

Butler County Board of Education
211 School Highlands Road
Greenville, AL 36037-3213
(334) 382-2665

April 28, 2023

By the way of this Invitation to Bid (“Invitation”) and in accordance with *Alabama Code Section 16-13B-1 et seq*, the Butler County Board of Education (the “Board” or “Owner”), shall receive bids responses for **2023-006 Central Office Gymnasium Rubber Flooring and Installation** hereinafter described and specified on the Effective Date hereof until **10:00 AM CST, Monday, May 15, 2023.** Responses must be submitted in sealed envelopes address as follows and mailed or hand-delivered to:

Butler County Board of Education
Purchasing Department
Attn: Mrs. Pat Luckie
211 School Highlands Road
Greenville, AL 36037-3213

All responses submitted shall be opened and read at **10:00 AM CST, Monday, May 15, 2023** in the Purchasing Department – Room 117, located at Central Office 211 School Highlands Road, Greenville, Alabama 36037.

Please contact Mr. William Love for all questions / comments (334) 437-1770 or (334) 382-2665 ext. 1903.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

2023-006 Gymnasium Floor

In accordance with *Alabama Code Section 16-13B-1 et seq*, the Butler County Board of Education is requesting proposals for a new rubber gymnasium floor to be installed at the Central Office campus gymnasium. Sealed proposals will be received at Central Office, 211 School Highlands Road, Greenville, Alabama until **10:00 AM**, local time, on **May 15, 2023**, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read.

A cashier's check or bid bond payable to the Butler County Board of Education in an amount not less than five percent of the amount of the bid, but in no event more than \$10,000, must accompany the bidder's proposal. Performance and Payment Bonds and evidence of insurance required in the bid documents will be required at the signing of the Contract.

The bidder shall provide all materials, labor, tools, equipment, transportation, supervision, licenses, permits and all other items necessary to perform the requested services as prescribed. The successful bidder shall not, without the written consent of the Board, enter into any contract with any other party for the purpose of rendering any services or consign its obligations to the terms and specifications as prescribed herein.

Requests for bid documents, questions, or comments should be directed to Mr. William Love (334) 437-1770 or (334) 382-2665 ext. 1903. Bid documents are also posted on the Board's website. Bids must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the Board or copies thereof. All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered; the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his or her current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered. The bidder is to furnish all necessary materials, labor, and equipment to install the flooring. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owner's judgement, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted.

Compliance with Laws, Regulations, and Ordinances. Bidder shall fully comply with all applicable provisions of federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations, and bidder agrees to hold the Butler County Board of Education, its agents, officers, and employees harmless from any and all liability, costs including, but not limited to attorney's fees, and damages resulting from failure of compliance.

Joseph Eiland, Superintendent
Butler County Board of Education

**Butler County Board of Education
211 School Highlands Road
Greenville, AL 36037**

PROPOSAL FORM

Date: _____

In compliance with the Advertisement for Bids and subject to all the conditions thereof, the undersigned _____ hereby proposes to furnish

(Legal Name of Bidder)

all labor and materials and perform all work required for the repair/installation/construction of

2023-006 Central Office Gymnasium Flooring and Installation

(Work)

The Bidder, which is organized and existing under the laws of the State of _____,

having its principal offices in the City of _____, is: a Corporation a

Partnership an Individual

Other _____.

LISTING OF PARTNERS OR OFFICERS: If Bidder is a Partnership, list all partners and their addresses; if Bidder is a Corporation, list the names, titles, and business addresses of its officers:

BIDDER'S REPRESENTATION: The Bidder declares that it has examined the site of the Work, having become fully informed regarding all pertinent conditions, and that it has examined the Drawings and Specifications (including all Addenda received) for the Work and the other Bid and Contract Documents relative thereto, and that it has satisfied itself relative to the Work to be performed.

BASE BID: For construction complete as shown and specified, the sum of _____ Dollars (\$ _____).

UNIT PRICES - (Attach to this Proposal Form the unit prices, if any, on a separate sheet.)

BID SECURITY: The undersigned agrees to enter into a Construction Contract and furnish the prescribed Performance and Payment Bonds and evidence of insurance within fifteen calendar days, or such other period stated in the Bid Documents, after the contract forms have been presented for signature, provided such presentation is made within 30 calendar days after the opening of bids, or such other period stated in the Bid Documents. As security for this condition, the undersigned further agrees that the funds represented by the Bid Bond (or cashier's check) attached hereto may

be called and paid into the account of the Awarding Authority as liquidated damages for failure to so comply.

Attached hereto is a: *(Mark the appropriate box and provide the applicable information.)*

- Bid Bond, executed by _____ as Surety,
- a cashier's check on the _____ Bank of _____
for the sum of _____ Dollars (\$ _____)
made payable to the Butler County Board of Education.

BIDDER'S ALABAMA LICENSE:

State License for General Contracting: _____
License Number Bid Limit Type(s) of Work

CERTIFICATIONS: The undersigned certifies that he or she is authorized to execute contracts on behalf of the Bidder as legally named, that this proposal is submitted in good faith without fraud or collusion with any other bidder, that the information indicated in this document is true and complete, and that the bid is made in full accord with State law. Notice of acceptance may be sent to the undersigned at the address set forth below.

The Bidder also declares that a list of all proposed major subcontractors and suppliers will be submitted at a time subsequent to the receipt of bids as established by the Architect in the Bid Documents but in no event shall this time exceed twenty-four (24) hours after receipt of bids.

Legal Name of Bidder: _____

Mailing Address: _____

***By (Legal Signature)** _____

*Name and Title (print) _____ (Seal)

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

* If other than the individual proprietor, or an above-named member of the Partnership, or the above-named president, vice-president, or secretary of the Corporation, attach written authority to bind the Bidder. Any modification to a bid shall be over the initials of the person signing the bid, or of an authorized representative.

ACCOUNTING OF SALES TAX

Attachment to Proposal Form

To: _____ Date: _____
(Awarding Authority)

NAME OF PROJECT _____

SALES TAX ACCOUNTING

Pursuant to Act 2013-205, Section 1(g) the Contractor accounts for the sales tax NOT included in the bid proposal form as follows:

ESTIMATED SALES TAX AMOUNT

BASE BID: \$ _____

Alternate No. 1 (.....) (add) (deduct) \$ _____
(Insert key word for Alternate)

Alternate No. 2 (.....) (add) (deduct) \$ _____

Alternate No. 3 (.....) (add) (deduct) \$ _____

Alternate No. 4 (.....) (add) (deduct) \$ _____

Alternate No. 5 (.....) (add) (deduct) \$ _____

Alternate No. 6 (.....) (add) (deduct) \$ _____

Failure to provide an accounting of sales tax shall render the bid non-responsive. Other than determining responsiveness, sales tax accounting shall not affect the bid pricing nor be considered in the determination of the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

Legal Name of Bidder _____

Mailing Address _____

***By (Legal Signature)** _____

***Name (type or print)** _____

(Seal)

***Title** _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Note: A completed Accounting of Sales Tax must be submitted with the Proposal Form. Submission is required, it is not optional. A proposal shall be rendered non-responsive if an Accounting of Sales Tax is not provided.

Instructions to Bidders

Bidder and its representatives shall follow all applicable school district regulations while on School District property, including the No Smoking, No Weapons, and Drug Free Policies. No work shall interfere with school activities or environment unless permission is granted by the Principal, Department Head, or School District Designee. All Bidder personnel shall be prominently identified by the use of identification badges and uniforms or shirts with the Bidder's business logo clearly visible.

BID DOCUMENTS:

The Bid Documents consist of the Advertisement for Bids, these Instructions to Bidders, any supplements to these Instructions to Bidders, the Proposal Form and the Accounting of Sales Tax, and the proposed Contract Documents. The proposed Contract Documents consist of the following applicable documents: Construction Contract, the Performance Bond and Payment Bond, the Conditions of the Contract (General, Supplemental, and other Conditions), Drawings, Specifications and all addenda issued prior to execution of the Construction Contract. Bid Documents may be obtained or examined as set forth in the Advertisement for Bids.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S STATE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS:

When the amount bid for a contract exceeds \$50,000, the bidder must be licensed by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors and must show the Board evidence of license before bidding or the bid will not be received by or considered by the Awarding Authority. A bid exceeding the bid limit stipulated in the bidder's license, or which is for work outside of the type or types of work stipulated in the bidder's license, will not be considered. In case of a joint venture of two or more contractors, the amount of the bid shall be within the maximum bid limitation as set by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors of the combined limitations of the partners to the joint venture.

QUALIFICATIONS of BIDDERS and PREQUALIFICATION PROCEDURES:

- a.** Any special qualifications required of general contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, or fabricators are set forth in the Bid Documents.
- b.** Release of Bid Documents by the Board to a prospective bidder will not constitute any determination by the Board that the bidder has been found to be qualified, prequalified, or responsible.

PREFERENCE to RESIDENT CONTRACTORS:

(If this project is federally funded in whole or in part, this Article shall not apply.)

- a.** In awarding the Contract, preference will be given to Alabama resident contractors and a nonresident bidder domiciled in a state having laws granting preference to local contractors shall be awarded the Contract only on the same basis as the

nonresident bidder's state awards contracts to Alabama contractors bidding under similar circumstances.

b. A nonresident bidder is a contractor which is neither organized and existing under the laws of the State of Alabama, nor maintains its principal place of business in the State of Alabama. A nonresident contractor which has maintained a permanent office within the State of Alabama for at least five continuous years shall not thereafter be deemed to be a non-resident contractor so long as the contractor continues to maintain a branch office within Alabama.

EXAMINATION of BID DOCUMENTS and the SITE of the WORK:

Before submitting a bid for the Work, the bidders shall carefully examine the Bid Documents, visit the site, and satisfy themselves as to the nature and location of the Work, and the general and local conditions, including weather, the general character of the site or building, the character and extent of existing work within or adjacent to the site and any other work being performed thereon at the time of submission of their bids. They shall obtain full knowledge as to transportation, disposal, handling, and storage of materials, availability of water, electric power, and all other facilities in the area which will have a bearing on the performance of the Work for which they submit their bids. The submission of a bid shall constitute a representation by the bidder that the bidder has made such examination and visit and has judged for and satisfied himself or herself as to conditions to be encountered regarding the character, difficulties, quality, and quantities of work to be performed and the material and equipment to be furnished, and as to the contract requirements involved.

EXPLANATIONS and INTERPRETATIONS:

a. Should any bidder observe any ambiguity, discrepancy, omission, or error in the drawings and specifications, or in any other bid document, or be in doubt as to the intention and meaning of these documents, the bidder should immediately report such to the Board and request clarification.

b. Clarification will be made only by written Addenda sent to all prospective bidders. The Awarding Authority will be responsible in any manner for verbal answers or instructions regarding intent or meaning of the Bid Documents.

c. In the case of inconsistency between drawings and specifications or within either document, a bidder will be deemed to have included in its bid the better quality or greater quantity of the work involved unless the bidder asked for and obtained the Board's written clarification of the requirements before submission of a bid.

BEASON-HAMMON ALABAMA TAXPAYER AND CITIZEN PROTECTION ACT (Act No. 2011-535).

Alabama laws require that, as a condition for the award of a contract by a school board to a business entity or employer with one or more employees working in Alabama, the business entity or employer must provide documentation of enrollment in the E-Verify program. During the performance of the contract, the business entity or employer shall

participate in the E-Verify program and shall verify every employee that is required to be verified according to the applicable federal rules and regulations. The contractor's E-Verify Memorandum of Understanding must be included with the bid. If you do not believe these requirements are applicable to your entity, include an explanation justifying such exemption. An entity can obtain the E-Verify Memorandum of Understanding upon completion in the E-Verify enrollment process located at the federal web site www.uscis.gov/everify. The Alabama Department of Homeland Security (<http://immigration.alabama.gov>) has also established an E-Verify employer agent account for any business entity or employer with 25 or fewer employees that will provide a participating business entity or employer with the required documentation of enrollment in the E-Verify program. An Employer Identification Number (EIN), also known as a Federal Tax Identification Number, is required to enroll in E-Verify or to establish an E-Verify employer agent account.

Act No. 2012-491. Act No. 2012-491 now requires school boards to include the following clause in all contracts or agreements: *“By signing this contract, the contracting parties affirm, for the duration of the agreement, that they will not violate federal immigration law or knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the state of Alabama. Furthermore, a contracting party found to be in violation of this provision shall be deemed in breach of the agreement and shall be responsible for all damages resulting therefrom.”*

INSURANCE COVERAGE:

The successful bidder shall have in effect a minimum of \$1,000,000,000 General Liability Insurance Coverage and a copy of the Certificate of Coverage shall be included with bid submittal. All applicable insurance coverage shall remain in effect during the Contract Period of the contract or award.

SUBSTITUTIONS:

- a.** The identification of any product, material, system, item of equipment, or service in the Bid Documents by reference to a trade name, manufacturer's name, model number, etc. (hereinafter referred to as “source”), is intended to establish a required standard of performance, design, and quality and is not intended to limit competition unless the provisions of paragraph “d” below apply.
- b.** When the Bid Documents identify only one or two sources, or three or more sources followed by “or approved equal” or similar wording, the bidder's proposal may be based on a source not identified but considered by the bidder to be equal to the standard of performance, design and quality as specified; however, such substitutions must ultimately be approved by the Board. If the bidder elects to bid on a substitution without “Pre-bid Approval” as described below, then it will be understood that proof of compliance with specified requirements is the exclusive responsibility of the bidder.

c. When the Bid Documents identify three or more sources and the list of sources is not followed by “or approved equal” or similar wording, the bidder’s proposal shall be based upon one of the identified sources, unless the bidder obtains “Pre-bid Approval” of another source as described below. Under these conditions it will be expressly understood that no product, material, system, item of equipment, or service that is not identified in the Bid Documents or granted “Pre-Bid Approval” will be incorporated into the Work unless such substitution is authorized and agreed upon through a Contract Change Order.

d. If the Bid Documents identify only one source and expressly provide that it is an approved sole source for the product, material, system, item of equipment, or service, the bidder’s proposal must be based upon the identified sole source.

PREPARATION and DELIVERY of BIDS:

a. Proposal Form:

(1) Bids must be submitted on the Proposal Form as contained in the Bid Documents; only one copy is required to be submitted. A completed Accounting of Sales Tax must be submitted with the Proposal Form.

(2) All information requested of the bidder on the Proposal Form must be filled in. The form must be completed by typewriter or hand-printed in ink.

(3) Identification of Bidder: On the first page of the Proposal Form the bidder must be fully identified by completing the spaces provided for:

- (a) the legal name of the bidder,
- (b) the state under which laws the bidder’s business is organized and existing,
- (c) the city (and state) in which the bidder has its principal offices,
- (d) the bidder’s business organization, i.e., corporation, partnership, or individual (to be indicated by marking the applicable box and writing in the type of organization if it is not one of those listed), and
- (e) the partners or officers of the bidder’s organization, if the bidder is other than an individual. If the space provided on the Proposal Form is not adequate for this listing, the bidder may insert “See Attachment” in this space and provide the listing on an attachment to the Proposal Form.

(4) Where indicated by the format of the Proposal Form, the bidder must specify lump sum prices in both words and figures. In case of discrepancy between the prices shown in words and in figures, the words will govern.

(5) All bid items requested in the Proposal Form, including alternate bid prices and unit prices for separate items of the Work, must be bid. If a gross sum of bid items is requested in the Proposal Form, the gross sum shall be provided by the bidder.

(6) In the space provided in the Proposal Form under “Bidder’s Alabama License”, the bidder must insert his or her current general contractor’s state license number, current bid limit, and type(s) of work for which bidder is licensed.

- (7) The Proposal Form shall be properly signed by the bidder. If the bidder is:
- (a) **an individual**, that individual or his or her “authorized representative” must sign the Proposal Form;
 - (b) **a partnership**, the Proposal Form must be signed by one of the partners or an “authorized representative” of the Partnership;
 - (c) **a corporation**, the president, vice-president, secretary, or “authorized representative” of the corporation shall sign and affix the corporate seal to the Proposal Form.

As used in these Instructions to Bidders, “authorized representative” is defined as a person to whom the bidder has granted written authority to conduct business in the bidder’s behalf by signing and/or modifying the bid. Such written authority shall be signed by the bidder (the individual proprietor, or a member of the Partnership, or an officer of the Corporation) and shall be attached to the Proposal Form.

(8) Interlineation, alterations or erasures on the Proposal Form must be initialed by the bidder or its “authorized representative”.

b. Accounting of Sales Tax

A completed Accounting of Sales Tax must be submitted with Proposal Form. Submission of is required, it is not optional. A proposal shall be rendered non-responsive if an Accounting of Sales Tax is not provided.

c. Bid Guaranty

(1) The Proposal Form must be accompanied by a cashier’s check, drawn on an Alabama bank, or a Bid Bond, executed by a surety company duly authorized and qualified to make such bonds in the State of Alabama, payable to the Awarding Authority.

(2) If a Bid Bond is provided in lieu of a cashier’s check, the bond shall be on the Bid Bond form as stipulated in the Bid Documents.

(3) The amount of the cashier’s check or Bid Bond shall not be less than five percent of the contractor’s bid, but is not required to be in an amount more than ten thousand dollars.

d. Delivery of Bids:

(1) Bids will be received until the time set, and at the location designated, in the Advertisement for Bids unless notice is given of postponement. Any bid not received prior to the time set for opening bids will be rejected absent extenuating circumstances and such bids shall be rejected in all cases where received after other bids are opened.

(2) Each bid shall be placed, together with the bid guaranty, in a sealed envelope. On the outside of the envelope the bidder shall write in large letters "Proposal", below which the bidder shall identify the Project and the Work bid on, the name of the bidder, and the bidder's current general contractor's state license number.

(3) Bids may be delivered in person, or by mail if ample time is allowed for delivery. When sent by mail, the sealed envelope containing the bid, marked as indicated above, shall be enclosed in another envelope for mailing.

WITHDRAWAL or REVISION of BIDS:

a. A bid may be withdrawn prior to the time set for opening of bids, provided a written request, executed by the bidder or the bidder's "authorized representative", is filed with the Board prior to that time. The bid will then be returned to the bidder unopened.

b. A bid which has been sealed in its delivery envelope may be revised by writing the change in price on the outside of the delivery envelope over the signature of the bidder or the bidder's "authorized representative". In revising the bid in this manner, the bidder must only write the amount of the change in price on the envelope **and must not reveal the bid price.**

c. Written communications, signed by the bidder or its "authorized representative", to revise bids will be accepted if received by the Board prior to the time set for opening bids. The Board will record the instructed revision upon opening the bid. Such written communication may be by facsimile if so stipulated in Supplemental Instructions to Bidders. In revising the bid in this manner, the bidder must only write the amount of the change in price **and must not reveal the bid price.**

d. Except as provided in Article 12 of these Instructions to Bidders, no bid shall be withdrawn, modified, or corrected after the time set for opening bids.

OPENING of BIDS:

a. Bids will be opened and read publicly at the time and place indicated in the Advertisement for Bids. Bidders or their authorized representatives are invited to be present.

b. A list of all proposed major subcontractors and suppliers will be submitted by Bidders to the Board at a time subsequent to the receipt of bids as established by the Board in the Bid Documents but in no event shall this time exceed twenty-four (24) hours after receipt of bids. If the list includes a fire alarm contractor and/or fire sprinkler contractor, Bidders will also submit a copy of the fire alarm contractor's and/or fire sprinkler contractor's permits from the State of Alabama Fire Marshal's Office.

INCOMPLETE and IRREGULAR BIDS:

A bid that is not accompanied by data required by the Bid Documents, or a bid which is in any way incomplete, may be rejected. Any bid which contains any uninitialed alterations or erasures, or any bid which contains any additions, alternate bids, or

conditions not called for, or any other irregularities of any kind, will be subject to rejection.

BID ERRORS:

a. Errors and Discrepancies in the Proposal Form. In case of error in the extension of prices in bids, the unit price will govern. In case of discrepancy between the prices shown in the figures and in words, the words will govern.

b. Mistakes within the Bid. If the low bidder discovers a mistake in its bid, the low bidder may seek withdrawal of its bid without forfeiture of its bid guaranty under the following conditions:

(1) **Timely Notice:** The low bidder must notify the Awarding Authority in writing, within three working days after the opening of bids, that a mistake was made. This notice must be given within this time frame whether or not award has been made.

(2) **Substantial Mistake:** The mistake must be of such significance as to render the bid price substantially out of proportion to the other bid prices.

(3) **Type of Mistake:** The mistake must be due to calculation or clerical error, an inadvertent omission, or a typographical error which results in an erroneous sum. A mistake of law, judgment, or opinion shall not constitute a valid ground for withdrawal without forfeiture.

(4) **Documentary Evidence:** Clear and convincing documentary evidence of the mistake must be presented to the Awarding Authority as soon as possible, but no later than three working days after the opening of bids.

The Awarding Authority's decision regarding a low bidder's request to withdraw its bid without penalty shall be made within 10 days after receipt of the bidder's evidence or by the next regular meeting of the Awarding Authority. Upon withdrawal of bid without penalty, the low bidder shall be prohibited from (1) doing work on the project as a subcontractor or in any other capacity and (2) bidding on the same project if it is re-bid.

DISQUALIFICATION of BIDDERS:

Any bidder(s) may be disqualified from consideration for contract award for the following reasons:

a. Collusion. Any agreement or collusion among bidders or prospective bidders in restraint of freedom of competition to bid at a fixed price or to refrain from bidding or otherwise shall render the bids void and shall cause the bidders or prospective bidders participating in such agreement or collusion to be disqualified from submitting further bids to the Awarding Authority on future lettings. (See § 39-2-6, Code of Alabama 1975, for possible criminal sanctions.)

b. Advance Disclosure. Any disclosure in advance of the terms of a bid submitted in response to an Advertisement for Bids shall render the proceedings void and require re-advertisement and rebid.

c. Failure to Settle Other Contracts. The Awarding Authority may reject a bid from a bidder who has not paid, or satisfactorily settled, all bills due for labor and material on other contracts in force at the time of letting.

CONSIDERATION of BIDS:

a. After the bids are opened and read publicly, the bid prices will be compared and the results of this comparison will be available to the public. Until the final award of the contract, however, the Awarding Authority shall have the right to reject any or all bids, and it shall have the right to waive technical errors and irregularities if, in its judgment, the bidder will not have obtained a competitive advantage and the best interests of the Awarding Authority will be promoted.

b. If the Bid Documents request bids for projects or parts of projects in combination or separately, the Bid Documents must include supplements to, these Instructions to Bidders setting forth applicable bid procedures. Award or awards will be made to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder or bidders in accordance with such bid procedures.

DETERMINATION of LOW BIDDER by USE of ALTERNATES:

a. The Awarding Authority may request alternate bid prices (alternates) to facilitate either reducing the base bid to an amount within the funds available for the project or adding items to the base bid within the funds available for the project. Alternates, if any, are listed in the Proposal Form in the order in which they shall cumulatively deduct from or add to the base bid for determining the lowest bidder.

b. If alternates are included in the Proposal Form, the Awarding Authority shall determine the dollar amount of funds available and immediately prior to the opening of bids shall announce publicly the funds available for the project. The dollar amount of such funds shall be used to determine the lowest bidder as provided herein below, notwithstanding that the actual funds available for the project may subsequently be determined to be more or less than the expected funds available as determined immediately prior to the time of the opening of bids.

c. If the base bid of the lowest bidder exceeds the funds available and alternate bid prices will reduce the base bids to an amount that is within the funds available, the lowest bidder will be determined by considering, in order, the fewest number of the alternates that produces a price within the funds available. If the base bid of the lowest bidder is within the funds available and alternate bid prices will permit adding items to the base bid, the lowest bidder will be determined by considering, in order, the greatest number of the alternates that produces a price within the funds available.

d. After the lowest bidder has been determined as set forth above, the Awarding Authority may award that bidder any combination of alternates, provided said bidder is also the low bidder when only the Base Bid and such combination of alternates are considered.

UNIT PRICES:

a. Work Bid on a Unit Price Basis. Where all, or part(s), of the planned Work is bid on a unit price basis, both the unit prices and the extensions of the unit prices constitute a basis of determining the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. In cases of error in the extension of prices of bids, the unit price will govern. A bid may be rejected if any of the unit prices are obviously unbalanced or non-competitive.

b. Unit Prices for Application to Change Orders. As a means of predetermining unit costs for changes in certain elements of the Work, the Bid Documents may require that the bidders furnish unit prices for those items in the Proposal Form. Unit prices for application to changes in the work are not a basis for determining the lowest bidder. Non-competitive unit prices proposed by the successful bidder may be rejected and competitive prices negotiated by the Awarding Authority prior to contract award. Unit prices for application to changes in the work are not effective unless specifically included and agreed upon in the Construction Contract.

AWARD of CONTRACT:

a. The contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder unless the Awarding Authority finds that all the bids are unreasonable or that it is not in the best interest of the Awarding Authority to accept any of the bids. A responsible bidder is one who, among other qualities determined necessary for performance, is competent, experienced, and financially able to perform the contract. A responsive bidder is one who submits a bid that complies with the terms and conditions of the Advertisement for Bids and the Bid Documents. Minor irregularities in the bid shall not defeat responsiveness.

b. A bidder to whom award is made will be notified by confirmed facsimile or letter to the address shown on the Proposal Form at the earliest possible date. Unless other time frames are stipulated in Supplemental Instructions to Bidders, the maximum time frames allowed for each step of the process between the opening of bids and the issuance of an order to proceed with the work shall be as follows:

(1) Award of contract by Awarding Authority	30 calendar days after the opening of the bids
(2) Contractor's return of the fully executed contract, with bonds and evidence of insurance, to the Awarding Authority	15 calendar days after the contract has been presented to the contractor for signature
(3) Awarding Authority's approval of the contractor's bonds and evidence of insurance and completion of contract execution	20 calendar days after the contractor presents complete and acceptable documents to the Board

(4) Notice to Proceed issued to the contractor along with distribution of the fully executed construction contract to all parties.	15 calendar days after final execution of contract by the Awarding Authority, by various State Agencies if required and by the Governor if his or her signature on the contract is required by law
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The time frames stated above, or as otherwise specified in the Bid Documents, may be extended by written agreement between the parties. Failure by the Awarding Authority to comply with the time frames stated above or stipulated in Supplemental Instructions to Bidders, or agreed extensions thereof, shall be just cause for the withdrawal of the contractor's bid and contract without forfeiture of bid security.

c. Should the successful bidder or bidders to whom the contract is awarded fail to execute the Construction Contract and furnish acceptable Performance and Payment Bonds and satisfactory evidence of insurance within the specified period, the Awarding Authority shall retain from the bid guaranty, if it is a cashier's check, or recover from the principal or the sureties, if the guaranty is a bid bond, the difference between the amount of the contract as awarded and the amount of the bid of the next lowest responsible and responsive bidder, but not more than \$10,000. If no other bids are received, the full amount of the bid guaranty shall be so retained or recovered as liquidated damages for such default. Any sums so retained or recovered shall be the property of the Awarding Authority.

d. All bid guaranties, except those of the three lowest bona fide bidders, will be returned immediately after bids have been checked, tabulated, and the relation of the bids established. The bid guaranties of the three lowest bidders will be returned as soon as the contract bonds and the contract of the successful bidder have been properly executed and approved. When the award is deferred for a period of time longer than 15 days after the opening of the bids, all bid guaranties, except those of the potentially successful bidders, shall be returned. If no award is made within the specified period, as it may by agreement be extended, all bids will be rejected, and all guaranties returned. If any potentially successful bidder agrees in writing to a stipulated extension in time for consideration of its bid and its bid was guaranteed with a cashier's check, the Awarding Authority may permit the potentially successful bidder to substitute a satisfactory bid bond for the cashier's check.

End of Instructions to Bidders