



UNIVERSITY
OF KENTUCKY

Purchasing Division

Request for Proposal

UK-2369-24

Proposal Due Date – 8/15/23

Ad Specialty, Promotional Items,
and Related Services



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Purchasing Division

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

ATTENTION: This is not an order. Read all instructions, terms and conditions carefully.

PROPOSAL NO.:	UK-2369-24	RETURN ORIGINAL COPY OF PROPOSAL TO:
Issue Date:	7/12/23	UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Title:	Ad Specialty, Promotional Items, and Related Services	PURCHASING DIVISION
Purchasing Officer:	Rebecca Purcell	411 S LIMESTONE
Email/Phone:	rpurcell@uky.edu 859-257-5479	ROOM 322 PETERSON SERVICE BLDG.
		LEXINGTON, KY 40506-0005

IMPORTANT: PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: 8/15/23 3 P.M. LEXINGTON, KY TIME.

NOTICE OF REQUIREMENTS

- The University's General Terms and Conditions and Instructions to Bidders, viewable at <https://purchasing.uky.edu/bid-and-proposal-opportunities>, apply to this RFP. When the RFP includes construction services, the University's General Conditions and Special Conditions for Construction and Instructions to Bidders, viewable at <https://purchasing.uky.edu/bid-and-proposal-opportunities>, apply to the RFP.
- Contracts resulting from this RFP must be governed by and in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- Any agreement or collusion among offerors or prospective offerors, which restrains, tends to restrain, or is reasonably calculated to restrain competition by agreement to bid at a fixed price or to refrain from offering, or otherwise, is prohibited.
- Any person who violates any provisions of KRS 45A.325 shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by a fine of not less than five thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars, or be imprisoned not less than one year nor more than five years, or both such fine and imprisonment. Any firm, corporation, or association who violates any of the provisions of KRS 45A.325 shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than ten thousand dollars or more than twenty thousand dollars.

AUTHENTICATION OF BID AND STATEMENT OF NON-COLLUSION AND NON-CONFLICT OF INTEREST

I hereby swear (or affirm) under the penalty for false swearing as provided by KRS 523.040:

- That I am the offeror (if the offeror is an individual), a partner, (if the offeror is a partnership), or an officer or employee of the bidding corporation having authority to sign on its behalf (if the offeror is a corporation);
- That the attached proposal has been arrived at by the offeror independently and has been submitted without collusion with, and without any agreement, understanding or planned common course of action with, any other Contractor of materials, supplies, equipment or services described in the RFP, designed to limit independent bidding or competition;
- That the contents of the proposal have not been communicated by the offeror or its employees or agents to any person not an employee or agent of the offeror or its surety on any bond furnished with the proposal and will not be communicated to any such person prior to the official closing of the RFP;
- That the offeror is legally entitled to enter into contracts with the University of Kentucky and is not in violation of any prohibited conflict of interest, including, but not limited to, those prohibited by the provisions of KRS 45A.330 to .340, and 164.390;
- That the offeror, and its affiliates, are duly registered with the Kentucky Department of Revenue to collect and remit the sale and use tax imposed by Chapter 139 to the extent required by Kentucky law and will remain registered for the duration of any contract award;
- That I have fully informed myself regarding the accuracy of the statement made above.

SWORN STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS

In accordance with KRS 45A.110 (2), the undersigned hereby swears under penalty of perjury that he/she has not knowingly violated any provision of the campaign finance laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and that the award of a contract to a bidder will not violate any provision of the campaign finance laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

CONTRACTOR REPORT OF PRIOR VIOLATIONS OF KRS CHAPTERS 136, 139, 141, 337, 338, 341 & 342

The contractor by signing and submitting a proposal agrees as required by 45A.485 to submit final determinations of any violations of the provisions of KRS Chapters 136, 139, 141, 337, 338, 341 and 342 that have occurred in the previous five (5) years prior to the award of a contract and agrees to remain in continuous compliance with the provisions of the statutes during the duration of any contract that may be established. Final determinations of violations of these statutes must be provided to the University by the successful contractor prior to the award of a contract.

CERTIFICATION OF NON-SEGREGATED FACILITIES

The contractor, by submitting a proposal, certifies that he/she is in compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations, No. 41 CFR 60-1.8(b) that prohibits the maintaining of segregated facilities.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED: This proposal cannot be considered valid unless signed and dated by an authorized agent of the offeror. Type or print the signatory's name, title, address, phone number and fax number in the spaces provided. Offers signed by an agent are to be accompanied by evidence of his/her authority unless such evidence has been previously furnished to the issuing office.

DELIVERY TIME:	NAME OF COMPANY:	DUNS #
PROPOSAL FIRM THROUGH:	ADDRESS:	Phone/Fax:
PAYMENT TERMS:	CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE:	E-MAIL:
SHIPPING TERMS: F. O. B. DESTINATION PREPAID AND ALLOWED	TYPED OR PRINTED NAME:	WEB ADDRESS:
FEDERAL EMPLOYER ID NO.:	SIGNATURE:	DATE:

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1.0 DEFINITIONS

The term "addenda" means written or graphic instructions issued by the University of Kentucky prior to the receipt of proposals that modify or interpret the RFP documents by additions, deletions, clarifications and/or corrections.

The term "competitive negotiations" means the method authorized in the Kentucky Revised Statutes, Chapter 45A.085.

The terms "offer" or "proposal" mean the offeror's/offers' response to this RFP.

The term "offeror" means the entity or contractor group submitting the proposal.

The term "contractor" means the entity receiving a contract award.

The term "purchasing agency" means the University of Kentucky, Purchasing Division, Room 322 Peterson Service Building, Lexington, KY 40506-0005.

The term "purchasing official" means the University of Kentucky's appointed contracting representative.

The term "responsible offeror" means a person, company or corporation that has the capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability that will assure good faith performance. In determining whether an offeror is responsible, the University may evaluate various factors including (but not limited to): financial resources; experience; organization; technical qualifications; available resources; record of performance; integrity; judgment; ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the contract; adversarial relationship between the offeror and the University that is so serious and compelling that it may negatively impact the work performed under this RFP; or any other cause determined to be so serious and compelling as to affect the responsibility of the offeror.

The term "solicitation" means RFP.

The term "University" means University of Kentucky.

2.0 GENERAL OVERVIEW

2.1 Intent and Scope

The purpose of this Request for Proposals is to establish one or more price contracts for the purchase of Ad Specialty (ASI)/Promotional Items and Related Services for University of Kentucky. Offeror(s) should be knowledgeable of contemporary marketing strategies and capable of creative input with respect to ASI/Promotional items. It is the University's intent to award contracts based on the full line of products as listed in Attachment A but the University reserves the right to award per category listed in Attachment A if it is in the best interest of the University to do so. A listing of items frequently purchased by UK is contained in the accompanying Attachment A and shall serve as basis for Financial Proposals by Offerors. The University is also interested in value-added services such as designated account representatives, customer-service, product selection guidance, warehousing of items if needed, delivery services, and other value-added services as needed.

Within the awarded contracts University departments may obtain quotes from multiple contracted sources to determine the best value to the University at time of purchase. Contracted vendors may offer additional discounts at time of quote.

Offeror(s) must possess (or agree to obtain, if considered for award) the "Internal (non-retail)" level license for imprinting University of Kentucky logos via the University's licensing agent, Fanatics Licensing Management. Any items ordered by the University for Internal Use only are not subject to the royalty fee. Among other requirements, Fanatics licensing requires an application fee, product liability insurance, etc. If needed, additional information regarding the licensing process can be found at the Fanatics Licensing Management's website, <https://fanaticslicensingmanagement.com/college/>. Offerors are not required to hold or apply for the restricted license in order to submit a proposal to this RFP. If an offeror is deemed acceptable to award they must be approved by Fanatics Licensing Management before the contract can be executed.

Offerors shall be familiar with University of Kentucky Brand Standards and agree to abide by all related policy and usage. University Brand Standards are maintained by the University Public Relations Office (UKPR) and can be viewed at <http://www.uky.edu/prmarketing/brand-standards>.

Graphics standards for the UK HealthCare areas are governed by UK HealthCare Clinical Enterprise Graphic Standards, found at: <https://ukhealthcare.uky.edu/staff/brand-strategy>.

2.2 University Information

Upon his arrival in 2011, President Eli Capilouto set an ambitious agenda to extend and enhance our role as Kentucky's land-grant and flagship research university. By focusing on infrastructure growth and improvement; creating opportunities for innovative teaching, learning and academic excellence; fostering a robust research enterprise; providing life-saving subspecialty care; empowering communities through service and outreach; and encouraging a transparent and shared dialogue about institutional priorities; the University of Kentucky will help ensure a Kentucky tomorrow that is healthier, wealthier and wiser than it is today.

Our mission is to advance Kentucky.

Founded in 1865 as a land-grant institution adjacent to downtown Lexington, UK is nestled in the scenic heart of the beautiful Bluegrass region of Kentucky. From its early beginnings, with only 190 students and 10 professors, UK's campus now covers more than 900 acres. The university enrolled more than 32,000 students in Fall 2022 and has approximately 25,000 employees, including nearly 3,000 full-time faculty.

UK is one of a small number of universities in the United States that has programs in agriculture, engineering, law, fine arts and a full complement of health colleges including medicine and pharmacy, on a single campus alongside an academic health system, leading to groundbreaking discoveries and unique interdisciplinary collaboration.

The state's flagship university consists of 18 academic and professional colleges where students can choose from more than 200 majors and degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The colleges are Agriculture, Food and Environment; Arts and Sciences; Business and Economics; Communication and Information; Dentistry; Design; Education; Engineering; Fine Arts; Graduate School; Health Sciences; Honors; Law; Medicine; Nursing; Pharmacy; Public Health; and Social Work. These colleges are supported by a modern research library system.

Research at the University of Kentucky is a dynamic enterprise encompassing both traditional scholarship and emerging technologies. UK's research faculty, staff and students are establishing UK as one of the nation's most prolific public research universities. UK researchers were awarded more than \$452.9 million in extramural grant and contract funding in fiscal year 2022. Fifty-six percent of this funding comes from agencies in the federal government (\$256 million) such as the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, Department of Defense and numerous other federal, state and industry sponsors. Expenditures from research and development (R&D) activities at the university generate more than \$772 million in economic development across the Commonwealth of Kentucky and support more than 4,395 jobs.

With more than 70 research centers and institutes, UK researchers are discovering new knowledge, providing a rich training ground for current students and the next generation of researchers and advancing the economic growth of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Several centers excel in the services offered to the public. The Gluck Equine Research Center is one of only three facilities of its kind in the world, conducting equine disease research.

The Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER) is internationally recognized for research in algae for carbon dioxide clean up, carbon materials, concrete and cement, emissions control in utilities, energy policy, fuels research, hydrogen, materials characterization and plant optimization.

Among the brightest examples of UK's investment in transformative research is the Markey Cancer Center. As a center of excellence and distinction at UK, Markey's robust research and clinical enterprise is the cornerstone of our commitment to Kentucky – fundamental to our success in uplifting lives through our endeavors and improving the general health and welfare of our state – burdened by the nation's highest rate of cancer deaths per 100,000 people. In 2013, Markey earned the prestigious National Cancer Institute-designation (NCI) – one of 68 nationally and the only one in Kentucky. The designation was renewed in 2018.

Both CAER and Markey are cornerstones of seven Research Priority Areas (RPAs) at the University of Kentucky. These areas — chosen based on local relevance, existing funding strength, sustainability and disciplinary scholarly diversity — focus UK's top research talent on the most pressing challenges confronting our state.

The University of Kentucky is the recipient of a Clinical Translational Sciences Award (CTSA) from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). As one of only 60 institutions with this research distinction, UK was awarded the CTSA for its potential in moving research and discovery in the lab into practical field and community applications. The CTSA and NCI are part of a trifecta of federal research grants that includes an Alzheimer's Disease Center. UK is one of only 29 universities in the country to hold all three premier grants from NIH.

Established in 1957, the medical center at UK is one of the nation's finest academic medical centers and includes the university's clinical enterprise, UK HealthCare. Licensed for 965 beds across UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital, Kentucky Children's Hospital and UK Good Samaritan Hospital, the system is supported by a growing faculty and staff providing the most advanced subspecialty care for the most critically injured and ill patients throughout the Commonwealth and beyond. Since 2014, the number of patients served by the medical enterprise has nearly doubled, with more than 38,000 discharges in 2022.

UK Chandler Hospital includes the only Level 1 Trauma Center for both adult and pediatric patients in Central and Eastern Kentucky. In addition, UK HealthCare recently opened one of the country's largest robotic hybrid operating rooms and the first of its kind in the region. While the new patient care pavilion is the leading health care facility for advanced medical procedures in the region, our talented physicians consult with and travel to our network of affiliate hospitals so Kentuckians can receive the best health care available close to their home and never need to leave the Bluegrass for complex subspecialty care.

As of December 1, 2022, King's Daughters Medical Center, based in Ashland, Kentucky, officially became part of the University of Kentucky. King's Daughters Medical Center serves a 16-county region across Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia. Its health system is composed of two acute-care hospitals totaling 465 licensed beds, more than 50 ambulatory centers and practice locations, a long-term care facility, medical transport company and six urgent care centers.

UK's agenda remains committed to accelerating the university's academic excellence in all areas and gaining worldwide recognition for its outstanding academic programs, its commitment to students, its investment in pioneering research and discovery, its success in building a diverse community and its engagement with the larger society. This commitment is all part of the university's mission as a 21st century flagship and land-grant research university. From its Nobel Laureates to cutting-edge work in addressing health disparities, and from the artistic wonders that stir souls to our scientific creativity that inspires minds, UK seeks a brighter future through the contributions of our faculty, staff, students and alumni.

We are the University of Kentucky. We are committed to advancing Kentucky in everything that we do.

SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is an institution-wide priority for the University of Kentucky. We strive to ensure that all activities are ecologically sound, socially just, and economically viable, and that they will continue to be so for future generations. This commitment also prioritizes the integration of these principles in curricula, research, athletics, health care, creative works, and outreach. This principled approach to operational practices and intellectual pursuits is intended to prepare students and empower the campus community to support sustainable development in the Commonwealth and beyond. The UK

Sustainability Strategic Plan guides these efforts (<https://www.uky.edu/sustainability/sustainability-strategic-plan>).

2.3 Supplier Diversity and Procurement

The University of Kentucky is committed to serve as an advocate for diverse businesses in their efforts to conduct business. Diverse Business Enterprises (DBE) consist of minority, women, disabled, veteran and disabled veteran owned business firms that are at least fifty-one percent owned and operated by an individual(s) of the aforementioned categories. Also included in this category are disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled.

The University is committed to increasing the amount of goods and services acquired from businesses owned and controlled by diverse persons to 10% of all procurement expenditures. The University expects its suppliers to support and assist in this effort.

Among the University's goals for DBE participation in procurement are:

- To ensure the absence of barriers that reduce the participation of diverse suppliers
- Educate vendors on "how to" do business with the University
- Support diverse vendors seeking to do business with the University in the areas of goods, services, construction, and other areas of procurement
- Encourage participation of qualified diverse vendors by directing them to agencies that can benefit from their product or service
- Provide resources for diverse vendors
- Sponsor events to assist diverse vendors in becoming active, responsible, and responsive participants in the University's purchasing opportunities

For additional information regarding how diverse suppliers may participate in this Request for Proposal, submit any questions to the Purchasing Officer as indicated in Section 3.2 by the Deadline for Written Questions date.

3.0 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Key Event Dates

Release of RFP	7/12/23
Deadline for Written Questions	3 p.m. Eastern Time on 7/18/23
RFP Proposals Due	3 p.m. Eastern Time on 8/15/23

3.2 Offeror Communication

To ensure that RFP documentation and subsequent information (modifications, clarifications, addenda, Written Questions and Answers, etc.) are directed to the appropriate persons within the offeror's firm, each offeror who intends to participate in this RFP is to provide the following information to the purchasing officer. Prompt, thorough compliance is in the best interest of the offeror. Failure to comply may result in incomplete or delayed communication of addenda or other vital information. Contact information is the responsibility of the offeror. Without the prompt information, any communication shortfall shall reside with the offeror.

- Name of primary contact
- Mailing address of primary contact
- Telephone number of primary contact
- Fax number of primary contact
- E-mail address of primary contact
- Additional contact persons with same information provided as primary contact

This information shall be transmitted via fax or e-mail to:

Rebecca Purcell
 Procurement Services
 University of Kentucky
 322 Peterson Service Building
 Lexington, KY 40506-0005
 Phone: (859) 257-5479
 Fax: (859) 257-1951
 E-mail: rpurcell@uky.edu

All communication with the University regarding this RFP shall only be directed to the Procurement Services officer listed above.

3.3 Offeror Presentations

All offerors whose proposals are judged acceptable for award may be required to make a presentation to the evaluation committee.

3.4 **Preparation of Offers**

The offeror is expected to follow all specifications, terms, conditions and instructions in this RFP.

The offeror will furnish all information required by this solicitation.

Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, providing a description of the offeror's capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the solicitation. Emphasis should be on completeness and clarity of content. All documentation submitted with the proposal should be bound in the single volume except as otherwise specified.

An electronic version of the RFP, in .PDF format only, is available through the University of Kentucky Purchasing Division website at: <https://purchasing.uky.edu/bid-and-proposal-opportunities>.

3.5 **Proposed Deviations from the RFP**

The stated requirements appearing elsewhere in this RFP shall become a part of the terms and conditions of any resulting contract. Any deviations therefrom must be specifically defined in accordance with the transmittal letter, Section 4.3 (d). If accepted by the University, the deviations shall become part of the contract, but such deviations must not be in conflict with the basic nature of this RFP.

Note: Offerors shall not submit their standard terms and conditions as exceptions to the University's General Terms and Conditions. Each exception to the University's General Terms and Conditions shall be individually addressed.

3.6 **Proposal Submission and Deadline**

Offeror must provide the following materials prior to 3 p.m. (Lexington, KY time) on the date specified in Section 3.1 and addressed to the purchasing officer listed in Section 3.2:

- **Technical Proposal:** Two (2) copies on electronic storage devices (USB) (1 copy per storage device) each clearly marked with the proposal number and name, firm name and what is included (Technical Proposal) and two (2) printed original copies
- **Financial Proposal:** Two (2) copies on electronic storage devices (USB) (1 copy per storage device) each clearly marked with the proposal number and name, firm name and what is included (Financial Proposal) and two (2) printed original copies

Note: Proposals received after the closing date and time will not be considered. In addition, proposals received via fax or e-mail are not acceptable.

The University of Kentucky accepts deliveries of RFPs Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lexington, KY time. However, RFPs must be received by 3 p.m. Lexington, KY time on the date specified on the RFP in order to be considered.

Proposals shall be enclosed in sealed envelopes to the above referenced address and shall show on the face of the envelope: the closing time and date specified, the solicitation number and the

name and address of the offeror. The technical proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope and the financial proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope under separate cover. Both sealed envelopes shall have identical information on the cover, with the addition that one will state "Technical Information," and the other, "Financial Proposal."

Note: In accordance with the Kentucky Revised Statute 45A.085, there will be no public opening.

3.7 Modification or Withdrawal of Offer

An offer and/or modification of offer received at the office designated in the solicitation after the exact hour and date specified for receipt will not be considered.

An offer may be modified or withdrawn by written notice before the exact hour and date specified for receipt of offers. An offer also may be withdrawn in person by an offeror or an authorized representative, provided the identity of the person is made known and the person signs a receipt for the offer, but only if the withdrawal is made prior to the exact hour and date set for receipt of offers.

3.8 Acceptance or Rejection and Award of Proposal

The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals (or parts of proposals), to waive any informalities or technicalities, to clarify any ambiguities in proposals and (unless otherwise specified) to accept any item in the proposal. In case of error in extension or prices or other errors in calculation, the unit price shall govern. Further, the University reserves the right to make a single award, split awards, multiple awards or no award, whichever is in the best interest of the University.

3.9 Rejection

Grounds for the rejection of proposals include (but shall not be limited to):

- Failure of a proposal to conform to the essential requirements of the RFP.
- Imposition of conditions that would significantly modify the terms and conditions of the solicitation or limit the offeror's liability to the University on the contract awarded on the basis of such solicitation.
- Failure of the offeror to sign the University RFP. This includes the Authentication of Proposal and Statement of Non-Collusion and Non-Conflict of Interest statements.
- Receipt of proposal after the closing date and time specified in the RFP.

3.10 Addenda

Any addenda or instructions issued by the purchasing agency prior to the time for receiving proposals shall become a part of this RFP. Such addenda shall be acknowledged in the proposal.

No instructions or changes shall be binding unless documented by a proper and duly issued addendum.

3.11 Disclosure of Offeror's Response

The RFP specifies the format, required information and general content of proposals submitted in response to this RFP. The purchasing agency will not disclose any portions of the proposals prior to contract award to anyone outside the Purchasing Division, the University's administrative staff, representatives of the state or federal government (if required) and the members of the committee evaluating the proposals. After a contract is awarded in whole or in part, the University shall have the right to duplicate, use or disclose all proposal data submitted by offerors in response to this RFP as a matter of public record.

Any submitted proposal shall remain valid six (6) months after the proposal due date.

The University shall have the right to use all system ideas, or adaptations of those ideas, contained in any proposal received in response to this RFP. Selection or rejection of the proposal will not affect this right.

3.12 Restrictions on Communications with University Staff

From the issue date of this RFP until a contractor is selected and a contract award is made, offerors are not allowed to communicate about the subject of the RFP with any University administrator, faculty, staff or members of the board of trustees except: the purchasing office representative, any University purchasing official representing the University administration, others authorized in writing by the purchasing office and University representatives during offeror presentations. If violation of this provision occurs, the University reserves the right to reject the offeror's proposal.

3.13 Cost of Preparing Proposal

Costs for developing the proposals and any subsequent activities prior to contract award are solely the responsibility of the offerors. The University will provide no reimbursement for such costs.

3.14 Disposition of Proposals

All proposals become the property of the University. The successful proposal will be incorporated into the resulting contract by reference.

3.15 Alternate Proposals

Offerors may submit alternate proposals. If more than one proposal is submitted, all must be complete (separate) and comply with the instructions set forth within this document. Each proposal will be evaluated on its own merits.

3.16 Questions

All questions should be submitted by either fax or e-mail to the purchasing officer listed in Section 3.2 no later than the date listed in Section 3.1.

3.17 Section Titles in the RFP

Section titles used herein are for the purpose of facilitating ease of reference only and shall not be construed to infer the construction of contractual language.

3.18 No Contingent Fees

No person or selling agency shall be employed or retained or given anything of monetary value to solicit or secure this contract, except bona fide employees of the offeror or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the offeror for the purpose of securing business. For breach or violation of this provision, the University shall have the right to reject the proposal, annul the contract without liability, or, at its discretion, deduct from the contract price or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee or other benefit.

3.19 Proposal Addenda and Rules for Withdrawal

Prior to the date specified for receipt of offers, a submitted proposal may be withdrawn by submitting a written request for its withdrawal to the University purchasing office, signed by the offeror. Unless requested by the University, the University will not accept revisions or alterations to proposals after the proposal due date.

3.20 Requirement To Perform Vendor Onboarding and Registration

As a condition of award, and for any renewals performed during the life of the contract, successful Contractor agrees to register their company with PaymentWorks, Inc., the University's vendor onboarding application. Registration information will be provided by the Purchasing Division as part of the award process. During the vendor registration process, successful Contractor agrees to provide any applicable information pertaining to diversity demographics for their company. Further, should any company or diversity information change during the life of the contract, successful Contractor agrees to update this information in PaymentWorks as applicable.

4.0 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

4.1 Proposal Information and Criteria

The following list specifies the items to be addressed in the proposal. Offerors should read it carefully and address it completely and in the order listed to facilitate the University's review of the proposal.

Proposals shall be organized into the sections identified below. The content of each section is detailed in the following pages. It is strongly suggested that offerors use the same numbers for the following content that are used in the RFP.

- Signed Authentication of Proposal and Statement of Non-Collusion and Non-Conflict of Interest Form
- Transmittal Letter
- Executive Summary and Proposal Overview
- Criteria 1 - Offeror Qualifications
- Criteria 2 - Services Defined
- Criteria 3 - Financial Proposal
- Criteria 4 - Evidence of Successful Performance and Implementation Schedule
- Criteria 5 - Other Additional Information

4.2 Signed Authentication of Proposal and Statements of Non-Collusion and Non-Conflict of Interest Form

The Offeror will sign and return the proposal cover sheet and print or type their name, firm, address, telephone number and date. The person signing the offer must initial erasures or other changes. An offer signed by an agent is to be accompanied by evidence of their authority unless such evidence has been previously furnished to the purchasing agency. The signer shall further certify that the proposal is made without collusion with any other person, persons, company or parties submitting a proposal; that it is in all respects fair and in good faith without collusion or fraud; and that the signer is authorized to bind the principal offeror.

4.3 Transmittal Letter

The Transmittal Letter accompanying the RFP shall be in the form of a standard business letter and shall be signed by an individual authorized to legally bind the offeror. It shall include:

- A statement referencing all addenda and written questions, the answers and any clarifications to this RFP issued by the University and received by the offeror (If no addenda have been received, a statement to that effect should be included.).
- A statement that the offeror's proposal shall remain valid for six (6) months after the closing date of the receipt of the proposals.
- A statement that the offeror will accept financial responsibility for all travel expenses incurred for oral presentations (if required) and candidate interviews.

- A statement that summarizes any deviations or exceptions to the RFP requirements and includes a detailed justification for the deviation or exception.
- A statement that identifies the confidential information as described in Section 6.23.

4.4 Executive Summary and Proposal Overview

The Executive Summary and Proposal Overview shall condense and highlight the contents of the technical proposal in such a way as to provide the evaluation committee with a broad understanding of the entire proposal.

As part of the Executive Summary and Proposal Overview, Offeror shall submit with their response a summarized profile describing the demographic nature of their company or organization:

1. When was your organization established and/or incorporated?
2. Indicate whether your organization is classified as local, regional, national, or international.
3. Describe the size of your company in terms of number of employees, gross sales, etc.
4. Is your company certified as small business, minority-owned, women-owned, veteran-owned, disabled-owned, or similar classification?
5. Include other demographic information that you feel may be applicable to the Request for Proposal submission.
6. Offeror shall describe in detail their company’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Information shall be provided as to the number of diverse individuals that the vendor employees as well as a description of vendors efforts to do business with Diverse Business Enterprises as they conduct their own business. In additional, please indicate the diversity nature of your company as well as ownership race/ethnicity.

Diverse Business Description	Check All That Apply
Minority-Owned	
Woman-Owned	
Small Business	
Veteran-Owned	
LGBTQ-Owned	
Disability-Owned Business Entity (DOBE)	
Diversity not indicated	

Race/Ethnicity	Check One
Asian	
Black/African American	
Hispanic or Latino	
Native American	
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	
White	
Other	
Prefer not to say	

4.5 Criteria 1 - Offeror Qualifications

The purpose of the Offeror Qualifications section is to determine the ability of the offeror to respond to this RFP. Offerors should describe and offer evidence of their ability to meet each of the qualifications listed below.

Our supply chains and business partnerships are an important aspect of this work. In your proposal, please (A) provide your company’s mission and vision relative to sustainability, and (B) how your company, through services, products, and partnerships, will help the University of Kentucky advance specific elements of the Sustainability Strategic Plan.

1. Provide a brief narrative of your firm indicating scope of products sold, scope of present customer base, number of employees, number of years in ASI/Promotional business, supplier network, etc. Offerors shall be firmly established within the ASI/Promotional industry. Offerors shall be experienced and knowledgeable of contemporary ASI/Promotional products, be able to offer creative advice on marketing ASI/Promotional products, be able to determine and communicate what types of products best serve specific needs and directives, understand “logo fits-well” concepts, etc.
2. Offeror shall have one or more representatives to designate to the University Of Kentucky account to provide customer service, search and locate products, investigate and offer creative options for ASI/Promotional items; manage other elements as listed below under section 4.6. The representatives will work with UK employees on an as-needed basis in the selection and provision of ASI/Promotional items for their programs.
3. Describe the location of your office and the warehouse that will service the account. Provide an organizational chart of your company including all individuals who will be responsible for the University’s account and provision of related services if requested.

4. Describe past sales or services that your company has provided to clients that are similar to the items requested in this RFP. Have you provided similar products or services to public service clients, educational institutions, and/or HealthCare clients?
5. Provide certified, audited financial statements including a full set of notes as follows:
 - a. For the past three (3) fiscal years, include at a minimum, income statements, balance sheets, and statements of changes in financial position or cash flows. If three (3) years of financial statements are not available, this information shall be provided to the fullest extent possible for the reasons why, if they are not available.
 - b. For a private held company, when certified audited financial statements are not prepared; a written statement from the company's certified public accountant, stating the financial condition, debt-to-asset ratio for the past three (3) years and any pending actions.
 - c. The company's most recent debt rating from Standard & Poors, Moody's or Dunn & Bradstreet.

Failure to provide the above financial information may result in rejection of proposal submission.

6. If the Offeror has had a contract terminated for default in the last five (5) years, describe such incident. Submit full details for the default, including the other parties' name, address, and phone number. Present the Offeror's position on the matter. The University will evaluate the facts and may, at its sole discretion, reject the proposal on the grounds of the past experience. If the Offeror has experienced no such termination for default in the past five years, so indicate.
7. Has Offerors company or companies ever filed for bankruptcy, been in loan default, or are there are any pending liens, claims or lawsuits against the firm. If so, please describe.
8. Describe other qualifications your firm offers that may be beneficial to the University for evaluation purposes of this RFP.

4.6 Criteria 2 – Services Defined

Offerors shall describe and offer evidence of their ability to meet each of the required services listed below:

1. Provide a description of overall plan of sales and customer service to UK for the ASI/Promotional items as described in Attachment A. Describe how the customer service representative(s) would partner with UK in meeting the needs of UK programs.
2. Provide a description of graphic design services available, if they should be requested, to assist with artwork for imprinting onto ASI/promotional items.
3. Describe your company's proofing capabilities. How are proofs expedited and approved for items to be ordered?
4. Provide description of ordering process including fulfillment handling of back orders, and order tracking.

5. Describe how returns/damaged goods are handled. What happens to University logo'd items that are returned?
6. "Quality of products will be evaluated for intended use and value commensurate to the cost of the product." What steps do you take to ensure the products you offer meet this criteria?
7. What are the steps you would take if the quality of the product ordered does not meet the quality standards of the end user?
8. Some products may be ordered and shipped direct to the UK ordering department; the ordering department may also request contractor to warehouse and deliver some items on an as-needed basis. Describe your ability to provide this service.

If there are additional charges for warehousing of items, beyond the pricing of items within Attachment A, Offerors must include a breakdown of warehouse charges as part of their Financial Proposal in Section 7.0.

9. Provide a description of delivery services available.
10. What shipping options are available for products purchased and shipped direct to the ordering department and how are shipping costs determined? How are production and shipping times determined?
11. Describe how and where products are imprinted or embroidered? Are imprint services provided by Offeror or all services provided at manufacturer?
12. Does your company provide electronic catalogs or website resources (e.g., searchable databases) to assist in product searches by UK personnel?
13. Describe the availability of samples or descriptive literature should such be requested by UK personnel during the selection or ordering process?
14. Does your company provide electronic catalogs or website resources (e.g., searchable databases) to assist in product searches by UK personnel?
15. Describe promotional or seasonal inducements, special offers, etc. that may be available from your company.
16. Describe products that may be available from your company other than items listed in the Attachment A. Any relevant pricing information regarding such items must be identified within the Financial Proposal under Section 7.
17. Provide other information that may be pertinent to this RFP, represent best practices, streamlined or more efficient processes, etc.
18. Provide information on your Graphic Designer. How long have they performed this type of work?
19. What items/services do you sub-contract and which are done in house?

20. Quotes shall be given to University departments upon request and each quote should contain the following items: manufacturer name and product number, vendor product number, description, color and if clothing a breakdown of quantity per size. Provide a sample quote.

4.7 Criteria 3 – Financial Proposal

The Financial Summary Form shall contain the complete financial offer made to the University using the format contained in Section 7.0. All financial information must be submitted in a sealed envelope under separate cover.

4.8 Criteria 4 – Evidence of Successful Performance and Implementation Schedule

The purpose of the Evidence of Successful Performance and Implementation Schedule section is to determine the ability of the Offeror to respond to this Request for Proposal. Offerors must describe and offer evidence of their ability to meet each of the qualifications listed below.

1. Describe similar work performed by your company in the past five (5) years sufficient to demonstrate experience and performance. Include specific examples of how your company's efforts resulted in exceptional customer service for specific purchases, events, programs, etc.
2. Provide name and contact information for a minimum of three (3) references for whom you have provided products and/or services similar to the items in this RFP. By providing the reference information, Offeror permits the University to contact the references. These are to be non-University of Kentucky references.
3. Should you be awarded a contract what would you need from the University of Kentucky to be a successful contractor?
4. Provide information on any specialty product lines you offer.

4.9 Criteria 5 – Other Additional Information

Please provide any additional information that the offeror feels should be considered when evaluating their proposal.

The offeror may present any creative approaches that might be appropriate. The offeror may also provide supporting documentation that would be pertinent to this RFP.

Offeror shall describe in detail their company's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. Information shall be provided as to the number of diverse individuals that the vendor employees as well as a description of vendors efforts to do business with Diverse Business Enterprises as they conduct their own business.

5.0 EVALUATION CRITERIA PROCESS

A committee of University officials appointed by the Chief Procurement Officer will evaluate proposals and make a recommendation to the Chief Procurement Officer. The evaluation will be based upon the information provided in the proposal, additional information requested by the University for clarification, information obtained from references and independent sources and oral presentations (if requested).

The evaluation of responsive proposals shall then be completed by an evaluation team, which will determine the ranking of proposals. Proposals will be evaluated strictly in accordance with the requirements set forth in this solicitation, including any addenda that are issued. The University will award the contract to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the University, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in this RFP.

The evaluation of proposals will include consideration of responses to the list of criteria in Section 4.0. Offerors must specifically address all criteria in their response. Any deviations or exceptions to the specifications or requirements must be described and justified in a transmittal letter. Failure to list such exceptions or deviations in the transmittal letter may be considered sufficient reason to reject the proposal.

The relative importance of the criteria is defined below:

Primary Criteria

- Offeror Qualifications
- Services Defined
- Financial Proposal
- Evidence of Successful Performance and Implementation

Secondary Criteria

- Other Additional Services

The University will evaluate proposals as submitted and may not notify offerors of deficiencies in their responses.

Proposals must contain responses to each of the criteria, listed in Section 4 even if the offeror's response cannot satisfy those criteria. A proposal may be rejected if it is conditional or incomplete in the judgment of the University.

6.0 SPECIAL CONDITIONS

6.1 Contract Term

The contract resulting from this RFP shall be effective for one (1) year and is renewable for up to five (5) additional one-year renewal periods. Annual renewal shall be contingent upon the University's satisfaction with the services performed.

6.2 Effective Date

The effective date of the contract shall be the date upon which the parties execute it and all appropriate approvals have been received.

6.3 Competitive Negotiation

It is the intent of the RFP to enter into competitive negotiation as authorized by KRS 45A.085.

The University will review all proposals properly submitted. However, the University reserves the right to request necessary modifications, reject all proposals, reject any proposal that does not meet mandatory requirement(s) or cancel this RFP, according to the best interests of the University.

Offeror(s) selected to participate in negotiations may be given an opportunity to submit a Best and Final Offer to the purchasing agency. All information-received prior to the cut-off time will be considered part of the offeror's Best and Final Offer.

The University also reserves the right to waive minor technicalities or irregularities in proposals providing such action is in the best interest of the University. Such waiver shall in no way modify the RFP requirements or excuse the offeror from full compliance with the RFP specifications and other contract requirements if the offeror is awarded the contract.

6.4 Appearance Before Committee

Any, all or no offerors may be requested to appear before the evaluation committee to explain their proposal and/or to respond to questions from the committee concerning the proposal. Offerors are prohibited from electronically recording these meetings. The committee reserves the right to request additional information.

6.5 Additions, Deletions or Contract Changes

The University reserves the right to add, delete, or change related items or services to the contract established from this RFP. No modification or change of any provision in the resulting contract shall be made unless such modification is mutually agreed to in writing by the contractor and the Chief Procurement Officer and incorporated as a written modification to the contract. Memoranda of understanding and correspondence shall not be interpreted as a modification to the contract.

6.6 Contractor Cooperation in Related Efforts

The University reserves the right to undertake or award other contracts for additional or related work to other entities. The contractor shall fully cooperate with such other contractors and University employees and carefully fit its work to such additional work. The contractor shall not commit or permit any act which will interfere with the performance of work by any other contractor or by University employees. This clause shall be included in the contracts of all contractors with whom this contractor will be required to cooperate. The University shall equitably enforce this clause to all contractors to prevent the imposition of unreasonable burdens on any contractor.

6.7 Entire Agreement

The RFP shall be incorporated into any resulting contract. The resulting contract, including the RFP and those portions of the offeror's response accepted by the University, shall be the entire agreement between the parties.

6.8 Governing Law

The contractor shall conform to and observe all laws, ordinances, rules and regulations of the United States of America, Commonwealth of Kentucky and all other local governments, public authorities, boards or offices relating to the property or the improvements upon same (or the use thereof) and will not permit the same to be used for any illegal or immoral purposes, business or occupation. The resulting contract shall be governed by Kentucky law and any claim relating to this contract shall only be brought in the Franklin Circuit Court in accordance with KRS 45A.245.

6.9 Kentucky's Personal Information Security and Breach Investigation Procedures and Practices Act

To the extent Company receives Personal Information as defined by and in accordance with Kentucky's Personal Information Security and Breach Investigation Procedures and Practices Act, KRS 61.931, 61.932 and 61.933 (the "Act"), Company shall secure and protect the Personal Information by, without limitation: (i) complying with all requirements applicable to non-affiliated third parties set forth in the Act; (ii) utilizing security and breach investigation procedures that are appropriate to the nature of the Personal Information disclosed, at least as stringent as University's and reasonably designed to protect the Personal Information from unauthorized access, use, modification, disclosure, manipulation, or destruction; (iii) notifying University of a security breach relating to Personal Information in the possession of Company or its agents or subcontractors within seventy-two (72) hours of discovery of an actual or suspected breach unless the exception set forth in KRS 61.932(2)(b)2 applies and Company abides by the requirements set forth in that exception; (iv) cooperating with University in complying with the response, mitigation, correction, investigation, and notification requirements of the Act, (v) paying all costs of notification, investigation and mitigation in the event of a security breach of Personal Information suffered by Company; and (vi) at University's discretion and direction, handling all administrative functions associated with notification, investigation and mitigation.

6.10 Termination for Convenience

The University of Kentucky, Purchasing Division, reserves the right to terminate the resulting contract without cause with a thirty (30) day written notice. Upon receipt by the contractor of a "notice of termination," the contractor shall discontinue all services with respect to the applicable contract. The cost of any agreed upon services provided by the contractor will be calculated at the agreed upon rate prior to a "notice of termination" and a fixed fee contract will be pro-rated (as appropriate).

6.11 Termination for Non-Performance

Default

The University may terminate the resulting contract for non-performance, as determined by the University, for such causes as:

- Failing to provide satisfactory quality of service, including, failure to maintain adequate personnel, whether arising from labor disputes, or otherwise any substantial change in ownership or proprietorship of the Contractor, which in the opinion of the University is not in its best interest, or failure to comply with the terms of this contract;
- Failing to keep or perform, within the time period set forth herein, or violation of, any of the covenants, conditions, provisions or agreements herein contained;
- Adjudicating as a voluntarily bankrupt, making a transfer in fraud of its creditors, filing a petition under any section from time to time, or under any similar law or statute of the United States or any state thereof, or if an order for relief shall be entered against the Contractor in any proceeding filed by or against contractor thereunder. In the event of any such involuntary bankruptcy proceeding being instituted against the Contractor, the fact of such an involuntary petition being filed shall not be considered an event of default until sixty (60) days after filing of said petition in order that Contractor might during that sixty (60) day period have the opportunity to seek dismissal of the involuntary petition or otherwise cure said potential default; or
- Making a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or taking the benefit of any insolvency act, or if a permanent receiver or trustee in bankruptcy shall be appointed for the Contractor.

Demand for Assurances

In the event the University has reason to believe Contractor will be unable to perform under the Contract, it may make a demand for reasonable assurances that Contractor will be able to timely perform all obligations under the Contract. If Contractor is unable to provide such adequate assurances, then such failure shall be an event of default and grounds for termination of the Contract.

Notification

The University will provide ten (10) calendar days written notice of default. Unless arrangements are made to correct the non-performance issues to the University's satisfaction within ten (10)

calendar days, the University may terminate the contract by giving forty-five (45) days notice, by registered or certified mail, of its intent to cancel this contract.

6.12 Funding Out

The University may terminate this contract if funds are not appropriated or are not otherwise available for the purpose of making payments without incurring any obligation for payment after the date of termination, regardless of the terms of the contract. The University shall provide the contractor thirty (30) calendar days' written notice of termination under this provision.

6.13 Prime Contractor Responsibility

Any contracts that may result from the RFP shall specify that the contractor(s) is/are solely responsible for fulfillment of the contract with the University.

6.14 Assignment and Subcontracting

The Contractor(s) may not assign or delegate its rights and obligations under any contract in whole or in part without the prior written consent of the University. Any attempted assignment or subcontracting shall be void.

6.15 Permits, Licenses, Taxes

The contractor shall procure all necessary permits and licenses and abide by all applicable laws, regulations and ordinances of all federal, state and local governments in which work under this contract is performed.

The contractor must furnish certification of authority to conduct business in the Commonwealth of Kentucky as a condition of contract award. Such registration is obtained from the Secretary of State, who will also provide the certification thereof. However, the contractor need not be registered as a prerequisite for responding to the RFP.

The contractor shall pay any sales, use, personal property and other tax arising out of this contract and the transaction contemplated hereby. Any other taxes levied upon this contract, the transaction or the equipment or services delivered pursuant hereto shall be the responsibility of the contractor.

The contractor will be required to accept liability for payment of all payroll taxes or deductions required by local and federal law including (but not limited to) old age pension, social security or annuities.

6.16 Attorneys' Fees

In the event that either party deems it necessary to take legal action to enforce any provision of the contract and in the event that the University prevails, the contractor agrees to pay all expenses of such action including attorneys' fees and costs at all stages of litigation.

6.17 **Royalties, Patents, Copyrights and Trademarks**

The Contractor shall pay all applicable royalties and license fees. If a particular process, products or device is specified in the contract documents and it is known to be subject to patent rights or copyrights, the existence of such rights shall be disclosed in the contract documents and the Contractor is responsible for payment of all associated royalties. To the fullest extent permitted by law the Contractor shall indemnify, hold the University harmless, and defend all suits, claims, losses, damages or liability resulting from any infringement of patent, copyright, and trademark rights resulting from the incorporation in the Work or device specified in the Contract Documents.

Unless provided otherwise in the contract, the Contractor shall not use the University's name nor any of its trademarks or copyrights, although it may state that it has a Contract with the University.

6.18 **Indemnification**

The contractor shall indemnify, hold and save harmless the University, its affiliates and subsidiaries and their officers, agents and employees from losses, claims, suits, actions, expenses, damages, costs (including court costs and attorneys' fees of the University's attorneys), all liability of any nature or kind arising out of or relating to the Contractor's response to this RFP or its performance or failure to perform under the contract awarded from this RFP. This clause shall survive termination for as long as necessary to protect the University.

6.19 **Insurance**

The successful Contractor shall procure and maintain, at its expense, the following minimum insurance coverages insuring all services, work activities and contractual obligations undertaken in this contract. These insurance policies must be with insurers acceptable to the University.

COVERAGES

Workers' Compensation
 Employer's Liability
 Commercial General Liability including operations/completed operations, products and contractual liability (including defense and investigation costs), and this contract
 Business Automobile Liability covering owned, leased, or non-owned autos

LIMITS

Statutory Requirements (Kentucky)
 \$500,000/\$500,000/\$500,000
 \$1,000,000 each occurrence
 (BI & PD combined) \$2,000,000 Products and Completed Operations Aggregate
 \$1,000,000 each occurrence
 (BI & PD combined)

The successful contractor agrees to furnish Certificates of Insurance for the above described coverages and limits to the University of Kentucky, Purchasing Division. The University, its trustees and employees must be added as additional insured on the Commercial General Liability policy with regard to the scope of this solicitation. Any deductibles or self-insured retention in the above-described policies must be paid and are the sole responsibility of the contractor. Coverage is to be primary and non-contributory with other coverage (if any) purchased by the University. All of these required policies must include a Waiver of Subrogation (except Workers' Compensation) in favor of the University, its trustees and employees.

6.20 Method of Award

It is the intent of the University to award a contract to the qualified offeror whose offer, conforming to the conditions and requirements of the RFP, is determined to be the most advantageous to the University, cost and other factors considered.

Notwithstanding the above, this RFP does not commit the University to award a contract from this solicitation. The University reserves the right to reject any or all offers and to waive formalities and minor irregularities in the proposal received.

6.21 Reciprocal Preference

In accordance with KRS 45A.494, a resident offeror of the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall be given a preference against a nonresident offeror. In evaluating proposals, the University will apply a reciprocal preference against an offeror submitting a proposal from a state that grants residency preference equal to the preference given by the state of the nonresident offeror. Residency and non-residency shall be defined in accordance with KRS 45A.494(2) and 45A.494(3), respectively. Any offeror claiming Kentucky residency status shall submit with its proposal a notarized affidavit affirming that it meets the criteria as set forth in the above reference statute.

6.22 Reports and Auditing

Contractor shall provide a quarterly report to the University of all product(s) and/or service(s) based on an Excel template provided by the Purchasing Division. The template will require basic line item order information to include, but not limited to: purchase transaction date, purchase order number, product/catalog number, description, UOM, price each, extended price, invoice number, etc. The Excel reporting template is available upon request from the Purchasing Division and is subject to change. The Excel template provided by the Purchasing Division is the only reporting format that may be used; Contractor-submitted reports based on internal reporting or templates will not be accepted. The reporting date structure shall follow the below outline and begin with the quarter in which the contract is executed. The date of the purchase order (or other transaction type that may be used with the Contractor (e.g., procurement card)) shall determine the quarter in which the transaction is to be reported.

In addition to the aforementioned quarterly reporting of goods and services, contractors are also required to report summary dollar amounts of goods and services sold to the University via the resulting contract and originating from diversity Tier 2 or subcontractors affiliated with company. Quarterly reports for Tier 2 diverse suppliers/subcontractors must accompany the standard quarterly report requirement. Due to the broad array of diversity reporting utilized, the University does not require specific classifications of diverse purchases; the successful contractor may report Tier 2 purchase amounts as produced by their information systems and with sub-classifications as they are available. If the successful contractor does not have any Tier 2 reporting for diverse suppliers to accompany their quarterly report submissions, they must indicate this when submitting their standard quarterly reports.

FY Quarter 1 report for purchases dated July 1 through September 30	Quarterly report due October 20
FY Quarter 2 report for purchases dated October 1 through December 31	Quarterly report due January 20

FY Quarter 3 report for purchases dated January 1 through March 31	Quarterly report due April 20
FY Quarter 4 report for purchases dated April 1 through June 30	Quarterly report due July 20

Report headers shall also be completed with the Contractor's name, contract number, and reporting period.

Reports can be submitted via email to UKPurchasing@uky.edu based by the deadline(s) listed herein.

The University, or its duly authorized representatives, shall also have access to any books, documents, papers, records or other evidence which are directly pertinent to this contract for the purpose of financial audit or program review.

In the event that successful Contractor(s) does not meet the reporting requirements based on the terms and conditions herein, the contract is subject to cancellation or termination.

6.23 Confidentiality

The University recognizes an offeror's possible interest in preserving selected information and data included in the proposal; however, the University must treat such information and data as required by the Kentucky Open Records Act, KRS 61.870, et seq.

Information areas which normally might be considered proprietary, and therefore confidential, shall be limited to individual personnel data, customer references, formulae and company financial audits which, if disclosed, would permit an unfair advantage to competitors. If a proposal contains information in these areas and the offeror declares them to be proprietary in nature and not available for public disclosure, the offeror shall declare in the Transmittal Letter the inclusion of proprietary information and shall noticeably label as confidential or proprietary each sheet containing such information. Proposals containing information declared by the offeror to be proprietary or confidential, either wholly or in part, outside the areas listed above may be deemed non-responsive and may be rejected.

The University's General Counsel shall review each offeror's information claimed to be confidential and, in consultation with the offeror (if needed), make a final determination as to whether or not the confidential or proprietary nature of the information or data complies with the Kentucky Open Records Act.

6.24 Conflict of Interest

This Request for Proposal and resulting Contract are subject to provisions of the Kentucky Revised Statutes regarding conflict of interest and the University of Kentucky's Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct (www.uky.edu/Legal/ethicscode.htm). When submitting and signing a proposal, an offeror is certifying that no actual, apparent or potential conflict of interest exists between the interests of the University and the interests of the offeror. A conflict of interest (whether contractual, financial, organizational or otherwise) exists when any individual, contractor or subcontractor has a direct or indirect interest because of a financial or pecuniary interest, gift or other activities or relationships with other persons (including business, familial or household relationships) and is thus

unable to render or is impeded from rendering impartial assistance or advice, has impaired objectivity in performing the proposed work or has an unfair competitive advantage.

Questions concerning this section or interpretation of this section should be directed to the University purchasing officer identified in this RFP.

6.25 Copyright Ownership and Title to Designs and Copy

The contractor and University intend this RFP to result in a contract for services, and both consider the products and results of the services to be rendered by the contractor hereunder to be a work made for hire. The contractor acknowledges and agrees that the work and all rights therein, including (without limitation) copyright, belongs to and shall be the sole and exclusive property of the University. For any work that is not considered a work made for hire under applicable law, title and copyright ownership shall be assigned to the University.

Title to all dies, type, cuts, artwork, negatives, positives, color separations, progressive proofs, plates, copy and any other requirement not stated herein required for completion of the finished product for use in connection with any University job shall be the property of and owned by the University. Such items shall be returned to the appropriate department upon completion and/or delivery of work unless otherwise authorized by the University. In the event that time of return is not specified, the contractor shall return all such items to the appropriate University department within one week of delivery.

6.26 University Brand Standards

The contractor must adhere to all University of Kentucky Brand Standards. University Brand Standards are maintained by the University Public Relations Office (UKPR) and can be viewed at <http://www.uky.edu/prmarketing/brand-standards>. Non-adherence to the standards can have a penalty up to and including contract cancellation. Only the UKPR Director or designee can approve exceptions to the University standards.

Graphics standards for the UK HealthCare areas are governed by UK HealthCare Clinical Enterprise Graphic Standards, found at: <https://ukhealthcare.uky.edu/staff/brand-strategy>.

Contractor warrants that its products or services provided hereunder will be in compliance with all applicable Federal disabilities laws and regulations, including without limitation the accessibility requirements of Section 255 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (47 U.S.C. § 255) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794d), and its implementing regulations set forth at Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1194. For purposes of clarity, updated regulations under Section 508 standards now incorporate WCAG 2.0, and for purposes of this agreement WCAG 2.0 Level AA compliance is expressly included. Contractor agrees to promptly respond to, resolve and remediate any complaint regarding accessibility of products or services in a timely manner and provide an updated version to University at no cost. If deficiencies are identified, University reserves the right to request from Contractor, a timeline by which accessibility standards will be incorporated into the products or services provided by Contractor and shall provide such a timeline within a commercially reasonable duration of time. Failure to comply with these requirements shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement and shall be grounds for termination of this Agreement.

Where any customized web services are provided, Contractor represents that it has reviewed the University's Web Policy and all products or services will comply with its published standards.

Contractor will provide University with a current Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) for any deliverable(s). If none is available, Vendor will provide sufficient information to reasonably assure the University that the products or services are fully compliant with current requirements.

6.27 Printing Statutes

The purchase of printing services for all state agencies is governed by Chapter 57 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes. Specifically, all printing must be awarded to the lowest responsive bidder and approved by the Governor of Kentucky. In compliance with these statutes, all printing must be provided by a contract established by the Purchasing Division.

6.28 Requirement for Contract Administration Fee

As a condition of award, successful Contractor(s) shall provide a contract administration fee to the University for all goods and/or services provided under the resultant contract. The fee shall be on a quarterly basis and shall be equivalent to 2% of the aggregate net value of goods/services sold to the University, exclusive of freight charges.

The fee shall be reported and paid within 30 calendar days of the end of conventional calendar quarters ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 of each year. The fee applies to orders which have been successfully delivered/installed and invoiced in the previous quarter. Fees shall be paid in the form of a check made payable to the University of Kentucky and shall be delivered to the Purchasing Division, Room 322 Peterson Service Building, 411 S. Limestone, Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0005. Each fee payment must be accompanied by a statement indicating the referenced University price contract to which it applies and indicate the aggregate value of goods/services provided and invoiced during the quarter, the fee percentage applied, and the net amount of the quarterly payment. If any errors are found in the report or calculations as determined by University, the successful Contractor shall correct immediately upon notification.

The successful Contractor(s) may extend the pricing, terms, and/or conditions of this contract to other universities, state agencies, and public and private institutions, with prior approval of the University of Kentucky. The successful Contractor(s) will pay the University of Kentucky a contract administration fee of two (2) % of goods/services provided and invoiced during the quarter. The fee shall be reported and paid within 30 calendar days of the end of conventional calendar quarters ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 of each year. The fees shall be in the form of a check made payable to the University of Kentucky and shall be delivered to the Purchasing Division, Room 322 Peterson Service Building, 411 S. Limestone, Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0005.

The successful Contractor must notify the Contracting Officer when the resultant contract is utilized by other universities, state agencies, and public and private institutions in Kentucky.

In the event that successful Contractor(s) does not provide the quarterly payment based on the terms and conditions herein, the contract is subject to cancellation or termination.

6.29 Damaged or Inferior Material

All damaged shipments or inferior material will be rejected by the University and immediate notification will be given to the contractor. Any rejection of delivery for damaged or interior materials by the University must be replaced by the contractor within ten (10) working days.

When services are not delivered on the agreed date between the contractor and the University, or if inferior or incomplete work is found, the Purchasing Division in concurrence with the using department reserves the right to reject such materials and request replacement as stated above or authorize the contractor to issue a credit based on the University's cost for all material found unacceptable.

6.30 Freight and FOB Point

All items shall be shipped **FOB Destination – Prepaid and Add**. With regard to each awarded price contract, the contractor shall be fully responsible for all items while in transit. Any freight claims will be the responsibility of the contractor. Any damaged shipments will be rejected by the University and immediate notification given to the contractor.

6.31 Requirement for Fanatics Licensing Management Licensing

The University Of Kentucky has partnered with Fanatics Licensing Management to establish a licensing program for protection of its logos and insignias. The licensing program strives to regulate, promote, and protect the commercial use of the University's name and identifying marks, both on and off campus. Licenses must be obtained for the use of any UK mark, image, photograph, or logo in a commercial product. Although items consumed internally by the University, its departments, campus organization, and University related clubs are NOT required to have royalties paid on them and are not for resale, they must be produced by an official University of Kentucky Licensee, and designs must be approved by the University's licensing office. This policy ensures that all items bearing the University's identity represent the University in an acceptable manner and on a quality product.

Is your company licensed with Fanatics Licensing Management Internal (non-retail) license to sell promotional commodities to University of Kentucky departments?

YES ___

NO ___

If you answered "NO" to the above question, if considered for award, is your company willing to apply for an "Internal (non-retail) license with Fanatics Licensing Management to sell ASI/promotional items to University of Kentucky departments? Bidders are advised, among other requirements, Fanatics Licensing Management requires an application process, application fee and product liability insurance. Information about the licensing process can be found at <https://fanaticslicensingmanagement.com/college>

YES ___

NO ___

6.32 Overruns and Underruns on Resultant Contract(s)

Upon placement of an order, the successful contractor understands that underruns and overruns must not exceed 5%. The successful contractor will bill for actual quantities delivered within this tolerance. Unless previously approved, in writing, by the department or Purchasing Division, any underruns less than this tolerance will be considered non-compliant with an order. Any overruns greater than this tolerance will be the responsibility of the successful contractor; the University will not process payment for overruns outside the tolerance unless previously approved in writing.

6.33 Samples or Descriptive Literature

The University reserves the right to request physical samples or descriptive literature of any items listed within Attachment A. Upon request, Offeror must provide the samples or descriptive literature within five (5) days of the request and at no charge to the University. Failure to comply may be cause for rejection of Offeror's proposal. The requirement for samples or descriptive literature extends with the resultant contract and with normal expedition of such.

6.34 Quantities

All quantities referenced in Attachment A are for reference only. The University makes no guarantee or promise as to the actual products or quantities ordered from resultant contract

6.35 E&I Cooperative Participation

The University of Kentucky is a member of the Educational & Institutional Cooperative Service, Inc. (E&I). E&I is a member-owned not-for-profit contracting cooperative serving the education market. Its membership is comprised of over 4,300 public and private universities and colleges, K-12, and teaching healthcare facilities throughout the United States. E&I currently maintains a large and robust portfolio of contracts. In 2016, member purchases through E&I contracts exceeded \$2.7 billion. Learn more about E&I by visiting their web site at www.eandi.org.

It is the intent of this solicitation and resulting contract(s) to allow for cooperative procurement through E&I if authorized by the awarded Supplier(s). Participation in this cooperative procurement is strictly voluntary. If authorized by the Supplier(s), the resultant contract(s) will be extended to members of E&I to purchase goods and services in accordance with contract terms. E&I may modify the terms and conditions of this contract to accommodate specific governing laws, regulations, policies and business goals required by E&I, including a negotiated Contract Administrative Fee and reporting requirements. Any such modifications will apply solely between E&I and the Supplier.

6.36 ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING SYSTEM

The University of Kentucky utilizes an on-line e-cataloging process as part of its Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. Supplier Relationship Management (SRM), an SAP product, is the University's e-procurement solution. The system utilizes both external "punch-out" catalogs located on contractors' websites as well as an internal e-catalog housed within the University's system and fed via Excel spreadsheet uploads. The awarded contractor(s) shall work with the

University, to the fullest extent possible, to support the University's e-procurement initiatives as they relate to the resultant contract. Contract supplier items may be loaded into one of the above electronic ordering environments. Any items purchased through SRM e-procurement replaces those items being purchased by departments via procurement card. The University utilizes Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) for purchase order, confirmation, and invoicing tasks within SRM. Global Healthcare Exchange (GHX) is the University's EDI provider.

For suppliers providing open punch-out catalogs reflecting all items offered by their company, the University reserves the right to restrict/block items from the University punch-out catalog that are not pertinent to the resultant contract and/or that may conflict with goods or services offered by its other contract suppliers.

Please answer the following questions as part of your submission that relate to SRM e-procurement:

1. Does your company offer an electronic punch-out catalog housing products described within this solicitation?
Yes _____ No _____
2. If yes, please answer the following additional questions:
 - a. Does your punch-out catalog operate on an Open Catalog Interface (OCI) platform?
Yes _____ No _____
 3. b. In addition to specific general products, does your punch-out catalog facilitate loading of customized quotes (e.g., formed by a sales representative) onto your system for ordering by a University department?
Yes _____ No _____
4. If you answered no to Question 1, if awarded a contract and requested by the University, do you agree to provide contract line item data via Excel spreadsheet for upload into the University's internal e-catalog? The data would consist of a minimum of description, manufacturer name, manufacturer's part number, supplier name (if different), supplier part number, bulk package to each conversion, pricing, etc. Other line item data may be required, including product pictures.
Yes _____ No _____
5. Please answer the following if you answered "yes" to either Questions 1 or 2.
 - a. Can you receive purchase orders via Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) through GHX?
Yes _____ No _____
 - b. Can you provide return email confirmations via EDI/GHX?
Yes _____ No _____

c. Can you invoice (and issue credit memos) via EDI/GHX on a line item basis?

Yes _____ No _____

6. In addition, does your company provide electronic catalogs or other browsing tools available that are directly accessible through the open web? If yes, please describe offerings. What products are available, layout, navigation, search capabilities, etc.

6.30 Payment Terms

The University adheres to a strategic approach regarding payables management based on risk minimization, processing costs, and industry best practices. As such, suppliers and individuals doing business with the University will be paid based on the following protocol:

1. The University utilizes Payment Plus (e-payables) as its primary default form of payment. By enrolling in Payment Plus, suppliers can receive payments immediately (all invoices will be paid immediately upon confirmation of goods receipt and invoice). The process is electronic and the supplier receives real-time payment notices. Additional information regarding Payment Plus (and enrollment form) can be found at: <https://www.uky.edu/ufs/payment-plus-supplier-enrollment-form>.
2. Payments by check. Payment terms for check payments are Net-30.
3. Individuals receiving payments from the University that require ACH direct payments will only be processed under special circumstances as approved by the Controller's office. Payment terms for ACH are Net-40.

7.0 FINANCIAL OFFER SUMMARY

Offerors are to submit a fixed price for each product and each tier level represented in Attachment A. The tier level entries must be a per each unit price for that tier. Offerors must visit the University of Kentucky Purchasing Division website at the following address <https://purchasing.uky.edu/bid-and-proposal-opportunities> and complete the electronic version of Attachment A for this RFP. The Attachment A must be completed electronically and hard copies printed for submission as the Financial Proposal (Reference Section 3.6 for additional information). Offerors cannot print and complete the Attachment A by hand or by means other than computer. The total dollar value cell must be reflected on the last page of the Financial Proposal.

What percentage discount from list pricing (include a copy of the list price) does your company offer to the University for any products ordered that are not reflected in Attachment A (Reference Section 4.6 - 14). This percentage discount must be held for the length of the contract award. The current price list must be sent to the Category Specialist with each renewal of the contract. _____%

All costs are to be clearly defined; there should be no hidden fees.

7.1 Alternate Pricing

In addition to the above financial offer, the offeror may submit alternative financial proposals, however the information requested above must be supplied and will be used for proposal evaluation purposes.

Additional Financial Commitment

In addition to the financial offers, please propose a financial commitment to assist the University. Options may include a signing bonus, scholarships, internships, commitment to hire University Graduates or a (%) percentage rebate.

7.2 Price Protection and Price Changes

The prices as proposed by Offeror in Attachment A must be firm for the first contract period. Offerors should submit a statement below regarding price protection and how future pricing will be proposed during the subsequent renewals.

1. Will prices be guaranteed for:

Year 2	Yes _____	No _____
Year 3	Yes _____	No _____
Year 4	Yes _____	No _____
Year 5	Yes _____	No _____

2. If prices will not be guaranteed, state the maximum percent increase per year that may be requested:

Year 2	_____ %
Year 3	_____ %
Year 4	_____ %
Year 5	_____ %

For any contract period in which the contractor cannot guarantee price protection, the contractor is responsible for providing a written request for change in price at least 45 days prior to the end of the contract period. If contractor does not provide a written request for price increase, the pricing for the previous contract period will continue through the next contract period providing the contract is renewed. Any request for price changes must be substantiated by firm proof that conditions have changed in the industry, which would warrant a change in price. Any change in pricing may not exceed the maximum percent increase for the applicable contract period above and must be mutually agreed upon by the University and contractor.