Forms/Home.aspx>

1.6 PROJECT DELIVERABLES

TEA requires the following deliverables:

- A.** Synthesis and analysis of FitnessGram® raw data for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 academic years.
 1. A detailed plan linking how the findings will relate to the objectives of the project. The plan should include the methodology, provide specific information regarding how data will be evaluated, how the analysis will be conducted, detail all strategies for coding data and creating variables from the data, describe all planned statistical analysis methodology, and all variables to be used in the analysis. All to be submitted prior to analyzing data for any report specified in Section 1.6.

2. The Contractor will systematically analyze all fitness data entered via TEA's PFAI and the FitnessGram® 2015 web application.
3. The Contractor will compile the findings of the analysis of the data and will provide a descriptive statistical analysis of the fitness outcomes as established by the TEC by district, campus, grade, and gender.
4. Ongoing copies of analysis code and output as requested by TEA.
5. All data collected for the project including datasets used for analysis to be provided to TEA in a format designated by the agency.
6. The final report for 2014-2015 School Year (SY) should be submitted to the agency by May 31, 2017, 5:00 PM. The final report for the 2015-2016 SY should be submitted to the agency by August 31, 2017, 5:00 PM.
7. Raw data will be reported in Excel format by district, campus, grade, and gender to be posted to TEA's Physical Fitness Data webpage. The Contractor will provide the web-accessible Excel report to TEA. For more information, see http://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Schools/Safe_and_Healthy_Schools/Physical_Fitness_Assessment_Initiative/Fitness_Data

B. Analysis of correlations between fitness and identified school-level indicators for the 2014-2015- and 2015-2016 academic years

1. The Proposer shall include detailed descriptions of the proposed design, methodology, project activities, proposed instruments, and techniques used to analyze the data collected in FitnessGram. The Proposer should determine/identify any correlations between specific fitness metrics and student achievement.
2. The project will apply analysis techniques that examine correlations between physical fitness and various school-level indicators, as required by Texas Education Code (TEC) §38.104 which include the following:
 - a) Student academic achievement
 - b) Student attendance
 - c) Student obesity
 - d) Student disciplinary problems
 - e) School meal programs

C. Reports

1. Submission of project updates, as requested by TEA
2. Monthly progress reports and invoices detailing the tasks accomplished during the prior month, including percentage of subtask completion (if applicable), and subtask work planned for the next month, due by the 15th day of each month.
3. Provide reports that highlight the gains and losses across all six tests for grade and gender in relation to the various school-level indicators. Expected delivery of the report for 2014-2015 analysis will be on or before May 31, 2017. Expected delivery of the report for 2015-2016 analysis will be on or before August 31, 2017.
4. Ten bound, double-sided copies of published reports

Reporting Procedures: TEA engages in extensive review of all documents that are to be published. The Contractor should budget for and be prepared to be responsive to multiple rounds of feedback, while maintaining the integrity of all reported findings. Well-polished drafts of the comprehensive reports, which will be subject to review by and feedback from TEA, will be due no later than thirty calendar days prior to the report's due date. It is expected that the drafts and final reports be of a quality similar to that which would be submitted to a peer-reviewed scientific or educational journal.

As required by the Terms and Conditions, Section UU Payment, Attachment B, payment for service(s) is contingent upon satisfactory completion of the deliverables which includes meeting the requirements outlined above regarding draft quality as well as alignment to the deliverable definitions described in the RFP. However, the reports must be written for a general audience. Typically, the main body of the report must be tailored towards a general audience, while all details regarding analyses and other technical information must be located in the technical appendices for researchers. It is anticipated that the main body of the comprehensive reports should consist of 100 pages maximum, not including appendices. In general, all written reports must follow the American Psychological Association's (APA) formatting style as well as agency-specific formatting guidelines. Documents must also be compliant with all state and federal regulations for web accessibility (i.e., Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA] compliance) and these regulations shall take precedence when differing from APA format. See <http://www.dir.texas.gov/management/accessibility/pages/overview.aspx>

For each required report, the draft should come first as a single Microsoft Word document that can be edited using track changes. The final, publishable version of each report must come with both a Word version and PDF files of the full report and the executive summary as a standalone file. All PDFs must be web accessible.

D. Ensure the quality of all communication prepared and disseminated

All communication and materials related to this research project and to FitnessGram® must be reviewed and approved by TEA prior to distributing to campuses, districts, administrators, teachers, SIS vendors, and others involved in the implementation of FitnessGram®.

1.7 COLLABORATION

A. Proposer must collaborate and work closely with the appropriate TEA staff for these projects. This includes the following expectations:

1. Ongoing and responsive communication regarding the project
2. Participation in bi-weekly project meetings
3. Continuous, uninterrupted workflow of the project and project management
4. Adhere to project task activity timelines and deliverable due dates, including drafts
5. Timely notification of project-related issues especially that affect reporting timelines
6. Any staffing changes or additions, especially to key staff members, to be approved by TEA prior to acceptance of change
7. Notify TEA within twenty-four hours of requests for data or information from legislative staff, news media, or other key stakeholders
8. High quality drafts of all submitted reports
9. Timely responsiveness to all requests for feedback on all aspects related to research project
10. Adherence to agency policy regarding invoicing
11. Ensure that LEAs have access to their historical data related to FitnessGram®

B. The TEA project manager and program staff will assume the following roles and responsibilities:

1. Work with the Contractor as needed to provide information on changes in legislation, reporting needs, and any other activities that may affect the projects
2. Work with the Contractor to address unforeseen developments, identify problems, and propose solutions
3. Facilitate access to P-20/Workforce Data Repository through the ERC as needed
4. Provide other needed data and documentation deemed necessary such as program specific information

5. Review and approve all data collection instruments and the Contractor's evaluation and analysis plans, including any qualitative and quantitative methodologies and data analyses
6. Monitor the ongoing work of the Contractor as outlined in Contractor-submitted monthly progress reports to ensure compliance with contract terms
7. Approve monthly invoices
8. Review and approve all submitted deliverables for both expected quality and alignment to the deliverable definitions described in Section 1.6, including providing all necessary feedback on all submitted deliverables
9. Monitor proper transmission and destruction of data as appropriate

C. Escalation Procedure

The following procedure will be followed if resolution is required for issues arising during the performance of the project:

1. When a conflict arises between TEA and the Vendor, the TEA program staff will first strive to work out the problem
2. Level 1: If the TEA program staff cannot resolve the conflict within two working days, the TEA Program Manager and Vendor Project Manager will meet to resolve the issue
3. Level 2: If the conflict is not resolved within three working days after escalating to Level 1, the TEA Executive Sponsor will meet with the Vendor Project Executive to resolve the issue.
4. If the conflict remains unresolved after Level 2 intervention, then either party may terminate the contract. If the conflict is addressed by termination, TEA agrees to pay the Vendor for all accepted deliverables through termination.

During any conflict resolution, the Vendor agrees to provide Services relating to items not in dispute, to the extent practicable pending resolution of the conflict. TEA agrees to pay invoices per this solicitation and the contract.

SECTION TWO GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND STANDARD PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

2.1 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION, DATE, AND TIME

WITHOUT EXCEPTION - PROPOSAL MUST BE TIME AND DATE STAMPED BY THE TEA PURCHASING, CONTRACTS AND AGENCY SERVICES DIVISION OFFICE BEFORE:

November 15, 2016 - 2:00 P.M., Central Time (CT)

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope or box, as appropriate, with the Proposer's name, RFP number, and closing date prominently visible on the envelope/package. If multiple envelopes/boxes are used, the Proposer should indicate on the package "*specific item # of total # of items.*" Facsimile transmissions (FAX) of proposals will not be accepted under any circumstances. Proposers must sign the "Execution of Offer, Contract Terms and Conditions, Affirmations, and Proposal Preferences", Attachment B. By signing, the Proposer or the Proposer's legally authorized agent affirms that the all statements within the proposal are true and correct. Discovery of any false statement in the proposal is a material breach and shall void the submitted proposal or any resulting contracts and Proposer shall also be removed from all Contractor lists maintained by the state of Texas.

A. Receipt of Proposals

In establishing the time and date of receipt, the Commissioner of Education will rely solely on the time/date stamp of the PCAS Division Office. Regardless of the method of submitting the proposal—United States Postal Service (USPS), United Parcel Service, Federal Express or any other delivery service—the proposal must be received in the agency's PCAS Division Office by the designated day and time in order to be considered.

TEA WILL NOT accept a USPS postmark and/or round validation stamp, mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the USPS, a dated shipping label, invoice or receipt from a commercial carrier, or any other documentation as proof of receipt of any proposal. Proposers are advised that TEA assumes no responsibility, due to any circumstances, for the receipt of a proposal after the deadline time and date established in this RFP.

B. Proposal Delivery

TEA is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., excluding holidays. Proposals will not be considered if received in PCAS Office after 2:00 P.M. (Central Time) on the closing date. The PCAS Office is located on the 2nd floor of the William B. Travis Building in Austin, Texas. All TEA visitors must register with the TEA Receptionist Desk and receive a visitors badge to visit any area of the agency. In addition, all visitors must be escorted by a TEA employee to the respective area. Be sure to incorporate time for parking and the reception desk when delivering proposals in person. The mailing address is:

Purchasing, Contracts and Agency Services Division, Room 2-125
Texas Education Agency
William B. Travis Building
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701-1494

C. Number of Proposal Copies

Two flash drives and six hardcopies of the proposal must be submitted. The required number of copies of the proposal must be received in the TEA PCAS Division Office before 2:00 P.M. on the established deadline date. Failure to meet this condition shall result in disqualification of the proposal and the proposal shall receive no further consideration. Photocopying is not available at TEA. Additions or replacements to the proposal will not be accepted after the closing date for receiving the proposal in the PCAS Division Office of the Texas Education Agency.

D. Intent to Submit Proposal

All prospective Proposers may notify the Texas Education Agency in writing of their intent to submit a proposal, Attachment A by October 31, 2016 to the TEA PCAS Division Office via email TEAContracts@tea.texas.gov or by Fax (512) 475-1706. Failure to notify TEA of the intent to submit a proposal will not disqualify the Proposer from submitting a proposal.

2.2 EXPECTED SEQUENCE OF EVENTS/CRITICAL DATES

DATE	EVENT
Friday, October 21, 2016	Publication of Request for Proposals in the Electronic State Business Daily at http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/
Monday, October 31, 2016	Notice of Intent to submit a proposal due to TEA PCAS Division Office
Friday, November 4, 2016	Last day to submit written questions about the RFP to PCAS Division Office
Monday, November 7, 2016	Publication of Questions and Answers document in the Electronic State Business Daily at http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/
Tuesday, November 15, 2016	Proposal is due in the TEA PCAS Division before 2:00 P.M., CT
November 15 – 30, 2016	Evaluation process, oral presentations, and /or negotiations
Contract Award	Beginning date of contract and commencement of work
September 30, 2017	Ending date of contract and final product submitted to the TEA with final billing

It should be noted that all of these dates except the final completion date may vary slightly as conditions require.

2.3 QUESTIONS RECEIVED PRIOR TO OPENING OF PROPOSALS

Any person wishing to obtain clarifying information about this Request for Proposal may contact:

Debra Rosas

TEAContracts@tea.texas.gov

(Written documentation of all contractor interaction is required.)

A. Requests for Additional Information

In order to ensure order that no prospective Proposer may obtain a competitive advantage because of acquisition of information unknown to other prospective Proposers, any additional information, that is different from or in addition to, information provided in the RFP will be provided only in response to written inquiries. Copies of all such inquiries and the written answers will be posted as an addendum to the RFP in the ESBD at <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>. The addendum will be updated as needed while the RFP is advertised. The Proposer's failure to periodically check the ESBD will in no way release the selected Contractor from "addenda or additional information" resulting in additional cost to meet the requirements of the RFP. **NO PHONE INQUIRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Any Amendment to this procurement solicitation will be posted as an addendum on the ESBD. If Proposers do not have Internet access, copies may be obtained through the point of contact listed in this RFP. Upon publication of this RFP, besides written inquiries as described above, employees and representatives of TEA will not answer questions or otherwise discuss the contents of the RFP with any potential Contractor or their representatives. If a Proposer fails to observe this restriction, that Proposer's response to this RFP will be disqualified. This restriction does not preclude discussions for the purpose of conducting business unrelated to this RFP. TEA will not be bound by any communication with Proposer's other than the written addenda issued by the Agency.

2.4 STANDARD PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Proposals that address only part of the requirements contained in this Request for Proposal may be considered non-responsive
- B. Texas Education Agency reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to negotiate portions thereof including the submitted cost proposals/budget
- C. TEA reserves the right to select the proposal based on the best value to the state of Texas and the Agency. The Proposer shall furnish additional information that the evaluation team may require in order to complete the evaluation of the proposals submitted. Failure to provide the requested material or information may disqualify the proposal
- D. The Contractor must work with the Agency staff to clarify the project design, project activities, and/or other products, and modify these items if necessary

2.5 STATE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION COSTS

The TEA will not be liable for any costs incurred in the preparation and submittal of a proposal.

2.6 DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENT

After contract award, proposals are subject to release under the Texas Government Code, Chapter 552, Public Information Act. Proposers must indicate on their proposal cover if their submission contains proprietary information. It is recommended that a Proposer identify the specific sections within the proposal that it considers proprietary.

Selected Contractor is required to make any information created or exchanged with the state pursuant to this contract, and not otherwise excepted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to the state. Selected Contractor and TEA will agree on the specific format that will be used.

2.7 HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS (HUB) SUBCONTRACTING PLAN

It is the policy of the TEA to promote and encourage contracting and subcontracting opportunities for HUBs in all contracts. Accordingly, TEA has adopted the Policy on Utilization of HUBs. If the TEA determines that subcontracting opportunities are probable, then a HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) is a required element of the Proposal.

Statement of Probability – TEA has determined that subcontracting opportunities are probable in connection with this procurement. Therefore, ALL Proposers must submit the HSP as a part of the response. The Proposer shall develop and administer the HSP as a part of the Proposer's proposal in accordance with the TEA Policy on Utilization of HUB and state law. Proposer must make a good faith effort and solicit a minimum of three Texas certified Historically Underutilized Businesses from the state's Centralized Master Bidders List (CMBL)/HUB Directory for work that cannot be completed with their own staff and resources. Proposers must also notify minority or women trade organizations or development centers of subcontracting opportunities. Additional requirements are listed in the HSP, Attachment C.

All Proposers are required to submit a HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) for this RFP. If the Proposer is a HUB, a HSP is still required in order to identify the percentage of the work to be performed by subcontractors. If the Proposer (HUB or non-HUB) is not subcontracting any portion of the work, the Self Performance portion of the HSP must be completed and returned with the proposal response.

The HUB Subcontracting goal for this procurement is **26.0%** minority, woman-owned and/or veteran service disabled owned business participation. In the event proposals have equal scores, the proposal with the highest percentage of HUB subcontracting will be awarded the contract.

The HSP will be incorporated into the contract between the TEA and the selected Proposer. Contractors are encouraged to collaborate with TEA to develop mentor protégé opportunities. Under TAC Title 34, §20.14, a proposer's participation in a Mentor Protégé Program under TGC §2161.065, and the submission of a protégé as a subcontractor in the HUB subcontracting plan constitutes a good faith effort for the particular area to be subcontracted with the protégé.

Proposals that are required to submit a HSP and fail to submit the HSP will be rejected for non-compliance with the advertised contract specifications.

The Contractor awarded the contract will be responsible for maintaining business records documenting compliance with HUB Program requirements. The Contractor must submit a Progress Assessment Report (PAR) monthly documenting all subcontractor payments made in the preceding month. Submission of the PAR is a condition for payment. The selected Contractor shall also report all 2nd and 3rd Tier subcontracting in the monthly PAR. PAR's are due no later than the 10th day of the following month. The PAR is required to be submitted monthly, even if no activity occurred for the month. Reports shall be submitted electronically to the HUBOffice@tea.texas.gov.

A. How to Find Texas Certified HUBs for Subcontracting Opportunities

Use the Comptroller's Centralized Master Bidders List (CMBL)/HUB Directory (check both "HUBs on the CMBL" and "HUBs only" or use "All Contractors"). Proposers who are certified as a HUB with the State of Texas are encouraged to submit a proposal for the services requested in this RFP.

1. Open <https://mycpa.cpa.state.tx.us/tpasscmbsearch/index.jsp>
2. Search: ☉ HUBs on CMBL & HUBs only
3. Selections: All Districts (Texas is divided into 25 geographical districts)
 - a. Class Code: #924, Educational and Training Services
Item: #05, Advisory Services, Educational
Item: #19, Educational Research Services

To see the items associated with any particular class, click on the Class number in the Commodity Book at: http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/com_book/index.html

4. Click 'Submit Search'

2.8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A Proposer will not be selected if it has a conflict of interest that will or may arise during the performance of its obligations under the contract. For this reason, Proposer's response to this RFP must disclose any existing or potential conflicts of interest or possible issues that might create appearances of impropriety relative to the submission of a proposal from Proposer and its proposed subcontractors', possible selection as Successful Proposer, or its performance of the Contract.

As part of this disclosure requirement, each Proposer must include in its proposal all past and present contractual, business, financial or personal relationships between Proposer and TEA and between Proposer's proposed subcontractors, if any, and TEA. For purposes of this disclosure requirement, (i) "past" is defined as within the two (2) calendar years prior to the deadline for submission of proposals in response to this RFP; (ii) TEA is defined as the statewide elected official who heads the agency as well as the agency's employees or recent former employees; and (iii) "recent former employees" are defined as those TEA employees who have terminated agency employment within the two (2) calendar years prior to the deadline for submission of proposals in response to this RFP. For each item, Proposer must provide a detailed explanation of why Proposer does or does not believe such item poses a conflict of interest, potential conflict of interest, or appearance of impropriety issue relative to Proposer's submission of a proposal, possible selection as Successful Proposer or its performance of the Contract.

For purposes of this RFP, "personal relationship" is defined as a current or past connection other than a clearly contractual, business, financial, or similar relationship and includes family relationships or other connections outside simply providing a response to this RFP. For this purpose, "family relationship" means a relationship within the third degree of consanguinity or second degree of affinity (see Chapter 573 of the Texas Government Code) which defines these degrees of consanguinity and affinity. Connections other than such family relationships fall within this definition and must be disclosed if a reasonable person could expect the connection to diminish Proposer's independence of judgment or effectiveness in the performance of Proposer's responsibilities to TEA or the State under the Contract. Connections also fall within this definition if a reasonable person could expect the connection, within the overall context of Proposer's submission of a proposal, possible selection as Successful Proposer, or its performance of the Contract, to create an issue for the agency's consideration relative to a potential appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest.

Proposer certifies that they are in compliance with Texas Government Code, Title 6, Subtitle B, Section 669.003 of the Government Code, relating to contracting with executive head of a state agency. If Section 669.003 applies, Proposer will complete the following information in order for the bid to be evaluated:

- a. Name of Former Executive
- b. Name of State Agency
- c. Date of Separation from State Agency
- d. Position with Bidder
- e. Date of Employment with Bidder.

If the circumstances certified by Proposer change or additional information are obtained subsequent to submission of proposals, by submitting a response Proposer agrees that it is under a continuing duty to supplement its response under this provision and that the duty to disclosure of any conflicts of interest is an ongoing obligation throughout the term of the contract. Proposer shall submit updated information as soon as reasonably possible upon learning of any change to their affirmation.

SECTION THREE PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

3.1 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

Proposals must be on 8 ½" x 11" paper and stapled in the top left corner or if bound may be bound in no more than a 3-ring binder. Proposals must be submitted in a manner which does not carry any benefit, keepsake, or value for members of the evaluation team.

A. Proposal Cover Page

Proposals should include a cover page, which clearly states the name of the firm or organization and the name, position, and telephone number of the Proposer’s Project Administrator who may be contacted regarding the proposal, Attachment D.

B. Response Checklist

The checklist is to assist Proposers in ensuring all information is included in the response. Refer to the appropriate section of the RFP for detailed information on the following:

<input type="checkbox"/>	RFP Cover Sheet	Sec. 3.1.1/Attachment D
<input type="checkbox"/>	Understanding of the Project and Methodology	Sec. 3.2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Management Plan	Sec. 3.3
<input type="checkbox"/>	Schedule of Task Completion	Sec. 3.4/Attachment F
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cost Proposal	Sec. 3.5/Attachment E
<input type="checkbox"/>	Analysis Plan Matrix	Sec. 1.5/Attachment G
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposer’s Financial Responsibility	Sec. 3.6
<input type="checkbox"/>	Signed Execution of Offer, Affirmation of Terms and Conditions, and Proposal Preferences	Attachment B
<input type="checkbox"/>	HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP)	Attachment C

3.2 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT AND METHODOLOGY

The proposal must communicate an understanding of prior studies and research in the areas of the project, describe the tasks to be performed, and identify potential problems in the conduct of the project and methods to identify and solve such problems. The Proposer must describe clearly, specifically, and as completely as possible, the methodology for carrying out the objectives and requirements of the project as described in this RFP. The proposal must describe the project design, project activities, materials, and other products, services, and reports to be generated during the contract period and relate them to the stated purposes and specifications described in the RFP. Technical evidence relating to the Proposer’s ability to perform the proposed services must be appended to the proposal. Failure to meet these conditions shall result in disqualification of proposal and the proposal shall receive no further consideration.

3.3 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT

The Proposer must provide satisfactory evidence of capability to manage and coordinate the types of activities described in the RFP and to produce the specified product or service on time. To provide information on qualifications to accomplish the described tasks, Proposers must include in this section the following information:

- A.** Structure of the organization
- B.** Indications of the ability to perform the tasks described in Section 1.5
- C.** Evidence that the Proposer has experience through working on similar projects
- D.** Three (3) current references that include the name of the Agency or entities, the nature of the project, kinds of activities that were performed by the Proposer must be described, and the name and phone number of a contact person from each employing agency/entity must be provided. Names given as references will not affect the scoring. In addition, no employees of TEA can be listed in the proposal as references but may be listed in a separate memo transmitting the proposal. If the Proposer plans to use external consultants or subcontractors, a staff organization and resumes of consultants and/or subcontractors must be included.
- E.** Name of the Proposer’s Project Manager who will direct the overall project throughout the duration of the contract as well as those of staff members who will coordinate major activities during each phase of the contract, and the time allocations that the personnel described will devote to fulfillment of the contract. Proposers must also identify the next level of authority within the organization to escalate issues throughout the term of the contract. The information will be required during the contract kick-off meeting. Resumes of all project staff members shall be submitted as an appendix. If the resumes include references, the references will not be considered in the review.

3.4 TASK/ACTIVITY PLAN

Proposer must plan for a project starting date of no earlier than December 1, 2016 and an ending date of no later than September 30, 2017 if selected as the Contractor. The Proposer must submit a Task/Activity Plan, Attachment F, specifying the completion of tasks and the delivery by specified dates. Timelines showing beginning and ending dates for each major task are to be included, as well as the name(s) of person(s) responsible for each task. Activities must be sufficiently designed and outlined in the Task/Activity Plan that will provide evidence of satisfactory delivery of services and products. Time frames must be logical and appropriate to complete all activities within the beginning and ending dates of the contract. Failure to meet this condition shall result in disqualification of proposal and the proposal shall receive no further consideration.

3.5 COST PROPOSAL

The Proposer must submit a Cost Proposal detailing costs necessary to accomplish the project objectives and activities outlined in the Task/Activity Plan. It is recommended that budget detail be submitted in Excel compatible or Excel format. Costs must be justified in terms of activities and objects of expenditure and must be reasonable (i.e., consistent with current market price) and necessary to accomplish the objectives of the project. The budget must evidence that financial resources are adequately and appropriately allocated among tasks in a cost-effective and prudent business manner to accomplish project objectives and activities. Services to be purchased from other agencies, subcontractors, including any amounts subcontracted to HUBs, consultants, and others must be specified.

Payment will be made upon satisfactory performance of services, receipt by the Texas Education Agency of specified deliverables, and receipt of properly prepared and certified invoices/expenditure reports. Failure to meet these conditions shall result in disqualification of proposal and the proposal shall receive no further consideration.

3.6 PROPOSER'S FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

All private sector companies, individuals, or non-profit organizations may be required to submit prior to award indicators of financial stability. For example:

- a. Private companies may be asked to submit their most recent audited financial statement or a certified public accountant-compiled financial report
- b. Nonprofits may be asked to submit an audited financial statement, a certified public accountant-compiled financial report, or similar document
- c. Individuals may be asked to submit those documents which depict their financial stability, such as an audited proprietorship financial statement, statement from a certified public accountant or banker, or a statement from contractors or suppliers

Nonprofit organizations may also be required to submit proof of nonprofit status. A Proposer may show that it is a nonprofit organization by any of the following means:

- a. A copy of a letter from the Internal Revenue Service recognizing that contributions to the organization are tax deductible under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
- b. A statement from a state taxing body or the state attorney general certifying that the organization is a nonprofit organization operating within the state and that no part of its net earnings may lawfully benefit any private shareholder or individual
- c. A certified copy of the Proposer's certificate of incorporation or similar document if it clearly establishes the nonprofit status of the Proposer
- d. Any item described above if that item applies to a state or national parent organization, together with a statement by the parent organization that it is a local nonprofit affiliate

Failure to meet this condition, if requested, shall result in a non-award. TEA will commence negotiations with the next high point Proposer.

SECTION FOUR REVIEW OF PROPOSALS

4.1 REVIEW OF PROPOSALS

Review of proposals will begin as soon as practical after receipt. Proposers receiving the most favorable ratings during the first round of selection will be asked to send a representative to Austin, Texas, at a time and place to be arranged for oral presentation of proposals. Proposals will be rated again following oral presentations. The evaluation team shall consist of TEA staff knowledgeable in the content area, and may also include reviewers from outside the Agency with expertise in the area. The recommendations of the review panel will be assembled and presented to senior executive agency staff who will:

1. Approve the proposal in whole or in part
2. Disapprove the proposal
3. Defer action on the proposal for such reasons as a requirement for further evaluation

By law, the Agency may not disclose any information until a contract is executed by both parties. Upon contract award, TEA will post the contract award notice to the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD) at: <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>. Additional copies of proposals not selected for funding will be destroyed in accordance with the agency approved records retention policy.

4.2 SELECTION CRITERIA

Proposals will be selected based on the ability of each Proposer to carry out all of the requirements contained in this RFP. A Proposer who is in default or otherwise not in good standing under any other current or prior contract with TEA at the time of selection will not be eligible for award of this contract. TEA will base its selection on, among other things, demonstrated competence, qualifications of the Proposer, past Contractor performance, and the proposed budget/cost. All state agencies report unsatisfactory Contractor performance on purchases over \$25,000. Agencies report satisfactory and exceptional Contractor performance to assist in determining best value. In accordance with Texas Government Code, §2155.074 and §2155.75, Contractor performance shall be used as a factor in future contract awards. Following are the criteria and the total number of points of each portion of the RFP that will be applied in selecting a Contractor:

CATEGORIES	POSSIBLE POINTS
A. Quality of Technical Component 1. Clear description of details for carrying out project (10) 2. Understanding and/or experience with similar studies and research (10) 3. Adequacy and appropriateness of project design (20)	40
B. Quality of Management Component 1. Personnel qualifications, including appropriate combination of programmatic, research/evaluation, and technical skill sets and experience (10) 2. Experience of organization in managing education-related research and evaluation projects of similar scope to that described in the RFP (10)	20
C. Quality of Task/Activity Plan 1. Logical and appropriate time frames for completing project objectives (10) 2. Strategies and activities are of sufficient scope and detail to provide evidence of satisfactory delivery of services and products (15)	25
D. Cost-Effectiveness and Appropriateness of Financial Resources Dedicated to Project 1. Costs are appropriately aligned with major program objectives (15) 2. Costs associated with specific activities and tasks are reasonable for the work proposed (15)	30
TOTAL	115

A. Preference(s)

The Agency shall also give preference, among proposals that are otherwise comparable, to a proposal submitted by a Texas Resident Bidder (TX based company) and/or a HUB. In the event of a tie, the Proposer with the highest percentage of HUB subcontracting will be awarded the contract.

SECTION FIVE CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS

5.1 CONTRACTOR'S PROPOSAL

The selected proposal will be incorporated into the contract prepared by the TEA for signature by the contracting parties.

5.2 PROJECT REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

TEA reserves the right to review any materials, and/or products developed or adapted by the Contractor. Upon completion of the contract period, all documents will be returned to TEA or destroyed accordingly. All documents created at any time during the contract period belong to TEA. The TEA Project Manager will establish procedures for communicating phase out and transition of the deliverable(s).

5.3 PAYMENT

All payments are made in accordance with Texas Government Code [§2251.001](#) et seq. Payments for Goods and Services. Unless otherwise indicated by the TEA, payment is only by reimbursement upon satisfactory performance of services.

Payment is contingent upon submission of properly prepared invoices. The information provided on each detailed report must coincide with the tasks outlined in the approved budget, as negotiated by the TEA. The TEA Project Manager will approve invoices based upon project progress, task completion, deliverables received, and satisfactory performance of services as outlined in the progress report. The invoice shall note the period of time payment is for, the agreed upon monthly amount, contract number, purchase order number, and the Texas comptroller of Public Accounts Payee Identification Number (TIN).

According to guidelines set forth by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, the payment scheduling policy requires agencies to pay as close to the due date as possible in order to maximize fiscal benefits to the state. Payments are due from TEA 30-days from receipt of a correct and complete invoice.

Notice of Intent to Submit A Proposal
RFP #701-17-007
Physical Fitness Assessment Data Analysis

The undersigned organization hereby files a notice of intent to submit a proposal:

Name of Organization:	
Mailing Address:	
Contact Person:	
E-Mail:	
Phone Number:	
FAX:	

- Filing of this notice is not mandatory; however, it will assist the Texas Education Agency in anticipating the volume of proposals in order to better expedite the review process and finalize contract awards.
- The information from the Notice of intent may also be provided to HUB contractors (if requested) to help establish subcontracting relationships for this solicitation as well as future solicitations with the agency.
- Filing this notice in no way binds the organization to submit a proposal for this RFP.
- Proposers who do not file this notice are still eligible to submit a proposal.

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS NOTICE BY E-MAIL OR FAX AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER RECEIPT OF THE RFP, BUT NOT LATER THAN, OCTOBER 31, 2016 TO:

TEAContracts@tea.texas.gov
 Texas Education Agency
 Attention: Debra Rosas
 Purchasing, Contracts and Agency Services (PCAS) Division
 FAX (512) 475-1706

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER**A. Definitions as used in these Contract Terms and Conditions:**

1. *Contract* means the document entered into between TEA and Contractor or Performing Agency, including all of TEA's attachments, appendices, schedules (including, but not limited to the General Provisions and the Special Provisions), amendments and extensions of or to the Contract.
2. *TEA, Receiving Agency, or Owner* means the Texas Education Agency.
3. *Proposer, Respondent, or Bidder* identifies a person or entity who responds to the following specific competitive solicitations; Proposer or Respondent (may be used interchangeably) responds to a Request for Proposal; Respondent responds to a Request for Qualifications, Bidder responds to an Invitation for Bid. Proposer, Respondent, and Bidder infer pre-solicitation award status and Contractor infers post-award status.
4. *Proposal, or Response, or Bid Package*, is what a Proposer, or Respondent, or Bidder submits in response to the following specific competitive solicitations: a Proposal or Response (may be used interchangeably) is submitted for a Request for Proposal; a Response is submitted for a Request for Qualifications; a Bid Package is submitted for an Invitation for Bid;
5. *Contractor or Performing Agency* means the party to this Contract who is providing the contracted goods or services to TEA, the Receiving Agency.
6. *Project Manager/Administrator* means the respective person(s) representing TEA or Contractor, as indicated by the Contract, for the purposes of administering the Contract Project.
7. *Contract Project* means the purpose intended to be achieved through the Contract.
8. *Amendment* means a contract document used to formalize additions or changes to the Contract mutually agreed to by both Parties.
9. *Major Contract* means any contract that has a value of at least \$1 million pursuant to [Texas Government Code Section 2262.001\(4\)](#).
10. *Works* means all tangible or intangible material, products, ideas, documents or works of authorship prepared or created by Contractor for or on behalf of TEA at any time after the beginning date of the Contract. "Works" includes but is not limited to computer software, data, information, images, illustrations, designs, graphics, drawings, educational materials, assessment forms, testing materials, logos, trademarks, patentable materials, etc. "Works" does not include any pre-existing materials of Contractor, or any licensed third party materials provided by Contractor.
11. *Intellectual Property Rights* means the worldwide intangible legal rights or interests evidenced by or embodied in: (a) any idea, design, concept, method, process, technique, apparatus, invention, discovery, or improvement, including any patents, trade secrets, and know-how; (b) any work of authorship, including any copyrights, moral rights or neighboring rights; (c) any trademark, service mark, trade dress, trade name, or other indicia of source or origin; (d) domain name registrations; and (e) any other similar rights. The Intellectual Property Rights of a party include all worldwide intangible legal rights or interests that the party may have acquired by assignment or license with the right to grant sublicenses.
12. *TEA Confidential Information* means information that is confidential under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Texas Public Information Act, or other applicable state or federal laws. Examples of TEA Confidential Information include: (a) personally identifiable student information; (b) social security numbers; (c) driver's license numbers; (d) criminal background checks; (e) e-mail address of a member of the public, unless the individual waives his or her right to e-mail confidentiality by affirmatively consenting to disclose the e-mail address or the individual seeks to contract or has a contract with TEA; (e) certain personnel information concerning a TEA employee including home address, home telephone number, emergency contact information, and family member information (if the employee elects in writing to keep this information confidential), personal medical information, and information reflecting personal financial decisions such as the employee's choice of insurance carrier or choice to contribute money to a 401(k); (f) biometric identifiers such as fingerprints; (g) information about security vulnerabilities in TEA systems; and (h) SAS data sets.

B. Funding Out Clause: This Contract is contingent upon the availability of funding. If funds become unavailable through lack of appropriations, legislative or executive budget cuts, amendment of the Appropriations Act, state agency consolidations, or any other disruptions of current appropriations, this Contract is void upon the insufficiency (in TEA's discretion) or unavailability of appropriated funds. In addition, this Contract may be terminated by TEA at any time for any reason upon notice to Contractor. Expenditures and/or activities for which Contractor may claim reimbursement shall not be accrued or claimed subsequent to receipt of such notice from TEA.

C. Indemnification:Acts or Omissions

Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State of Texas and TEA, AND/OR THEIR OFFICERS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEY FEES, AND EXPENSES arising out of, or resulting from any acts or omissions of Contractor or its agents, employees, subcontractors, order fulfillers, or suppliers of subcontractors in the execution or performance of the Contract and any purchase orders issued under the Contract. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY CONTRACTOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND CONTRACTOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. CONTRACTOR AND TEA AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM.

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFERInfringements

1. Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State of Texas and the TEA, AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES from any and all third party claims involving infringement of United States patents, copyrights, trade and service marks, and any other intellectual or intangible property rights in connection with the PERFORMANCES OR ACTIONS OF CONTRACTOR PURSUANT TO THIS CONTRACT. CONTRACTOR AND TEA AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY CONTRACTOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND CONTRACTOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.
2. Contractor shall have no liability under this section if the alleged infringement is caused in whole or in part by: (i) use of the product or service for a purpose or in a manner for which the product or service was not designed, (ii) any modification made to the product without Contractor's written approval, (iii) any modifications made to the product by Contractor pursuant to TEA's specific instructions, (iv) any intellectual property right owned by or licensed to TEA, or (v) any use of the product or service by TEA that is not in conformity with the terms of any applicable license agreement.
3. If Contractor becomes aware of an actual or potential claim, or TEA provides Contractor with notice of an actual or potential claim, Contractor may (or in the case of an injunction against TEA, shall), at Contractor's sole option and expense; (i) procure for the TEA the right to continue to use the affected portion of the product or service, or (ii) modify or replace the affected portion of the product or service with functionally equivalent or superior product or service so that TEA's use is non-infringing.

Taxes/Workers' Compensation/Unemployment Insurance – Including Indemnity

CONTRACTOR AGREES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS CONTRACT, CONTRACTOR SHALL BE ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LIABILITY AND PAYMENT OF CONTRACTOR'S AND CONTRACTOR 'S EMPLOYEES' TAXES OF WHATEVER KIND, ARISING OUT OF THE PERFORMANCES IN THIS CONTRACT. CONTRACTOR AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS APPLICABLE TO ANY SUCH PERSONS, INCLUDING LAWS REGARDING WAGES, TAXES, INSURANCE, AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION. TEA AND/OR THE STATE SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO CONTRACTOR, ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, OR OTHERS FOR THE PAYMENT OF TAXES OR THE PROVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION OR ANY BENEFIT AVAILABLE TO A STATE EMPLOYEE OR EMPLOYEE OF ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY CUSTOMER.

CONTRACTOR AGREES TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS TEA, THE STATE OF TEXAS AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, AND/OR ASSIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEYS' FEES, AND EXPENSES, RELATING TO TAX LIABILITY, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION IN ITS PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS CONTRACT. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY CONTRACTOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND CONTRACTOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. CONTRACTOR AND TEA AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM.

For local educational agencies (LEAs), regional education service centers (ESCs), public institutions of higher education (IHEs), and state agencies: Contractor or Performing Agency, to the extent permitted by law, shall hold TEA harmless from and shall indemnify TEA against any and all claims, demands, and causes of action of whatever kind or nature asserted by any third party and occurring or in any way incident to, arising from, or in connection with, any acts of Contractor or Performing Agency in performance of the Contract.

- D. Assignments, Transfers, Subcontracting and Substitutions:** Contractor shall not assign, transfer, subcontract or substitute any of its rights or responsibilities under this Contract without prior formal written amendment to this Contract properly executed by both TEA and Contractor. TEA reserves the right to request changes in personnel assigned to the project. The TEA Project Manager must pre-approve any changes in key personnel throughout the contract term. Any changes to the HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) must be approved by TEA HUB Coordinator before staffing changes are initiated. Substitutions are not permitted without written approval of TEA Project Manager. The awarded Contractor will be responsible for maintaining business records documenting compliance with HUB Program requirements. Contractor shall submit a Progress Assessment Report (PAR) monthly documenting all subcontractor payments made in the preceding month. Submission of the PAR is a condition for payment. The selected Contractor shall also report all 2nd and 3rd Tier subcontracting in the monthly PAR. PAR's are due no later than the 10th day of the following month. The PAR is required to be submitted monthly, even if no activity occurred for the month. Reports shall be submitted electronically to the HUBOffice@tea.texas.gov. In addition to the PAR, Contractor shall also create and maintain a monitoring report to document that it is diligently monitoring and enforcing subcontractor compliance with the Contract. When requested by TEA, Contractor shall furnish TEA with satisfactory proof of its compliance with this provision.

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

- E. Encumbrances/Obligations:** All encumbrances, accounts payable, and expenditures shall occur on or between the beginning and ending dates of this Contract. All goods must have been received and all services rendered during the Contract period in order for Contractor to recover funds due. In no manner shall encumbrances be considered or reflected as accounts payable or as expenditures.
- F. Contractor's Proposal:** Contractor's Proposal that was furnished to TEA in response to the competitive solicitation (Request for Proposal) is incorporated in this Contract by reference. The provisions of this Contract shall prevail, however, in all cases of conflict arising from the terms of Contractor's Proposal whether such Proposal is a written part of this Contract or is attached as a separate document.
- G. Requirements, Terms, Conditions, and Assurances:** The terms, conditions, and assurances, which are stated in the competitive solicitation, in response to which Contractor submitted a Proposal, Response or Bid Package, are incorporated herein by reference for all purposes, although the current General Provisions shall prevail in the event of conflict.
- H. Records Retention and the Right to Audit:** Contractor shall maintain its records and accounts in a manner which shall assure a full accounting for all funds received and expended by Contractor in connection with the Contract Project. These records and accounts shall be retained by Contractor and made available for programmatic or financial audit by TEA and by others authorized by law or regulation to make such an audit for a period of not less than 7 years from the date of completion of the Contract Project or the date of the receipt by TEA of Contractor's final claim for payment or final expenditure report in connection with this Contract, whichever is later. If an audit has been announced, the records shall be retained until such audit has been completed.

Pursuant to [Section 2262.154](#) of the Texas Government Code, the state auditor may conduct an audit or investigation of Contractor or any other entity or person receiving funds from the state directly under this Contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this Contract. The acceptance of funds by Contractor or any other entity or person directly under this Contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this Contract acts as acceptance of the authority of the state auditor, under the direction of the legislative audit committee to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Under the direction of the legislative audit committee, Contractor or other entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the state auditor must provide the state auditor with access to any information the state auditor considers relevant to the investigation or audit. Contractor will ensure that this clause concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through Contractor and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract it awards.

Contractor further agrees that acceptance of funds under this Contract acts as acceptance for TEA to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Contractor, subcontractors, and any entities receiving funds through this Contract shall cooperate fully with TEA in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records pertaining to this Contract that are requested.

- I. Intellectual Property Ownership:** Contractor agrees that all Works are, upon creation, works made for hire and the sole property of TEA. If the Works are, under applicable law, not considered works made for hire, Contractor hereby assigns to TEA all worldwide ownership of all rights, including the Intellectual Property Rights, in the Works, without the necessity of any further consideration, and TEA can obtain and hold in its own name all such rights to the Works. Contractor agrees to maintain written agreements with all officers, directors, employees, agents, representatives and subcontractors engaged by Contractor for the Contract Project, granting Contractor rights sufficient to support the performance and grant of rights to TEA by Contractor. Copies of such agreements shall be provided to TEA promptly upon request.

Contractor warrants that (i) it has the authority to grant the rights herein granted, (ii) it has not assigned or transferred any right, title, or interest to the Works or Intellectual Property Rights that would conflict with its obligations under the Contract, and Contractor will not enter into any such agreements, and (iii) the Works will be original and will not infringe any intellectual property rights of any other person or entity. These warranties will survive the termination of the Contract. If any preexisting rights are embodied in the Works, Contractor grants to TEA the irrevocable, perpetual, non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free right and license to (a) use, execute, reproduce, display, perform, distribute copies of, and prepare derivative works based upon such preexisting rights and any derivative works thereof and (b) authorize others to do any or all of the foregoing. Contractor agrees to notify TEA on delivery of the Works if they include any such preexisting rights. On request, Contractor will provide TEA with documentation indicating a third party's written approval for Contractor to use any preexisting rights that may be embodied or reflected in the Works.

Contractor agrees, at Contractor's expense, to indemnify, hold harmless and defend TEA and the State from claims involving infringement of third parties' licenses, trademarks, copyrights or patents.

For School Districts and Nonprofit Organizations: The foregoing Intellectual Property Ownership provisions apply to any school districts, nonprofit organizations, and their employees, agents, representatives, consultants and subcontractors.

For Education Service Centers (ESCs): The foregoing Intellectual Property Ownership provisions apply to an ESC and its employees, agents, representatives, consultants, and subcontractors. If an ESC or any of its subcontractor(s) wish to obtain a license agreement to use, advertise, offer for sale, sell, distribute, publicly display, publicly perform or reproduce the Works, or make derivative works from the Works, then express written permission must first be obtained from TEA's Office of Legal Services.

For Colleges and Universities: The foregoing Intellectual Property Ownership provisions apply to any colleges and universities and their employees, agents, representatives, consultants, and subcontractors; provided, that for all Works created or conceived by colleges or universities under the Contract, they are granted a non-exclusive, non-transferable, royalty-free license to use the Works for their own academic and educational purposes only. Colleges and universities are

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

prohibited, however, from advertising, offering for sale, selling, distributing, publicly displaying, publicly performing, or reproducing the Works, or making derivative works from the Works that are created or conceived under this Contract, without the express written permission of TEA's Office of Deputy Commissioner for Finance.

J. Time Delays, Suspension, Sanctions for Failure to Perform, and Noncompliance:Time is of the Essence.

Contractor's timely performance is essential to this contract.

Suspension

If this Contract is suspended by TEA prior to its expiration date, the reasonable monetary value of services properly performed by Contractor pursuant to this contract prior to suspension shall be determined by TEA and paid to Contractor as soon as reasonably possible. TEA shall not be required to pay any standby hourly rates during a suspension of Work, if TEA suspends performance of the Work because the Work is defective, or Contractor fails to supply sufficiently skilled workers or suitable materials or equipment, or fails to provide required insurance coverage, or fails to furnish or perform the Work in such a way that the completed Work will conform to this Contract.

Sanctions

If Contractor, in TEA's sole determination, fails or refuses for any reason to comply with or perform any of its obligations under this Contract, TEA may impose such sanctions as it may deem appropriate. This includes but is not limited to the withholding of payments to Contractor until Contractor complies; the cancellation, termination, or suspension of this Contract in whole or in part; and the seeking of other remedies as may be provided by this Contract or by law. Any cancellation, termination, or suspension of this Contract, if imposed, shall become effective at the close of business on the day of Contractor's receipt of written notice thereof from TEA.

K. Information Security Requirements, Proprietary, FERPA and Confidential Information:Access to TEA Confidential Information

Contractor represents and warrants that it will take all necessary and appropriate action within its abilities to safeguard TEA Confidential Information and to protect it from unauthorized disclosure. If Contractor discloses any TEA Confidential Information to a subcontractor or agent, Contractor will require the subcontractor or agent to comply with the same restrictions and obligations as are imposed on Contractor. Whenever communications with Contractor necessitate the release of TEA Confidential Information, additional TEA Confidential forms will need to be signed by each individual who will require access to or may be exposed to that information. Contractor shall access TEA's systems or TEA Confidential Information only for the purposes for which it is authorized. TEA reserves the right to review Contractor's security policy to ensure that any data that is on Contractor's servers is secure. Contractor shall cooperate fully by making resources, personnel, and systems access available to TEA and TEA's authorized representative(s).

Contractor shall ensure that any TEA Confidential Information in the custody of Contractor is properly sanitized or destroyed when the information is no longer required to be retained by TEA or Contractor in accordance with this contract. Electronic media used for storing any TEA Confidential Information must be sanitized by clearing, purging or destroying in accordance with such standards established by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Center for Internet Security. These standards are also required if Contractor is collecting, maintaining, or analyzing data gathered, collected, or provided under this Contract. Contractor must maintain a record documenting the removal and completion of all sanitization procedures with the following information:

1. Date and time of sanitization/destruction;
2. Description of the item(s) and serial number(s) if applicable;
3. Inventory number(s); and
4. Procedures and tools used for sanitization/destruction.

No later than 60 days from Contract expiration or termination or as otherwise specified in this Contract, Contractor must complete the sanitization and destruction of the data and provide to TEA documentation that the sanitization has been completed. The documents must be certified by an authorized agent of the company.

FERPA

Contractor, its employees and subcontractor's, agree that in executing tasks on behalf of the TEA, they will not use any student-identifying information in any way that violates the provisions of FERPA, and will destroy or return all student-identifying information within 60 days of project completion. Contractor also agrees not to disclose any information to which it is privy under this Contract without the prior consent of the agency.

Access to Internal TEA Network and Systems

As a condition of gaining remote access to any internal TEA network and systems, Contractor must comply with TEA's policies and procedures. TEA's remote access request procedures will require Contractor to submit TEA Applicable Access Request forms for TEA's review and approval. Remote access technologies provided by Contractor must be approved by TEA's Information Security Officer. TEA, in its sole discretion, may deny network or system access to any individual that does not complete the required forms. Contractor must secure its own connected systems in a manner consistent with TEA's requirements. TEA reserves the right to audit the security measures in effect on Contractor's connected systems without prior warning. TEA also reserves the right to immediately terminate network and system connections not meeting such requirements.

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

Disclosure of Security Breach

Contractor shall provide notice to TEA’s Project Manager and TEA’s Information Security Officer as soon as possible following Contractor’s discovery or reasonable belief that there has been unauthorized use, exposure, access, disclosure, compromise, modification, or loss of sensitive or TEA Confidential Information (“Security Incident”). Within 24 hours of the discovery or reasonable belief of a Security Incident, Contractor shall provide a written report to TEA’s Information Security Officer detailing the circumstances of the incident which includes at a minimum:

1. Description of the nature of the Security Incident;
2. The type of TEA information involved;
3. Who may have obtained the information;
4. What steps Contractor has taken or will take to investigate the Security Incident;
5. What steps Contractor has taken or will take to mitigate any negative effect of the Security Incident; and
6. A point of contact for additional information.

Each day thereafter until the investigation is complete, Contractor shall provide TEA’s Information Security Officer with a written report regarding the status of the investigation and the following additional information as it becomes available:

1. Who is known or suspected to have gained unauthorized access to TEA information;
2. Whether there is any knowledge if TEA information has been abused or compromised;
3. What additional steps Contractor has taken or will take to investigate the Security Incident;
4. What steps Contractor has taken or will take to mitigate any negative effect of the Security Incident; and
5. What corrective action Contractor has taken or will take to prevent future similar unauthorized use or disclosure.

Contractor shall confer with TEA’s Chief Information Security Officer regarding the proper course of the investigation and risk mitigation. TEA reserves the right to conduct an independent investigation of any Security Incident, and should TEA choose to do so, Contractor shall cooperate fully by making resources, personnel, and systems access available to TEA and TEA’s authorized representative(s). Subject to review and approval of TEA’s Information Security Officer, Contractor, at its own cost, shall provide notice that satisfies the requirements of applicable law to individuals whose personal, confidential, or privileged data were compromised or likely compromised as a result of the Security Incident. If TEA, in its sole discretion, elects to send its own separate notice, then all costs associated with preparing and providing notice shall be reimbursed to TEA by Contractor. If Contractor does not reimburse such costs within 30 days of TEA’s written request, then TEA shall have the right to collect such costs.

- L. Refunds Due to TEA:** If TEA determines that TEA is due a refund of money paid to Contractor pursuant to this Contract, Contractor shall pay the money due to TEA within 30 days of Contractor’s receipt of written notice that such money is due to TEA. If Contractor fails to make timely payment, TEA may obtain such money from Contractor by any means permitted by law, including but not limited to offset, counterclaim, cancellation, termination, suspension, total withholding, and/or disapproval of all or any subsequent applications for said funds.
- M. Capital Outlay:** If Contractor purchases capital outlay (furniture and/or equipment) to accomplish the Contract Project, title will remain with Contractor for the period of the Contract. TEA reserves the right to transfer capital outlay items for Contract noncompliance during the Contract period or as needed after the ending date of the Contract. This provision applies to any and all furniture and/or equipment regardless of unit price and how the item is classified in Contractor’s accounting record. This provision is applicable when federal funds are utilized for the Contract.
- N. TEA Property (terms):** In the event of loss, damage or destruction of any property owned by or loaned by TEA while in the custody or control of Contractor, Contractor shall indemnify TEA and pay to TEA the full value of or the full cost of repair or replacement of such property, whichever is the greater, within 30 days of Contractor’s receipt of written notice of TEA’s determination of the amount due. This applies whether the property is developed or purchased by Contractor pursuant to this Contract or is provided by TEA to Contractor for use in the Contract Project. If Contractor fails to make timely payment, TEA may obtain such money from Contractor by any means permitted by law, including but not limited to offset or counterclaim against any money otherwise due to Contractor by TEA.
- O. Governing Law, Venue, and Jurisdiction:** Subject to and without waiving any of TEA’s rights, including sovereign immunity, this Contract is governed by and construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Venue for any suit concerning the solicitation, this Contract, and any resulting contract or purchase order shall be in a court of competent jurisdiction in Travis County, Texas.
- P. Point of Contact and Escalation:** All notices, reports and correspondence required by this Contract shall be in writing and delivered to TEA Project Manager listed below or their successors in office. Within 30 days of execution of this Contract, the respective Parties will designate the next level of personnel within each organization to address conflicts or ambiguity that cannot be resolved at the Project Manager level.

TEA	CONTRACTOR
Texas Education Agency	
1701 N. Congress Ave	
Austin, Texas 78701	
Email:	

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

- Q. Federal Rules, Laws, and Regulations that apply to all Federal Programs:** Contractor shall be subject to and shall abide by all federal laws, rules, and regulations, pertaining to the Contract Project, including, but not limited to:
1. Americans With Disabilities Act, P.L. 101-336, 42 U.S.C. sec. 12101, and the regulations effectuating its provisions contained in 28 CFR Parts 35 and 36, 29 CFR Part 1630, and 47 CFR Parts 0 and 64;
 2. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (prohibition of discrimination by race, color, or national origin), and the regulations effectuating its provisions contained in 34 CFR Part 100;
 3. Title IX of the Education Amendments 1972, as amended (prohibition of sex discrimination in educational institutions) and the regulations effectuating its provisions contained in 34 CFR Part 106, if Contractor is an educational institution;
 4. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (nondiscrimination on the basis of handicapping condition), and the regulations effectuating its provisions contained in 34 CFR Parts 104 and 105;
 5. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (prohibition of discrimination on basis of age), and the implementing regulations contained in 34 CFR, Part 110;
 6. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1975, as amended, and the implementing regulations contained in 34 CFR, Part 99, if Contractor is an educational institution;
 7. Section 509 of H.R. 5233 as incorporated by reference in P.L. 99-500 and P.L. 99-591 (prohibition against the use of federal grant funds to influence legislation pending before Congress);
 8. P.L. 103-227, Title X, Miscellaneous Provisions of the GOALS 2000: Educate America Act; P.L. 103-382, Title XIV, General Provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended; and
 9. General Education Provisions Act, as amended.
- The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)** annual edition is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the departments and agencies of the Federal Government produced by the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) and the Government Publishing Office. Website: http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=6214841a79953f26c5c230d72d6b70a1&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl
- R. Forms, Assurances, and Reports:** Contractor shall timely make and file with the proper authorities all forms, assurances and reports required by federal laws and regulations. TEA shall be responsible for reporting to the proper authorities any failure by Contractor to comply with the foregoing laws and regulations coming to TEA's attention, and may deny payment or recover payments made by TEA to Contractor in the event of Contractor's failure so to comply. Contractor who is indebted or owes delinquent taxes to the state will have any payments under the Contract applied toward the debt or delinquent taxes owed the state until the account is paid in full, regardless of when the debt or delinquency was incurred. This provision does not apply if the warrant or transfer results in payments being made in whole or in part with money paid to the state by the Federal Government. Pursuant to 34 TAC §201.14 -18 and Texas Government Code, Chapter 2161, Contractors shall maintain business records documenting compliance with the HUB subcontracting plan (HSP) and shall submit a compliance report to TEA monthly, in the format required by TEA. The compliance report submission shall be required as a condition for payment. If Contractor subcontracts any part of the Contract in a manner that is not consistent with its HSP, the selected respondent must submit a revised HSP before subcontracting any of the work under the Contract. If Contractor subcontracts any of the work without prior authorization and without complying with this section, Contractor is deemed to have breached the Contract and is subject to any remedial actions provided by Government Code, Chapter 2161, and other applicable state law.
- S. Signature Authority, Final Expression, and Superseding Document:** Contractor certifies that the person signing this Contract has been properly delegated this authority. The Contract represents the final and complete expression of the terms of agreement between the parties. The Contract supersedes any previous understandings or negotiations between the parties. Any representations, oral statements, promises or warranties that differ from the Contract shall have no force or effect. The Contract may be modified, amended or extended only by formal written amendment properly executed by both TEA and Contractor.
- T. Antitrust:** By signing this Contract, Contractor, represents and warrants that neither Contractor nor any firm, corporation, partnership, or institution represented by Contractor, or anyone acting for such firm, corporation or institution has, (1) violated the antitrust laws of the State of Texas under [Texas Business and Commerce Code Chapter 15](#), or the federal antitrust laws; or (2) communicated directly or indirectly the Proposal to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business during the procurement process for this Contract.
- U. Family Code Applicability:** By signing this Contract, Contractor, if other than a state party, certifies that under Section 231.006, Family Code, that Contractor is not ineligible to receive specified grant, loan, or payment under this Contract and acknowledges that this Contract may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate. TEA reserves the right to terminate this Contract if Contractor is found to be ineligible to receive payment. If Contractor is found to be ineligible to receive payment and the Contract is terminated, Contractor is liable to TEA for attorney's fees, the costs necessary to complete the Contract, including the cost of advertising and awarding a second contract, and any other damages or relief provided by law or equity.
- V. Dispute Resolution:** The dispute resolution process provided for in [Chapter 2260](#) of the Texas Government Code must be used by TEA and Contractor to attempt to resolve all disputes arising under this Contract. The parties may agree to mediation of their dispute at any time. However, if all issues in dispute are not completely resolved through direct negotiations between the parties within 180 days after TEA receives Contractor's notice of claim, then the parties must submit the dispute to mediation before a mutually acceptable mediator in Travis County, Texas. The mediation must be

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

completed on or before 270 days after TEA receives Contractor's notice of claim. Completion of the mediation is a condition precedent to the filing of a contested case hearing under Chapter 2260. TEA's participation in mediation or any other dispute resolution process shall not waive any of TEA's contractual or legal rights and remedies, including but not limited to sovereign immunity.

- W. Interpretation:** In the case of conflicts arising in the interpretation of wording and/or meaning of various sections, parts, Appendices, General Provisions, Special Provisions, Exhibits, and Attachments or other documents; this Contract and its General Provisions, Appendices and Special Provisions shall take precedence over all other documents which are a part of this Contract.
- X. Compliance with Laws:** Contractor shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations, and the orders and decrees of any court or administrative bodies or tribunals in any matter affecting Contractor's performance, including if applicable, workers' compensation laws, minimum and maximum salary and wage statutes and regulations, prompt payment and licensing laws and regulations. For the entire duration of the Contract, Contractor shall maintain all required licenses, certifications, permits, and any other documentation necessary to perform this Contract. When required or requested by TEA, Contractor shall furnish TEA with satisfactory proof of its compliance with this provision.
- Y. Public Information:** TEA is subject to the provisions of the [Texas Public Information Act](#). If a request for disclosure of this Contract or any information related to the goods or services provided under the Contract or information provided to TEA under this Contract constituting a record under the Act is received by TEA, the information must qualify for an exception provided by the Act in order to be withheld from public disclosure. Contractor authorizes TEA to submit any information contained in the Contract, provided under the Contract, or otherwise requested to be disclosed, including information Contractor has labeled as confidential proprietary information, to the Office of the Attorney General for a determination as to whether any such information may be exempt from public disclosure under the Act. If TEA does not have a good faith belief that information may be subject to an exception to disclosure, TEA is not obligating itself by this Contract to submit the information to the Attorney General. It shall be the responsibility of Contractor to make any legal argument to the Attorney General or appropriate court of law regarding the exception of the information in question from disclosure. Contractor waives any claim against and releases from liability TEA, its officers, employees, agents, and attorneys with respect to disclosure of information provided under or in this Contract or otherwise created, assembled, maintained, or held by Contractor and determined by the Attorney General or a court of law to be subject to disclosure under the Act.
- Under [Section 2252.907](#) of the Texas Government Code, a contract between a state governmental entity and a non-governmental contractor involving the exchange or creation of public information, as defined by the [Texas Government Code Section 552.002](#), must require the non-governmental contractor to make any information created or exchanged with the state pursuant to this contract, and not otherwise excepted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to the state. TEA Project Manager will provide the specific format by which Contractor is required to make the information accessible by the public.
- Z. Gratuities:** By signing this Contract, Contractor represents and warrants that Contractor has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the submitted response.
- AA. Protests:** Any actual or prospective Respondent, Proposer, Bidder, or Contractor who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation, evaluation, or award of this Contract by TEA may submit a formal protest to the Director of TEA's Contracts, Purchasing and Agency Services (PCAS) Division. This protest procedure shall be the exclusive method by which anyone may make a challenge to any aspect of TEA's contracting process. TEA will not be required to consider the merits of any protest unless the written protest is submitted within 10 working days after such aggrieved person knows, or reasonably should have known, of the occurrence of the action which is protested. The protest document must meet with all requirements in applicable law and TEA's rules ([19 TAC Section 30.2002](#)) <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/index.html>.
- If the protest procedure results in a final determination by TEA that a violation of law has occurred in its contracting process in a case in which a contract has been awarded, then TEA may declare the contract void at inception. In that event, the party who had been awarded the contract shall have no rights under the contract and no remedies under the law against TEA.
- BB. Liability for and Payment of Taxes:** Contractor represents and warrants that it shall pay all taxes or similar amounts resulting from this Contract, including, but not limited to, any federal, state, or local income, sales or excise taxes of Contractor or its employees. TEA shall not be liable for any taxes resulting from this Contract.
- CC. Severability:** In the event that any provision of this Contract is later determined to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the invalid provision will be deemed severable and stricken from the Contract as if it had never been incorporated herein. The remaining terms, provisions, covenants, and conditions of this Contract shall remain in full force and effect, and shall in no way be affected, impaired, or invalidated.
- DD. Conformance:** Contractor warrants that all goods and services furnished shall conform in all respects to the terms of this Contract, including any drawings, specifications or standards incorporated herein, and any defects in materials, workmanship, and free from such defects in design. In addition, Contractor warrants that goods and services are suitable for and will perform in accordance with the purposes for which they are intended.

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

- EE. Felony Criminal Convictions:** Contractor represents and warrants that Contractor has not and Contractor's employees assigned to TEA projects have not been convicted of a felony criminal offense, or that, if such a conviction has occurred, Contractor has fully advised TEA as to the facts and circumstances surrounding the conviction.
- FF. Criminal Background Checks:** If during the term of this Contract, Contractor, and/or Contractor staff, or subcontractor have access to Texas public school campuses, all Contractor and/or Contractor's staff must submit to a national criminal history record information review (includes fingerprinting) and meet all eligibility standards and criteria as set by TEA before serving in assignments on behalf of TEA. This requirement applies to all individuals who currently serve or will serve in TEA assignments that have the possibility of direct contact with students. Assignments are contingent upon meeting TEA eligibility standards. Contractor and/or any staff member of Contractor who may perform services under this Contract must complete this criminal history review before the beginning of an assignment. If said individuals have not completed this requirement or the review results in a determination that Contractor is not eligible for assignment, this Contract will be terminated effective immediately or the date of notice of non-eligibility, whichever is earliest.
- GG. Assignment of Contract:** This Contract may not be assigned, sold, or transferred without the express written consent of TEA Purchasing, Contracts, and Agency Services (PCAS) Division. An attempted assignment after Contract award without TEA approval will constitute a material breach of Contract.
- HH. Buy Texas:** In accordance with [Texas Government Code, Section 2155.444](#), the State of Texas requires that during the performance of a contract for services, Contractor shall purchase products and materials produced in the State of Texas when available at a price and time comparable to products and materials produced outside the state. This provision does not apply if Contractor receives any federal funds under this Contract.
- II. Excluded Parties List System:** TEA and Contractor must adhere to the directions provided in the President's Executive Order (EO) 13224, Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism, which may be viewed at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/executive-orders>. That Executive Order prohibits any transaction or dealing by United States persons, including but not limited to the making or receiving of any contribution of funds, goods, or services to or for the benefit of those persons listed in the General Services Administration's Excluded Parties List System (EPLS) which may be viewed on the System for Award Management (SAM) site at <http://www.sam.gov>.
- JJ. Suspension and Debarment:** Contractor certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal, state or local government entity and that Contractor is in compliance with the State of Texas statutes and rules relating to procurement. If Contractor is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this Contract.
- KK. Electronic and Information Resources Accessibility Standards:** State agencies shall procure products which comply with the State of Texas Accessibility requirements for Electronic Information Resources specified in [1 TAC Chapter 213](#) when such products are available in the commercial marketplace or when such products are developed in response to a procurement solicitation.

Regulations updating the accessibility requirements for entities covered by Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 have been adopted in FY 2015. Therefore, all current and potential contractors are hereby notified of the changes. The current technical requirements for accessibility contained within this regulation form the basis for our Texas TAC rules on EIR Accessibility.

This refresh of 508 uses the [WCAG 2.0 AA Accessibility Guidelines](#) (also ISO/IEC standard 40500) as the new technical standard that federal agencies are required to meet when procuring products and services. The Texas Department of Information Resources is modifying the TAC rules to align with it.

Given this change, all Texas agencies and institutions of higher education must begin using or specifying WCAG 2.0 AA guidelines for the design of new websites or web applications. The rationale is twofold:

1. It is technically difficult and expensive to bring these websites/applications to WCAG 2.0 AA later.
2. WCAG 2.0 AA is a superior, more flexible standard and is in use all over the world. If a website is compliant with WCAG 2.0 AA, it will, by default comply with our current TAC rules on EIR Accessibility.

Web development Contractors should already be familiar with designing to this standard, and their ability to meet these standards should be a strong consideration in the selection process. The free online resources listed below are available to assist developers and content producers in transitioning to these guidelines.

[WCAG 2.0 at a glance](#)

[IBM Developer Guidelines Web Checklist](#)

[Webaim.org Accessibility Checklist](#)

All websites must follow Federal 508 accessibility requirements and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 AA standards and be tested for accessibility before acceptance by TEA. For sites developed outside of TEA, the vendor must contract with a third party with expertise and a proven track record in accessibility testing. This company must evaluate the site and produce a report that verifies the site is compliant to (WCAG) 2.0 AA.

The awarded Contractor must employ real users with disabilities for manual testing. Contractor must provide a report that will include the results of auto-testing, screen-by-screen assessments, pass/fail status for each of the identified compliance standards to be met and recommendations for how to repair the screens/pages that do not meet the standards. Remediation

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

recommendations shall be provided to the code level. The report should include documentation of the experience of real users with disabilities and may recommend techniques for improving the usable accessibility of the application. Contractor shall validate, by title, if all accessibility requirements have been met.

- LL. Collusion:** Contractor certifies and represents that Contractor has not colluded with, nor received any assistance from, any person who was paid by TEA to prepare specifications or a solicitation on which a Contractor's Bid or Proposal or Response is based and will not allow any person who prepared the respective specifications or solicitation to participate financially in any contract award.
- MM. Social Security Numbers (SSNs) Withheld:** TEA will not provide SSNs to any Contractor under this Contract unless specifically specified as part of the Contract Project requirements. TEA, its Contractors and their subcontractors, will not require or request school districts to provide SSNs under this Contract. Contractor agrees that in executing tasks on behalf of TEA, they will not use any student-identifying information in any way that violates the provisions of FERPA, and will destroy or return all student-identifying information to TEA within 30 days of project completion. An authorized officer of Contractor must certify that ALL records have either been properly destroyed or returned to TEA in order to close out the Contract.
- NN. Nondisclosure and Press Releases:** All information gathered, produced, derived, obtained, analyzed, controlled or Accessed by Contractor in connection with this Contract shall be and remain confidential and shall not be released or disclosed by Contractor without the prior written consent of TEA, which consent must specifically identify the confidential Independent Contractor: Contractor or Contractor's employees, representatives, agents and any subcontractors shall serve as an independent contractor in providing the services under any purchase order resulting from this Contract. Contractor or Contractor's employees, representatives, agents and any subcontractors shall not be employees of TEA. Should Contractor subcontract any of the services required in this Contract, Contractor expressly understands and acknowledges that in entering into such subcontract(s), TEA is in no manner liable to any subcontractor(s) of Contractor. In no event shall this provision relieve bidder of the responsibility for ensuring that the services rendered under all subcontracts are rendered in compliance with this Contract.
- OO. Independent Contractor:** Contractor or Contractor's employees, representatives, agents and any subcontractors shall serve as an independent contractor in providing the services under any purchase order resulting from this Contract. Contractor or Contractor's employees, representatives, agents and any subcontractors shall not be employees of TEA. Should Contractor subcontract any of the services required in this Contract, Contractor expressly understands and acknowledges that in entering into such subcontract(s), TEA is in no manner liable to any subcontractor(s) of Contractor. In no event shall this provision relieve bidder of the responsibility for ensuring that the services rendered under all subcontracts are rendered in compliance with this Contract.
- PP. Contractor Performance:** All state agencies must report unsatisfactory Contractor performance on purchases over \$25,000. Proposers who are in default or otherwise not in good standing under any other current or prior contract with TEA at the time of selection will not be eligible for award of this Contract. A Proposer's past performance will be measured based upon pass/fail criteria, in compliance with applicable provisions of Government Code §§ [2155.074](#), [2155.075](#), [2156.007](#), [2157.003](#), and [2157.125](#). Proposers may fail this selection criterion for any of the following conditions: A score of less than 90% in Contractor Performance System, currently under a Corrective Action Plan, having repeated negative Contractor performance reports for the same reason, having purchase orders that have been cancelled in the previous 12 months for non-performance (i.e. late delivery, etc.). TEA may conduct reference checks with other entities regarding past performance. In addition to evaluating performance through Contractor Performance Tracking System (as authorized by [34 Texas Administrative Code §20.108](#)). TEA or a designee may conduct periodic contract compliance reviews without advance notice, to monitor performance. TEA may examine other sources of Contractor performance including, but not limited to, notices of termination, cure notices, assessments of liquidated damages, litigation, audit reports, and non-renewals of contracts. Any such investigations shall be at the sole discretion of TEA, and any negative findings, as determined by TEA, may result in non-award to the Proposer.

Agencies report satisfactory and exceptional Contractor performance to assist in determining best value. In accordance with [Texas Government Code, §2155.074 and §2155.75](#), Contractor performance may be used as a factor in future contract awards. Contractor performance information is located on the CPA website at <https://www.comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/programs/vendor-performance-tracking/>.

- QQ. Termination:** This Contract shall terminate upon full performance of all requirements contained in this Contract, unless otherwise extended or renewed as provided in accordance with the Contract terms and conditions.
1. **Termination for Convenience:** TEA may terminate this Contract at any time, in whole or in part, without penalty, by providing 15 calendar days' advance written notice to Contractor. In the event of such a termination, Contractor shall, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing, cease all work immediately upon the effective date of termination. TEA shall be liable for reimbursing only those expenses incurred by Contractor that are permitted, properly performed under this Contract and were incurred prior to the effective termination date.
 2. **Termination for Cause/Default:** If Contractor fails to provide the goods or services contracted for according to the provisions of the Contract, or fails to comply with any of the terms or conditions of the Contract, TEA may, upon written notice of default to Contractor, immediately terminate all or any part of the Contract. Termination is not an exclusive remedy, but will be in addition to any other rights and remedies provided in equity, by law or under the Contract.

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

TEA may exercise any other right, remedy or privilege which may be available to it under applicable law of the state and any other applicable law or may proceed by appropriate court action to enforce the provisions of the Contract, or to recover damages for the breach of any agreement being derived from the Contract. The exercise of any of the foregoing remedies will not constitute a termination of the Contract unless TEA notifies Contractor in writing prior to the exercise of such remedy.

Contractor shall remain liable for all covenants and indemnities under the Contract. Contractor shall be liable for all costs and expenses, including court costs, incurred by TEA with respect to the enforcement of any of the remedies listed herein.

3. **Termination Due to Changes in Law:** If federal or state laws or regulations or other federal or state requirements are amended or judicially interpreted so that either party cannot reasonably fulfill this Contract and if the parties cannot agree to an amendment that would enable substantial continuation of the Contract, the parties shall be discharged from any further obligations under this contract.
4. **Rights upon Termination or Expiration of Contract:** In the event that the Contract is terminated for any reason, or upon its expiration, TEA shall retain ownership of all associated work products and documentation obtained from Contractor under the Contract.
5. **Survival of Terms:** Termination of the Contract for any reason shall not release Contractor from any liability or obligation set forth in the Contract that is expressly stated to survive any such termination or by its nature would be intended to be applicable following any such termination, including the provisions regarding confidentiality, indemnification, transition, records, audit, property rights, dispute resolution, invoice and fees verification.
6. **Contract Transition:** In the event a subsequent competitive solicitation is awarded to a New Contractor, the Outgoing Contractor shall hand-over to the New Contractor all "Works" including but not limited to the following: data, materials, database access, intellectual property, source code, training materials, access to websites, asset transfer, and maintenance of service commitments. The purpose of transition planning is to ensure a seamless and continuous service when changing from one contract to another. The Outgoing Contractor will begin shipping, transmitting or providing access to all appropriate materials and data to the New Contractor within 10 days of announcement of award at the New Contractor's expense for data processing and production, packing and shipping. The Outgoing Contractor will be responsible for providing the services identified in the Contract until all records have been completely transferred to the New Contractor. The Outgoing Contractor is responsible for performing due diligence to ensure that all the transition activities are identified and completed during the Contract transition.

The Outgoing Contractor shall submit to TEA requested reports and data. TEA will not release the final invoice until all materials are returned to TEA or their designee. TEA Project Manager shall approve the Transition Plan prior to its implementation. The Transition Plan must minimize the impacts on continuity of operations and maintain communication with TEA Project Manager and the New Contractor.

- RR. Amendments:** All amendments to this Contract will be in a manner as prescribed by the TEA Contracting Process and are, subject to Paragraph B of the General Provisions and will be made on the AMENDMENT TO TEA STANDARD CONTRACT form. All amendments will be initiated by TEA Purchasing and Contracts staff. An amendment to this Contract will become effective on the date of signature of TEA or the effective date shown on the amendment document whichever is first. All amendments must be signed by both parties.

If the solicitation documents and contract documents for a TEA contract submitted to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts' Contract Advisory Team (CAT) (contracts with a value of at least \$10 million pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 2262.101(1) substantially changes, agencies are required to resubmit their solicitation documents(s) for CAT review. Changes in the major contract solicitation are considered substantial when: 1) the solicitation change caused the estimated value for the original term of the contract, not including renewal periods, to increase by 20% or more; 2) or there are significant revisions, deletions and/or additions to the specifications, statement of work (SOW), set(s) of deliverables, performance measures, payment methodology, etc.

1. For all other contracts (excludes major contracts) the Contractor is permitted to re-budget among direct cost categories within the approved budget to meet unanticipated requirements and to make limited changes 25% or up to \$1,000 in a direct category in the approved budget without the issuance of a written Amendment as long as the total budget amount does not change. Contractors are required to report deviations from budget and request prior approvals from the TEA Project Manager. Additionally, a revised budget document must be submitted to TEA Project Manager for approval. Once approved, the documents must be submitted to the Contract staff for incorporation into the contract file. **Failure to submit the budget documents will result in invoices being rejected or payment delayed.**
2. Written amendments are required for the following Contract changes:
 - a. Any revision which would result in the need for additional funding;
 - b. Revisions or additions to the scope of work, deliverables, or objectives of the Contract (regardless of whether there is an associated budget revision requiring prior approval). Increases of 20% or more for major contracts must be approved by the Texas Comptroller;
 - c. A request to extend the period of the Contract;

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

- d. Any reduction of funds or reduction in the scope of work;
- e. Whenever a line item within a class/object code is added;
- f. An increase in the quantity of capital outlay item(s) requested; and
- g. An increase or decrease in the number of positions charged to Contract.

SS. Payment: Payment for goods or services purchased with state-appropriated funds will be issued by electronic Direct Deposit from the State Treasury. Direct Deposit is the preferred method of payment. Additional information and a Direct Deposit Authorization application may be found at: <https://fm.x.cpa.state.tx.us/fm/payment/index.php>. Invoices must be submitted to TEAAccountsPayable@tea.texas.gov and TEA Project Manager. Any payment owed by TEA must be transmitted electronically to Contractor no later than 30 days after the later of:

1. Day on which TEA received the goods;
2. Date the performance of the service under the Contract is completed; or
3. Day on which TEA received the complete and correct invoice for goods or services.

Payment for service(s) described in this Contract is contingent upon satisfactory completion of the deliverables or services. TEA project manager may also utilize a Deliverables and Services Review and Acceptance Process written procedures. When the formal procedures are to be utilized, the TEA project manager will provide to the selected Contractor a copy of the Handbook. Contractor must submit final deliverables to TEA for review and approval prior to invoicing. These include test items developed under the Contract. "Final" deliverable means a deliverable that, in the belief and testimony of Contractor, is in final completed form and in compliance with all required specifications as defined by project documentation and this Contract. TEA will review each deliverable, including test items, submitted by Contractor for quality and alignment to the deliverable definition agreed to under the "Deliverables and Services Definition Process". TEA will have 15 working days to approve a deliverable or request revisions to the deliverable. TEA must review and approve any deliverable before it may be invoiced by Contractor. If TEA finds a submitted deliverable to be substandard or not in compliance with the deliverable definition agreed to under the "Deliverables and Services Definition Process" provided by the TEA Program Manager, located in the Service Level Agreement or the Contract Monitoring Tool. Contractor will have 10 working days to provide a Corrective Action Plan and address the quality or other compliance requirement and resubmit the deliverable. Additional costs incurred by Contractor that result from repeated submissions and revising of substandard deliverables will be borne solely by Contractor and not charged against the Contract or to TEA. This process will apply to all deliverables and requirements of the Contract, including test items developed. This does not preclude an arrangement that allows Contractor to bill against a deliverable as progress is made toward completing that deliverable, so long as documentation of such progress in a form and nature satisfactory to TEA is provided and is approved by TEA. It is up to Contractor to request incremental billing based on progress towards a deliverable, and such a request must be approved by TEA prior to submission of any invoice by Contractor. TEA reserves the right to reject and not provide payment for deliverables found to be substandard or not in compliance with the deliverable definition agreed to under the "Deliverables and Services Definition Process", including test items developed under the Contract. Contractor is strongly encouraged to collaborate with TEA on draft versions of any deliverables or services and request review(s) of such draft versions before submitting a final version.

Retainage: TEA may withhold 5% or less of each payment as retainage for certain projects. Retainage fees must be stated in the competitive solicitation and documented in the Contract. The fees may not be arbitrarily imposed after execution of the Contract. The release of retainage shall be requested in the final invoice.

Unless otherwise stated, payment under this Contract will be made upon performance of services based upon submission of an expenditure report/invoice, properly prepared and certified, outlining expenditures by cost category. Include the Contract number, purchase order number, and the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Texas Identification Number (TIN) on all invoices/expenditure reports. The cost categories provided in the expenditure report/invoice must coincide with the cost categories detailed in the approved budget. A list of tasks/activities performed during the invoice period must accompany the expenditure report/invoice. The final expenditure report/invoice is due within 45 days after the end of the Contract. Payment on the final expenditure report is contingent upon receipt of all reports/products required by this Contract.

An encumbrance, accounts payable, and expenditure, as with all other contract accounting terms, will be as defined in the *Financial Accounting and Reporting Module of TEA Financial Accountability System Resource Guide*. All goods must have been received and all services rendered by the ending date of this Contract in order for Contractor to include these costs as either expenditures or as accounts payable and, thereby, recover funds due. In no manner shall encumbrances be considered or reflected as accounts payable or as expenditures.

Contractor who is indebted or owes delinquent taxes to the state will have any payments under the Contract applied toward the debt or delinquent taxes owed the state until the amount is paid in full, regardless of when the debt or delinquency was incurred. TEA shall determine whether a payment law prohibits the Comptroller from issuing a warrant or initiating an electronic funds transfer to a person before TEA enters into a written contract with that person. Contractor may verify its account status by accessing the Texas Comptroller's website at https://fm.x.cpa.state.tx.us/fm/pubs/purchase/restricted/index.php?section=indebted&page=persons_indebted

TT. Prohibition of Text Messaging and Emailing while Driving during Official Federal Grant Business: Federal grant recipients and their grant personnel are prohibited from texting messaging while driving a government owned vehicle or while driving their own privately owned vehicle during official grant business, or from using government supplied electronic equipment to text message or email while driving. Recipients must comply with these conditions under [Executive Order 13513](#), "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," effective October 1, 2009.

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

- UU. Insurance:** Contractor represents and warrants that it will, within five business days of being requested by TEA, provide TEA with current certificates of insurance or other proof acceptable to TEA of the following insurance coverage:
- Workers Compensation & Employers Liability: Contractor must maintain Workers' Compensation insurance coverage in accordance with statutory limits.
 Workers Compensation: Statutory Limits
 Employers Liability: Each Accident \$1,000,000
 Disease- Each Employee \$1,000,000
 Disease-Policy Limit \$1,000,000
- This state of Texas website (Coverage starts with 406 of the Labor code) addresses what Texas requires may be found at: <http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/act/index.html>
- Commercial General Liability: Occurrence based:
 Bodily Injury and Property Damage
 Each occurrence limit: \$1,000,000;
 Aggregate limit: \$2,000,000;
 Medical Expense each person: \$5,000;
 Personal Injury and Advertising Liability: \$1,000,000;
 Products /Completed Operations Aggregate Limit: \$2,000,000; and
 Damage to Premises Rented to You: \$50,000
- Contractor represents and warrants that all of the above coverage is with companies licensed in the state of Texas, with "A" rating from A.M. Best, and authorized to provide the corresponding coverage. Contractor also represents and warrants that all policies contain endorsements prohibiting cancellation except upon at least 30 days' prior written notice to TEA. Contractor represents and warrants that it shall maintain the above insurance coverage during the term of this contract, and shall provide TEA with an executed copy of the policies immediately upon request.
- VV. Force Majeure:** Neither Contractor nor TEA shall be liable to the other for any delay in, or failure of performance, of any requirement included in this Contract caused by force majeure. The existence of such causes of delay or failure shall extend the period of performance until after the causes of delay or failure have been removed provided the non-performing party exercises all reasonable due diligence to perform. Force majeure is defined as acts of God, war, fires, explosions, hurricanes, floods, failure of transportation, or other causes that are beyond the reasonable control of either party and that by exercise of due foresight such party could not reasonably have been expected to avoid, and which, by the exercise of all reasonable due diligence, such party is unable to overcome. Each party must inform the other in writing, with proof of receipt, within three business days of the existence of such force majeure, or otherwise waive this right as a defense.
- WW. Drug Free Workplace Policy:** Contractor shall comply with the applicable provisions of the Drug-Free Work Place Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D; 41 U.S.C. 701 ET SEQ.) and maintain a drug-free work environment; and the final rule, government-wide requirements for drug-free work place (grants), issued by the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Defense (32 CFR Part 280, Subpart F) to implement the provisions of the Drug-Free Work Place Act of 1988 is incorporated by reference and Contractor shall comply with the relevant provisions thereof, including any amendments to the final rule that may hereafter be issued.
- XX. Abandonment or Default:** If Contractor defaults on the Contract, TEA reserves the right to cancel the Contract without notice and either re-solicit or re-award the Contract to the next best responsive and responsible Proposer. The defaulting Contractor will not be considered in the re-solicitation and may not be considered in future solicitations for the same type of work, unless the specification or scope of work significantly changed. The period of suspension will be determined by TEA based on the seriousness of the default.
- YY. Applicable Law and Conforming Amendments:** Contractor must comply with all laws, regulations, requirements and guidelines applicable to a Contractor providing services to the State of Texas as these laws, regulations, requirements and guidelines currently exist and as they are amended throughout the term of this Contract. TEA reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to unilaterally amend this Contract throughout its term to incorporate any modifications necessary for TEA or Contractor's compliance with all applicable State and federal laws, and regulations.
- ZZ. Education Service Center:** No funds transferred to Education Service Centers or to school districts may be used to hire a registered lobbyist.
- The Texas Government Code and Family Code sites referenced in this document may be viewed at: <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/>
- The Texas Administrative Code site referenced in this document may be viewed at: [http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.viewtac](http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.viewtac)

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AFFIRMATIONS, PROPOSAL PREFERENCES and EXECUTION OF OFFER

AFFIRMATIONS:

Proposer has read, understands, and agrees to be bound to the terms and conditions stated in the RFP if a contract is awarded to Proposer pursuant to this RFP. By signature hereon, the Proposer certifies that:

- a. All statements and information prepared and submitted in the response to this RFP are current, complete and accurate.
- b. Proposer has not given, offered to give, not intends to give at any time hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the submitted response.
- c. Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 10, Subtitle D, Section 2155.004(b), the Proposer certifies that the individual or business entity named in this bid or contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

Texas Government Code §2252.901 prohibits the agency into entering into an employment contract, a professional services contract, or a consulting services contract with a former or retired TEA employee before the first anniversary of their last date of regular employment. If TEA enters into a "professional services" contract with a corporation, firm, or other business entity that employs a former or retired employee during the first year of the past employee's departure from the agency, the former or retired employee is restricted from performing services on projects that the employee worked on while employed at TEA.

Texas Government Code §572.069. CERTAIN EMPLOYMENT FOR FORMER STATE OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE RESTRICTED. A former state officer or employee of a state agency who during the period of state service or employment participated on behalf of a state agency in a procurement or contract negotiation involving a person may not accept employment from that person before the second anniversary of the date the officer's or employee's service or employment with the state agency ceased.

Under Section 2155.006(b) of the Texas Government Code, a state agency may not accept a bid or award a contract, including a contract for which purchasing authority is delegated to a state agency, that includes proposed financial participation by a person who, during the five year period preceding the date of the bid or award, has been: (1) convicted of violating a federal law in connection with a contract awarded by the federal government for relief, recovery, or reconstruction efforts as a result of Hurricane Rita, as defined by Section 39.459, Utilities Code, Hurricane Katrina, or any other disaster occurring after September 24, 2005; or (2) assessed a penalty in a federal civil or administrative enforcement action in connection with a contract awarded by the federal government for relief, recovery, or reconstruction efforts as a result of Hurricane Rita, as defined by Section 39.459, Utilities Code, Hurricane Katrina, or any other disaster occurring after September 24, 2005.

Proposer certifies that they are in compliance with Texas Government Code, Title 6, Subtitle B, Section 669.003 of the Government Code, relating to contracting with executive head of a state agency. If Section 669.003 applies, Proposer will complete the following information in order for the bid to be evaluated.

Name of Former Executive: _____

Name of State Agency: _____

Date of Separation from State Agency: _____

Position with Bidder: _____ Date of Employment with Bidder: _____

Pursuant to Texas Government code, Title 10, Subtitle D, Section 2155.004(a), the bidder has not received compensation for participation in the preparation of specifications for this solicitation.

Contractor shall provide to TEA, Contractor's nine digit Federal Employer's Identification Number (FEI#) or Social Security Number (SSN) if Contractor is an individual, or Contractor's 14 digit State of Texas Payee Identification Number (TIN). If Contractor is incorporated, Contractor shall also provide to TEA the corporation's charter number issued by the Texas Secretary of State's office. Information provided by the contractor will be verified by TEA.

Contractor's FEI#	
Contractor's SSN	
Contractor's TIN	
Contractor's charter #	

TEA has a policy of being a smoke-free agency. The policy reflects our commitment to providing a healthy environment for all our employees and visitors. This policy prohibits smoking within any state building or on the grounds. Contractor, by acceptance of this contract, agrees to abide by this policy when on the property of TEA.

The undersigned is an authorized official for the Proposer and certifies that the proposal submitted with this "Contract Terms and Conditions, Affirmations Proposal Preferences and Execution of Offer" instrument is in full compliance with the provisions expressly stated above. I further certify that the proposal submitted with this instrument is allowed to claim any of the Chapter 2155 Texas Government Code preferences checked below:

PROPOSAL PREFERENCES

The Proposer if selected as the Contractor, will be required to purchase products and materials produced in this state when they are available at a price and time comparable to products and materials produced outside of Texas ([Texas Government Code § 2155.4441](#)). Check below if claiming a preference included in [Texas Government Code Chapter 2155](#) and/or [1 TAC 113.8](#)

<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.441	Products of persons with mental or physical disabilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.442	Energy efficient products
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.443	Rubberized asphalt paving material
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.444	Texas produced supplies, materials, or equipment; or USA supplies, materials, or equipment over foreign products
<input type="checkbox"/>	TAC§ 2038 D	Preference to services offered by a Texas bidder
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.444	Texas agriculture products
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.445	Recycled, remanufactured, or environmentally sensitive products made of recycled materials
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.446	Paper containing recycled fibers
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.447	Recycled motor oil and lubricants
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.449	Products produced in facilities on rehabilitated property as certified by section 361.609 of the Texas Health and Safety Code
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.449	Products and services from economically depressed or blighted areas
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.449	Products and services from Historically Underutilized Business or small business pursuant to the goals and objectives stated in Chapter 2161 of the Texas Government Code
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.444	Goods produced or offered by service-disabled veterans.
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.445	Preference to manufacturer who has recycle program for computer equipment.
<input type="checkbox"/>	§ 2155.452	Preference to contractors providing foods of higher nutritional value.

In compliance with this RFP, and subject to all the conditions herein, the undersigned offers and agrees to furnish any or all commodities or services at the prices quoted in the proposal or bid. When a Texas business address shown hereon that address is, in fact, the legal business address of Proposer for verification that proposer qualifies as a Texas Resident Bidder under [TAC Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 20](#).

PROPOSER/COMPANY NAME:
STREET ADDRESS:
CITY/STATE/ZIP:
TELEPHONE #:
FACSIMILE #:
EMAIL ADDRESS:
NAME OF PROPOSER'S AUTHORIZED AGENT:
TITLE OF PROPOSER'S AUTHORIZED AGENT:
SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED AGENT:

THIS ATTACHMENT "B" MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED WITH YOUR PROPOSAL

Contractor acknowledges that under state law and TEA policy, they may not disclose any information during the solicitation process (upon opening the proposal and during negotiations). The solicitation process must remain confidential and is exempt from open records until such time that a contract is awarded. Failure to abide to this requirement will result in disqualification.

**Texas Education Agency
Historically Underutilized Business
Subcontracting Plan (HSP)**

Separate document

Definition of a Historically Underutilized Business (HUB)

- A. At least 51% owned by an Asian Pacific American, Black American, Hispanic American, Native American and/or American woman
- B. A for-profit entity that has not exceeded the size standards prescribed by [34 TAC §20.11](#), and has its principal place of business in Texas
- C. Has an owner residing in Texas with a proportionate interest that actively participates in the control, operations and management of the entity's affairs
- D. Service Disabled Veteran, as defined by 38 United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 101(2) who have a service-connected disability as defined by 38 U.S.C. Section 101(16), and have a disability rating of 20 percent or more as determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs or the Department of Defense

*Note: Veterans are not required to be United States citizens; however, they must reside in Texas.

**Note: Sole proprietorships must be 100 percent owned and controlled by an individual meeting the Criteria above. In addition, each entity within a joint venture is required to be HUB certified.

The statewide HUB Program facilitates the use of HUBs in state procurement and provides information on the state's procurement process to minority, woman-owned and service disabled veteran owned businesses.

In accordance with [34 TAC §20.13](#), each state agency shall make a good faith effort to utilize HUBs in contracts for construction, services (including professional and consulting services) and commodities purchases.

Contractors seeking certification as a HUB are required to submit a completed HUB certification application and supporting documentation to the statewide HUB Program.

Questions regarding the TEA HUB Program or the HUB Subcontracting Plan may be directed to the TEA HUB Office: HUBOffice@tea.texas.gov.

(FORMAT FOR COVER PAGE)

PROJECT PROPOSAL
Submitted to the
Texas Education Agency
Purchasing, Contracts and Agency Services Division
RFP #701-17-007

TITLE OF PROPOSED PROJECT: **Physical Fitness Assessment Data Analysis**

PROPOSER ORGANIZATION: Name and address of organization submitting proposal (include zip code)

PROPOSER ORGANIZATION IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: Show Proposer organization Federal Employer's Identification Number or Texas Identification Number (TINS)

PROPOSAL DEVELOPED BY: Name, position, email, and telephone number of person responsible for development of proposal

PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR: Name, position, email, and telephone number of person to be in charge of proposed project

PROPOSAL TRANSMITTED BY: Name, position, email, and telephone number of official committing the Proposer organization to the proposed project

CONTRACTING OFFICER: Name, position, email, and telephone number of official with authority to negotiate contracts for Proposer organization

DURATION OF PROJECT: Beginning and ending dates of proposed project

TOTAL BUDGET FOR PROPOSED PROJECT: Total of projected expenditures listed in budget section

CONTAINS PROPRIETARY INFORMATION: Check box if proposal being submitted contains proprietary information

ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS: We hereby accept by the submission of the proposal the Execution of Offer, "Contract Terms and Conditions, Affirmations and Proposal Preferences"

DATE SUBMITTED: Date proposal is submitted to TEA

Cost Proposal

Title of Proposed Project:	
Proposer Organization (Name):	
Begin Date:	
Ending Date:	

TASK #	Description	Proposed Cost
		\$
		\$
TASK # TOTAL		\$
TASK #	Description	Proposed Cost
		\$ -
TASK # TOTAL		\$ -

Cost may also be by activity if feasible but must be shown, at a minimum, for task total.

Task Activity Plan

Title of Proposed Project:	
Proposer Organization (Name):	
Begin Date:	
Ending Date:	

Task #	Sub-task/Sub-Task Items	Deliverable Type	*Timeline	**Cost
Task 1:				
	Subtask 1.1:			
	1.1.1:			
	1.1.2:			
Task 2:				
	Subtask 2.1:			
	2.1.1:			
	2.1.2:			
	Subtask 2.2:			
	2.2.1:			
	2.2.2:			
Task 3:				
	Subtask 3.1:			
	3.1.1:			
	3.1.2:			
	Subtask 3.2:			
	3.2.1:			
	3.2.2:			
Task 4:				
	Subtask 4.1			
	4.1.1:			
	4.1.1			
	Total of All Tasks			

Proposers should include the Tasks and Subtasks that reflect the required work in this RFP.

* Enter a specific date, a range (such as 2/1/16 to 2/8/16), or the word "monthly, or "quarterly".

** The cost for each task equals the sum of the subtasks

Sample Analysis Plan Matrix

Evaluation Objectives	Evaluation Questions	Data Sources	Planned Analyses and Techniques	Timing/Content of Analysis
Objective 1	Question 1	PEIMS, TAKS	HLM	
	Question 2	TAKS	Repeated-measures ANOVA	IV = . . . ; DV = . . . ;etc.
Objective 2	Question 1	PEIMS	Descriptive	
	Question 2	Progress reports & survey data	Correlation	

Analysis Plan

1. This matrix is presented only as a guide to the evaluator. Your specific matrix and analysis details will be based on the evaluation expectations / requirements, the evaluation plan, and the data available.
2. TEA expects that the submitted analysis plan will have a significant level of detail regarding each category identified on the analysis plan matrix. More specifically, It is expected that the evaluator will specify:
 - a. **Evaluation Objectives & Questions** – identify and discuss each research objective and question including assumptions and/or hypotheses
 - b. **Data Sources** – describe data sources and specific variables to be used to answer the specific research questions.
 - c. **Analysis Techniques** – provide a discussion of the analyses to be conducted for each research question including the role that each variable plays in the analysis model. For example, the detailed information on a proposed HLM or regression analysis including model statements, propensity score matching features, comparison group analyses, sub-group analyses. If the evaluation involves special or unconventional techniques or analyses, include additional information and justification for its purpose and use.
 - d. **Timing & Content of Analysis** – the discussion of the analyses to be conducted must also include information about the timing, (e.g., month and year), level (e.g., student-level, campus-level, grade-level) and content of each analysis (e.g., TAKS-Reading, PEIMS attendance).

TEA Data Sources

CATEGORY	AVAILABILITY	EXAMPLE	WEBSITE AVAILABILITY
Student demographics	February in the current school year	Student demographics for 2014-15 available February 2015.	
Attendance	September of the following school year	Attendance for 2014-15 available in September 2015.	
Leaver data (graduation, dropout, other exits)	August in the following school year*	Leaver data for 2014-15 available in August 2016.	
STAAR scores for Grades 3-8 and End-of Course exams (first administration)	June in the current school year	STAAR scores for 2014-15 available in June 2015.	
STAAR scores for Grades 5 and 8 (retests)	June-July in the current school year**	STAAR 5 & 8 retest scores for 2014-15 available June-July 2015.	
STAAR scores for EOC (retests)	July in the current school year and January in the following school year	STAAR EOC retest scores available July 2015 and January 2016	
Course completion	September of the following school year	2014-15 course completion data available September 2010.	
TAPR data	November in the following school year	2014-15 TAPR data available November 2015.	Masked TAPR data available for download from TAPR website (both current and historical data)
Accountability ratings (preliminary)	August in the current school year	2014-15 accountability ratings available August 2015.	Accountability rating reports available for download from Accountability Rating System website (both current and historical)
Accountability ratings (final)	November in the following school year	2014-15 accountability ratings available November 2015.	Accountability rating reports available for download from Accountability Rating System website (both current and historical)
Financial Budget data	February-March in the current school year	2014-15 budget data available February-March 2015.	Financial budget data available for download from State Funding website.
Financial Actual (revenue and expenditures)	February-March in the following school year	2014-15 Actual financial data available March 2016.	Financial actual data available for download from State Funding website.
Staff demographics and other data	February-March in the current school year	Staff demographics for 2014-15 available February-March 2015.	
SAT/ACT data	November two years following the end of the school year.	2014-15 SAT/ACT data available November 2016.	Masked campus- and district-level SAT/ACT data available for download from TAPR website. Student level data available through TEA.
District and campus types, addresses, phones, superintendents, principal names, grade ranges	Updated nightly		District and campus addresses available for download from Ask Ted.

* Although leaver data are available at TEA by March, these data are considered preliminary data by TEA until August of the year of release and can only be used with special permission prior to August. No publication of lever data may occur prior to finalization of the data in August of the year of release.

**except for exit-level STAAR, which can be retaken the following school year.

Access to Confidential Information / Certification of Data Destruction

A completed and signed 'Access to Confidential Information – TEA Agent Agreement' form requesting the data needed for the research/evaluation is required from everyone on the awarded Contractor's staff who may have access to the confidential student level data. The form requires the approval of the Agency's Confidentiality Office, Information Security Officer, and the data owners.

I understand that any unauthorized disclosure of confidential, sensitive, and restricted student information is illegal as provided in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) and in the implementing of federal regulation found in 34 CFR, Part 99.

I also understand that failure to observe these restrictions is prohibited by the Texas Government Code, Section 552.352 and that such an offense constitutes a Class A misdemeanor.

I will comply with all policies and procedures established by the ERC to protect the confidentiality of the data, including but not limited to copying, storing, or removing TEA data from the ERC.

I will establish protocols to ensure the security of the data.

I will follow required ERC and TEA protocols to ensure the security of the data. I will demonstrate experience in using techniques to mask data effectively and understands the rules for masking the data.

I agree to the ERC Data and ERC Research Policies (Sections 1.5 and 1.6 from the document titled "Joint Advisory Board of the Texas Education Research Centers").

I certify that I have read and understand the above statement.

Signature

Date

CERTIFICATION OF DATA DESTRUCTION TEMPLATE

<CONTRACTOR LETTERHEAD>

Customer Name: Texas Education Agency

Project Name: _____

Contract #: _____

<CONTRACTOR NAME>

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Certificate of Secure Data Destruction

Description of Data Medium	Method of Data Destruction Used	Technician Performing Task	Verified By (Other Than Technician)	Date/Time Task Completed

The undersigned certify that all the above tasks have been completed according to the terms of the agreement with TEA

Signed: _____ Date: _____
<Name of Project Support Staff, Title>

Signed: _____ Date: _____
<Name of Project Support Staff, Title>

Signed: _____ Date: _____
<Name of Project Support Staff, Title>

Signed: _____ Date: _____
<Name of Project Support Staff, Title>

Access to Confidential Information – TEA Agent Agreement



Texas Education Agency

RFP #701-17-007

Physical Fitness Assessment Data Analysis

Addendum 1

Questions received as of Monday, October 31, 2016, 5:00 P.M. CT

- 1. Question:** Regarding Section 1.5.B.1, "The Contractor must be physically present at the ERC to access and manipulate the data in the P-20/Workforce Data Repository"; Is there an option to allow access and manipulate the data via secure remote access and secure file downloads? We currently manage Washington State Department of Early Learning data through secure file transfers and have established secured procedures for handling data?

TEA Response: All access and use of the ERC data must occur within the secure research center facilities, and be confined to the sequestered computing systems within the UT Dallas ERC: <http://www.utdallas.edu/research/tsp-erc/access.html>

See also Policies and Procedures for Approved Projects at UT Austin: <https://research.utexas.edu/erc/researchers-of-approved-projects/>.

- 2. Question:** Does the interest in "school meal programs" imply an interest in students who are eligible for the National School Lunch Program?

TEA Response: Statue does not define school meal programs.

- 3. Question:** Are FitnessGram data available at the student level?

TEA Response: Yes.

- 4. Question:** Are PEIMS student IDs available in all data to be used as unique links?

TEA Response: No, students are assigned a unique ID that is not the same as PEIMS ID.



Texas Education Agency
RFP #701-17-007
Physical Fitness Assessment Data Analysis
Addendum 2

Questions received as of Friday, November 4, 2016, 5:00 P.M. CT

- 1. Question:** Are Vendors required to go through the ERC's process to obtain Joint Authorization Board (JAB) approval?

TEA Response: No.

- 2. Question:** We understand the district uploads the data to the agency via the TEASE. Are these data compiled in one file or would be potentially be compiling up to 1200 district files to complete the analysis?

TEA Response: The Physical Fitness Assessment Initiative (PFAI) is the application that accepts the data inputs from districts and schools and it uses the single sign on application called TEASE. If a district chooses to use one file that contains all the students for the district, then a district user would log into TEASE and click on the PFAI application and import the district data file. If a district wants each school to import data, then each school representative would log into TEASE, click on the PFAI application and import their specific school data.

- 3. Question:** May the Vendor propose optional deliverables/activities beyond the project objectives and activities and beyond the budget described in Section 1.4 of the RFP?

TEA Response: The proposed research project can include additional areas that expand the understanding of the project's outcomes as determined by the research staff; however, the work can't exceed the approximate budgeted amount of \$300,000.00.

- 4. Question:** Can student-level FitnessGram data be linked to student-level PEIMS and STAAR data for purposes of conducting the analysis?

TEA Response: Yes.

- 5. Question:** Are Vendors required to go through the ERC's process to obtain JAB approval? In order to access the ERC data will we need to go through the normal JAB approval process? That is, will we have to submit our application 52 days before the Advisory Board meeting? Or will our process be different/expedited

TEA Response: No.

- 6. Question:** Are the FitnessGram® data stored in the Education Research Centers' data warehouses? If not, where and how the selected Contractor will access the fitness data?

TEA Response: Yes, data will be made available at the ERC.

7. Question: Will the information of the physical education courses or activities each student participated during the school year, like the frequency of participation, course grades, etc., be available to the selected Contractor?

TEA Response: No.

8. Question: Will the selected Contractor have access to data on district or school physical education curricular strategies, programs, etc.?

TEA Response: No.

9. Question: The RFP states: "Reporting Procedures: TEA engages in extensive review of all documents that are to be published. The Contractor should budget for and be prepared to be responsive to multiple rounds of feedback, while maintaining the integrity of all reported findings." Can TEA clarify the specific number of anticipated rounds of review that constitute "multiple rounds" as described in this statement?

TEA Response: No.

10. Question: Page 8 of the RFP (Section 1.7, A.11.) states: "11. Ensure that LEAs have access to their historical data related to FitnessGram®." Can TEA say more about what this entails with regard to the longitudinal nature of the reporting?

TEA Response: TEA has determined that this statement does not apply to the analytical work of the RFP.

11. Question: Can the Vendor use any formatting of their choice in drafting their proposals?

TEA Response: Please see section 3.1 of RFP for proposed format and content requirements.

12. Question: Can TEA provide additional information about the definition of security breach or is there a website to which proposers can refer?

TEA Response: Page 23, disclosure of security breach, states that the Contractor shall provide notice to TEA's Project Manager and TEA's Information Security Officer as soon as possible following Contractor's discovery or reasonable belief that there has been unauthorized use, exposure, access, disclosure, compromise, modification, or loss of sensitive or TEA Confidential Information.

13. Question: On page 5, Item C.5. states that "quantitative and qualitative data should be analyzed descriptively and with the appropriate statistical procedures and analyses to address the project objectives." Please provide additional information about the qualitative data and its source.

TEA Response: There likely will not be any qualitative data in relation to this RFP.