



University of
Kentucky®
Procurement Services

Request for Proposal

UK-2413-24

Proposal Due Date - 02/29/2024

Scientific Products, Supplies and Equipment



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

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

PROPOSAL NO.:	UK-2413-24	RETURN ORIGINAL COPY OF PROPOSAL TO:
Issue Date:	01-30-2024	UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Title:	Scientific Products, Supplies and Equipment	PROCUREMENT SERVICES
Purchasing Officer:	Bob Bush	411 S LIMESTONE
Phone:	859-257-5474	ROOM 322 PETERSON SERVICE BLDG.
		LEXINGTON, KY 40506-0005

IMPORTANT: PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: 02/29/2024 3 P.M. LEXINGTON, KY TIME.

NOTICE OF REQUIREMENTS

1. 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.
2. Contracts resulting from this RFP must be governed by and in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
3. 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.
4. 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:

1. 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);
2. 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;
3. 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;
4. 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;
5. 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;
6. 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:

Table of Contents

1.0 DEFINITIONS	6
2.0 GENERAL OVERVIEW.....	7
2.1 Intent and Scope	7
2.2 University Information.....	8
2.3 Economic Inclusion and Procurement.....	10
3.0 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS.....	11
3.1 Key Event Dates.....	11
3.2 Offeror Communication	11
3.3 Offeror Presentations	12
3.4 Preparation of Offers	12
3.5 Proposed Deviations from the RFP	12
3.6 Proposal Submission and Deadline	12
3.7 Modification or Withdrawal of Offer.....	13
3.8 Acceptance or Rejection and Award of Proposal	13
3.9 Rejection	13
3.10 Addenda.....	14
3.11 Disclosure of Offeror’s Response	14
3.12 Restrictions on Communications with University Staff	14
3.13 Cost of Preparing Proposal.....	14
3.14 Disposition of Proposals	14
3.15 Alternate Proposals	15
3.16 Questions	15
3.17 Section Titles in the RFP	15
3.18 No Contingent Fees.....	15
3.19 Proposal Addenda and Rules for Withdrawal.....	15
3.20 Requirement To Perform Vendor Onboarding and Registration.....	15
4.0 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT	16
4.1 Proposal Information and Criteria	16
4.2 Signed Authentication of Proposal and Statements of Non-Collusion and Non-Conflict of Interest Form	16
4.3 Transmittal Letter	16

4.4	Executive Summary and Proposal Overview	17
4.5	Criteria 1 - Offeror Qualifications	19
4.6	Criteria 2 – Services Defined	20
4.7	Criteria 3 - Financial Proposal.....	24
4.8	Criteria 4 – Evidence of Successful Performance and Implementation Schedule	24
4.9	Criteria 5 – Other Additional Information.....	24
5.0	EVALUATION CRITERIA PROCESS.....	25
6.0	SPECIAL CONDITIONS.....	26
6.1	Contract Term	26
6.2	Effective Date	26
6.3	Competitive Negotiation	26
6.4	Appearance Before Committee	26
6.5	Additions, Deletions or Contract Changes	26
6.6	Contractor Cooperation in Related Efforts	27
6.7	Entire Agreement	27
6.8	Governing Law	27
6.9	Kentucky’s Personal Information Security and Breach Investigation Procedures and Practices Act	27
6.10	Termination for Convenience.....	28
6.11	Termination for Non-Performance	28
6.12	Funding Out	29
6.13	Prime Contractor Responsibility.....	29
6.14	Assignment and Subcontracting	29
6.15	Permits, Licenses, Taxes.....	29
6.16	Attorneys’ Fees	29
6.17	Royalties, Patents, Copyrights and Trademarks	30
6.18	Indemnification	30
6.19	Insurance	30
6.20	Method of Award	31
6.21	Reciprocal Preference	31
6.22	Reports and Auditing	31
6.23	Confidentiality.....	32
6.24	Conflict of Interest	32

PROPOSAL NO. UK-2413-24	5
6.27 University Brand Standards	33
6.28 Printing Statutes	33
6.29 Requirement for Contract Administration Fee	34
6.30 Payment Terms	34
7.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES	335
7.1 Detailed Services Defined	35
8.0 FINANCIAL OFFER SUMMARY	36
8.1 Alternate Pricing	36

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, Procurement Services, 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

It is the intent of this RFP to solicit proposals from qualified offeror's to provide a comprehensive proposal from qualified offeror(s) to establish contract(s) for laboratory products, supplies and equipment. Including labware, chemicals, related equipment, furniture, and a broad selection of other science related products. The successful(s) offeror(s) is to provide freight to delivery point, Equipment should have inside delivery. unpacking and assembly as needed; placement and testing for operational viability as needed, and any additional testing and calibration required by the manufacturer for certification. The University request is to contract with offeror(s) that is best able to provide the University with an innovative and unique approach to the requirements and desired outcomes of the process as specified within this RFP. More specifically, selection will be based on the proposal(s) that will produce maximum value to the University through enhanced technology, superior customer service, streamlined processes, greater financial benefits, and lower total operating cost. Based upon historical data the annual combined spend for the scientific category is \$39 million annually.

Our goals for this RFP process is to ensure the University contract(s) and pricing reflect the value to the University. Align contracts with primary needs of university researchers. Increase the purchasing power of research grants and appropriated research dollars. Make the latest technologies and services available to researchers through vendor partnerships. Make available to researchers the technical assistance and knowledge of market leading life science suppliers. Improve and streamline the purchasing process for all end users.

The University of Kentucky has research centers outside of the Lexington, Kentucky area. Awarded contractor(s) will be expected to provide representation and service to these areas at the same price/discount provided to the main campus. The two locations are:

University of Kentucky
Center for Rural Health
750 Morton Blvd.
Hazard, KY 41701

University of Kentucky
Research & Education Center
1205 Hopkinsville St.
Princeton, KY 42445

The University of Kentucky utilizes the SAP Ariba Network as its e-catalog shopping and commerce automation platform. Successful contractors are planned to create, integrate with, and maintain an e-catalog of their products making them available to authorized University departmental shoppers. E-catalogs could be Level 1 (Punch-out) or Level 2 (Hosted), as applicable, and available from the successful contractor(s). In addition to participating and provide access to an e-catalog via the SAP Ariba Network, successful contractors will receive University purchase orders and provide return invoicing via the network. Participation fees may be due to SAP Ariba Network by the successful contractor depending on the level of engagement and network connection established by the successful contractor. The University does not pay the SAP Ariba Network supplier fees.

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 Economic Inclusion and Procurement

The University of Kentucky is committed to serving as an advocate for diverse businesses and Kentucky located businesses. 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. To be deemed a Kentucky located Business a company must have a physical facility located in the Commonwealth of Kentucky that is engaged in on-going business operations.

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. The University is also dedicated to increasing the amount of goods and services acquired from Kentucky located companies to the greatest extent possible in support of our economic development efforts.

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

- To ensure the absence of barriers that reduce their participation.
- Educate vendors on "how to" do business with the University.
- Support diverse and Kentucky located 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 and Kentucky located vendors by directing them to agencies that can benefit from their product or service.
- Provide resources for diverse and Kentucky located vendors.
- Sponsor events to assist diverse and Kentucky located vendors in becoming active, responsible, and responsive participants in the University's purchasing opportunities.

For additional information regarding how diverse and Kentucky located suppliers may participate in this Request for Proposal, submit any questions to the Procurement 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	1/30/2024
Deadline for Written Questions	3 p.m. Eastern Time on 02/08/2024
RFP Proposals Due	3 p.m. Eastern Time on 02/29/2024

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:

Robert Busch
Procurement Services
University of Kentucky
322 Peterson Service Building
Lexington, KY 40506-0005
Phone: (859) 257-5474
Fax: (859) 257-1951
E-mail: Robert.Busch@email.uky.edu

All communication with the University regarding this RFP should only be directed to the purchasing 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 Procurement Services 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 should 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 should 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 should 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 should be submitted in a sealed envelope and the financial proposal should be submitted in a sealed envelope under separate cover. Both sealed envelopes should 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 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 should 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 Procurement Services, 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 Procurement Services 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 should 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

Secondary Criteria

- Criteria 6 - 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 should be in the form of a standard business letter and should be signed by an individual authorized to legally bind the offeror. It should 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 should 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 should 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 should describe in detail their company's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Information should 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	
Kentucky Located	

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.

1. Provide a brief historical perspective on your company (years in business, growth via mergers and acquisitions, key industry innovations). Provide an overview of your company's growth over the past five years.
2. List business owners whose ownership exceeds 5% of the company's value.
3. Describe the qualities that differentiate your company from your competitors.
4. 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 privately 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. 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.

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.

4.6 Criteria 2 – Services Defined

Company Representatives

1. Describe how you would designate a dedicated sales account representative(s) to assist in all activities associated with the service and maintenance of the University account.
2. Outline the procedure that will be in place to provide back up when the local, dedicated sales account representative is out of the office during normal business hours for vacation, sick leave, etc.
3. Describe any product or technical specialists and their ability to visit University departments.
4. Describe any “training and safety” programs you would offer the University.
5. Provide an organizational chart and description of responsibilities of the account management team that would be assigned to the University and the management and executives above account management team up to offerors CEO.
6. The University shall also have access to their corresponding inside customer service representative during normal business hours each business day. Include contact information with phone, cellular phone, fax, email, etc. Provide contact information for back-up inside customer service representative.
7. How will your customer service team manage the account, especially as it grows?

Online Ordering System

SAP Ariba Network Provision of E-catalog Connection and Engagement with Commerce Automation (PO receipt/Invoice provision/transmission):

1. Does your company currently have an e-catalog connection or relationship on the SAP Ariba Network? If not, as part of contract award, do you agree to register on the SAP Ariba Network for the appropriate Supplier account required to connect with the University and provide an e-catalog and engage in Commerce Automation (PO receipt/Invoice provision/transmission)?

Note: Participation fees may be due to SAP Ariba Network by the successful contractor depending on the level of engagement and network connection established by the successful contractor. The University does not pay the SAP Ariba Network supplier fees.

2. Can or do you provide Level 1 (punchout) or Level 2 (Hosted) catalogs on the SAP Ariba Network? Please describe.
3. If yes, how many current buying customers do you have e-catalog or other connections with via the SAP Ariba Network? Are any of those institutions of higher education? If yes, please include with your response reference information for a minimum of two customers (higher-ed or otherwise) with whom you currently conduct transactions on the

Ariba Network. With provision of the reference information, Offeror provides permission for the University to contact the references.

4. If yes, how long have you had an ongoing connection on SAP Ariba Network?
5. Describe which company IT team would build and/or maintain the SAP Ariba Network catalog connection provided by your company to the University. Are they different teams? How are they contacted and who performs what tasks and responsibilities?
6. If you only provide Level 2 (Hosted) catalogs, describe how you provide this information via .CIF files and how are updates conducted. Do you provide product pictures for products in Level 1 (punchout) or Level 2 (Hosted) catalogs?
7. Does your e-catalog provide functionality for your company to load a customized quote and make it available on the e-catalog for a Shopper to download items into a Shopping Cart and order? Please describe.
8. Does your e-catalog provide functionality for product curation? i.e., can you block items on your e-catalog from being available for shopping if they conflict with other University contracts? If one or more blocked items need unblocked for ordering, what is the process and turnaround time for product unblocking?
9. When a purchase order is transmitted across the SAP Ariba Network to your company, describe the process for its receipt and fulfillment. Who receives the PO, what occurs if questions arise on the order, how is it moved to fulfillment, etc.?
10. For invoice rejections on the SAP Ariba Network, describe how those are managed on the part of the company. Who at the company is responsible for correcting and resubmitting them to the University on the SAP Ariba Network?
11. Should shoppers have an issue connecting to your SAP Ariba Network catalog or is own, who does the University reach out to for assistance and correction? Who handles the technical request and what is the process?
12. Does your e-catalog provide any functionality for Shoppers to make comparisons among similar items or other tools that enhance the shopping experience?
13. Does your e-catalog provide any follow-on functionality that enhances the Shopper's purchasing experience? For instance, can they access and learn about order/back order status, tracking information, download copies of packing lists, etc.?
14. Do products on your e-catalog provide any type identifiers (e.g., logos, icons, etc.)? For instance, products provided by diverse suppliers, made from sustainable materials, etc.?
15. Does your e-catalog provide functionality for custom messaging on the landing page and for placement of the University's logo?
16. Upon order placement, shoppers should be provided at a minimum an email acknowledgement directly to their email inbox. Please confirm your e-catalog connection on SAP Ariba can provide this minimum functionality. Can you also provide email Advance Shipping Notices (ASNs) to shoppers as their items ship? Does your company have the

capability to also provide cXML acknowledgements and shipping notices directly on the SAP Ariba Network platform in addition to the shopper-direct emails?

17. Please list any other details of note, functionality, enhancements, etc. related to an SAP Ariba Network e-catalog and commerce automation processes (PO send/return invoice transmission).

18. If your company does not have the ability to offer an online catalog please describe your ordering and invoicing process.

Distribution Center

1. Describe the location(s) and size of the distribution center(s) that will service the University of Kentucky. How many products are stocked in the distribution center(s)? Include any additional distribution centers and their locations.
2. Provide historical data on the fill rate percentage from the distribution center that will be servicing the University account for the last two calendar years.
3. Provide a percentage of the number of items available in your full catalog that are available from the distribution center servicing our account.

Delivery

1. Delivery should be made directly to individuals or laboratories within buildings. Describe your ability to comply with this.
2. Will the deliveries be completed by your employees, a national parcel delivery company or by another third-party contractor?
3. Describe your shipping policy. The successful offeror(s) will be fully responsible for all items while in transit. Any freight claims will be the responsibility of the successful contractor(s). Any damaged shipments will be rejected by the University and notification given to the successful contractor(s). It is the responsibility of the successful contractor(s) to initiate the movement of over-shipped or incorrect material from the University's premises within five (5) business days. Failure to receive disposition instructions may result in disposal of the material or a collect return shipment to the contractor.
4. Outline your return policy. There shall be no restocking fee on inventory that is returned.
5. Explain how your company handles installation of equipment.

Back Orders and Packing Slips

1. Describe how your company handles back orders.
2. Packing slips should contain complete item description, quantity, net pricing, and purchase order number. Describe your ability to meet this requirement.

On-Campus Sales Programs

1. Describe any “on-campus sales programs” (freezer programs, stock cabinets, supply centers, etc.) you can offer to the University.

Customer Satisfaction/Quality Control

1. What customer specific performance measures do you monitor, report and work to continuously improve upon? Explain how your company measures and reacts to customer satisfaction.
2. What is the approximate number of Customer Service Representatives available by phone and/or online to support the University of Kentucky?
3. Describe the training process for your Customer Service personnel and specifically discuss how your company will ensure that all Customer Service Representatives are knowledgeable about the University contract so as to assist the clients and departments and avoid misinformation.
4. What are your company’s goals in providing Customer Service?
5. Describe your quality control process, how you measure and benchmark it; what are your on-going improvement goals?

Sustainability

1. Discuss in detail your firm’s Sustainability Program. Be sure to list any and all programs your company currently has in place to make your operations more sustainable and any programs that could be implemented at the University.
2. Provide a brief description of your environmental initiatives. Include a list of green products and the certifications of each that will be offered to the University.
3. Describe your sustainable business practices as it relates to reducing global warming.
4. Describe your ideas for reducing packaging or your ability to implement the option of reusable/returnable packaging,

Savings

1. Describe your cost saving approach to lower the University’s Total Cost of Ownership (includes both product and service costs). Demonstrate in your proposal how you will

balance the University's need to reduce costs while still offering scientific products, supplies and equipment that meet the quality standards necessary to accomplish the functions for which they were designed.

2. The University may consider private label or manufactured for products when they are of comparable quality to name brand item and will provide a cost savings. Describe your company's approach to private label and "manufacture for" products, guarantees of quality and the breadth of such private label products available through your company.
3. Detail any existing agreements with other state agencies, universities, General Purchasing Organizations (GPO's), and/or Purchasing Cooperatives that could be leveraged to reduce the overall costs of scientific products, supplies and equipment to the University.
4. Describe your company's process of extending promotional pricing from the manufacturers. How do you notify the University and how is it extended for online, phone and fax orders? How is it identified on usage reports?

4.7 Criteria 3 – Financial Proposal

The Financial Summary Form should contain the complete financial offer made to the University using the format contained in Section 8.0. All financial information must be submitted in a sealed envelope under separate cover.

4.8 Criteria 4 – Evidence of Successful Performance and Implementation Schedule

1. Offeror shall supply names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) references for whom similar work has been accomplished and briefly describe the type of service provided. Of these five (5) a minimum of three (3) should be comparable higher education accounts. The offeror should grant permission to the University to contact the references.

4.9 Criteria 5 – Other Additional Information

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.

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 should 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 reserves the right to make and negotiate multiple award(s) to other offerors for those items that are/may be proprietary in nature and available only through that offeror.

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

6.0 Special Conditions

6.1 Contract Term

The contract(s) resulting from this RFP shall be effective for one (1) year and is renewable for up to nine (9) additional one-year (annual) 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 should be the date upon which the parties execute it and all appropriate approvals, including that of the Commonwealth of Kentucky Government Contracts Review Committee, 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 should 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 should 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 should be incorporated into any resulting contract. The resulting contract, including the RFP and those portions of the offeror's response accepted by the University, should 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, Procurement Services, 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 may 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, Procurement Services. 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 should provide a quarterly report to the University of all product(s) and/or service(s) based on an Excel template provided by Procurement Services. 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 Procurement Services and is subject to change. The Excel template provided by Procurement Services 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 should 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)) should 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 should also be completed with the Contractor's name, contract number, and reporting period.

Reports can be submitted via email to purchreports@l.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 should 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.

6.27 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 may 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.

6.28 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 Procurement Services.

6.29 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 should 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 should be paid in the form of a check made payable to the University of Kentucky and should be delivered to Procurement Services, 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 should 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 should 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 should be in the form of a check made payable to the University of Kentucky and should be delivered to Procurement Services, 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.

6.30 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.

6.31 Extending Contract

The offeror's response to this RFP should state whether or not the offeror will permit the use of this contract by other Universities, state agencies, public and private institutions within the Commonwealth of Kentucky. An answer to this issue should be submitted within the response be submitted within the response.

6.32 Damaged or Inferior Material

When services are not delivered on the date agreed on by the contractor and the University, or if inferior or incomplete work is found, the Procurement Division (in concurrence with the 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.

7.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES

7.1 Detailed Services Defined

New Product Introductions

Offeror will notify the University Procurement office quarterly of any new product introductions. As new products are introduced, products will be sold at list price, minus the discount for the product category the new product is placed in.

Business Review Meetings (Quarterly)

To maintain the partnership and improve business processes between the University and Successful Offeror, quarterly business reviews will be held.

SAP Ariba Network e-Catalog Provision and Commerce Automation

The University of Kentucky utilizes the SAP Ariba Network as its e-catalog shopping and commerce automation platform. Successful contractors should plan to create, integrate with, and maintain an e-catalog of their products making them available to authorized University departmental shoppers. E-catalogs could be Level 1 (Punch-out) or Level 2 (Hosted), as applicable, and available from the successful contractor(s). In addition to participating and provide access to an e-catalog via the SAP Ariba Network, successful contractors will receive University purchase orders and provide return invoicing via the network. Participation fees may be due to SAP Ariba Network by the successful contractor depending on the level of engagement and network connection established by the successful contractor. The University does not pay the SAP Ariba Network supplier fees.

8.0 FINANCIAL OFFER SUMMARY

1. Offerors are to provide a fixed price or percentage discount for the products, services and equipment offered that are listed in Attachments A – G.
2. List any additional delivery/hazardous material/dry ice charges that may be applied to university orders. Explain in what circumstances these charges would apply.
3. **Attachment A – F** includes a combined listing “Core/Hot List” products purchased by UK through our current general scientific supply contracts based upon a one (1) year procurement period. List fixed pricing for each item being bid.
4. **Attachment G - Basis for pricing**, offeror is to provide price list(s) from each line they offer. The discount offered will be taking from this price list. It is intended that the offered discounts remain firm during the contract period unless the Manufacturer or Distributor offer a better price. All Scientific Manufacturers that are distributed by your firm including ones that would be considered an exclusive distributorship, offeror should provide a discount structure for each manufacture listed product category or sub-category (as applicable, thus multiple discounts may be offered depending on manufactures product diversity). A discount structure including “private label” and “manufactured for” products as determined by the offeror should also be included. In the event a new manufacture/product category is introduced containing no previously existing manufacture/products, offeror should notify the University prior to sale of any products as these manufactures/product lines become available. The new manufacture/category will receive a discount mutually determined between the offeror and the University. All services should be listed with a Flat Fee (FF) or Per Hour (PH) rate.

8.1 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. Any ideas or offers submitted are purely optional and will not be determinative of the award.