

THE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS
Request for Proposals (RFP)
Financial Audit Services
RFP:002-2019
February 4, 2019
Submittals due by: 4:00 pm (CST) on February 15, 2019

Request for Qualifications: The Finance Authority of New Orleans (FANO), a public trust created by the City Council of New Orleans under the provisions of the Louisiana Public Trust Code, is seeking to obtain Architectural Design and Consulting Services as detailed in Attachment “A” hereto. As provided below, and incident to the FANO’s Procurement Policies and Procedures, it requests proposals from experienced firms to provide the needed services.

Instructions: Respondents shall submit the following to The Finance Authority of New Orleans, via email at procurement@financeauthority.org, not later than **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2019, 4:00 PM (CST)**. **Hard copies or other electronic forms of submissions will not be accepted.**

- a. Offeror shall provide a digitally signed proposal as a PDF file, marked Financial Audit Services;
- b. Offeror shall also provide (as a PDF file) a signed cover letter including the company’s name, address and primary contact for the qualification proposal. The primary contact information shall include submitter name, telephone, and email address.

Proposals should clearly demonstrate the applicant’s qualifications to perform the needed services and attend all factors applicable in a professional relationship. Proposals should include detailed resumes or curricula vitae for the principals performing the services. Copies of the solicitation and related information are available from the FANO’s website at <http://www.financeauthority.org>.

FANO will not accept proposals submitted by fax. All proposals **must be received** by FANO on or before the Delivery Deadline. FANO will not accept proposals delivered after the deadline. FANO will not credit delivery claims not clearly documented by original receipt.

Anticipated Proposal Timetable

RFP Release	February 4, 2019
Questions/Clarifications Due	February 8, 2019
Responses to Questions/Clarifications Posted	February 12, 2019
Proposal Submissions Due	February 15, 2019
Selection Committee Meeting	TBD
Award Notification	TBD

If FANO identifies a likely service provider, it may negotiate a final agreement with the provider and fix the relationship by Professional Services contract. The contract will contain the standard FANO provisions shown in Attachment “B”.

Proposals MUST contain the following statement signed by the applicant or its authorized representative, **“By responding to this RFP, respondent agrees to FANO’s Required Contract Provisions as provided in Attachment “B” and therefore waives any future right to contest the required provisions.”**

1. **Scope of Services:** Attachment “A” describes the needed services.
2. **Submission Information:** Responses must be submitted in accordance with Attachment “B” of this RFP.
3. **Evaluation and Selection:** FANO will select the successful respondent(s) according to the procedures described in Attachment “C”.
4. **Contracting:** FANO reserves the right to select multiple vendors to perform any and/or all of the services requested herein. If FANO identifies a likely service provider(s), it may negotiate a final agreement with the provider(s) and fix the relationship by Professional Services contract. This contract will stipulate the terms and conditions of the services to be provided and will contain the standard FANO provisions shown in Attachment” D”.
5. **Ownership:** All responses and all documentation submitted therewith are FANO property for all purposes. Applicants will clearly mark documents or information claimed exempt from public records disclosure and specifically justify the exemption.

FANO will not credit any blanket exemption claims lacking specific justification. FANO does not guarantee the confidentiality of submissions.

6. **Public Access to Information/Confidentiality:** All information submitted in response to a solicitation issued by FANO shall remain confidential until after final approval and award is made.

Furthermore, The Finance Authority of New Orleans shall not disclose information submitted to FANO in confidence in response to a solicitation, and not otherwise required by law to be submitted, where such information should reasonably be considered confidential.

7. **Effect:** This Request for Qualifications and any related discussions or evaluations by anyone create no rights or obligations whatsoever. FANO may cancel or modify this solicitation at any time at will, with or without notice. Anything to the contrary notwithstanding, the Professional Services contract executed by FANO and the selected respondent, if any, is the exclusive statement of rights and obligations extending from this solicitation.
8. **Additional Requirements:** FANO reserves the right to amend the instructions, requirements, general and special conditions, scope of work, and specifications of this RFP. In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of the RFP, addenda will be provided to all potential respondents who receive the RFP.
9. **Proprietary Information:** Only information which is in the nature of legitimate trade secrets or non- published financial data may be deemed propriety or confidential. Any material within a proposal identified as such must be clearly marked as CONFIDENTIAL in the proposal and will be handled in accordance with the Louisiana Public Records Act, R.S. 44: 1-44 and applicable rules and regulations. Any proposal marked as confidential in its entirety may be rejected without further consideration or recourse.

10. **Cost of Preparing Responses:** FANO shall not be liable for any costs incurred by respondents prior to entering into a contract. Costs associated with developing the proposal, preparing for oral presentations, and any other expenses incurred by the respondent in responding to this RFP are entirely the responsibility of the respondent and shall not be reimbursed in any manner by FANO.
11. **Errors and Omissions in Proposal:** FANO shall not be liable for any errors in responses. FANO, at its option, has the right to request clarification or additional information from the respondents.
12. **Licensure:** Where applicable, respondents must maintain licenses and permits to perform the contracted work in the State of Louisiana.
13. **Compliance with All Applicable Laws:** Any work completed pursuant to a response to this RFP shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws and jurisprudence of the State of Louisiana. At the time of respondent's submission of its RFP response and at all times during the performance of any work pursuant to this RFP, the respondent shall be in compliance with all applicable laws of the State of Louisiana, the United States and local ordinances, including licensure requirements.
14. **Insurance:** The selected respondent(s) will be required to provide
 - I. Requirements
 - 1) Basic:
 - (a) The Contractor shall purchase in its name and maintain at its sole cost and expense, insurance as set out below. This insurance will provide primary coverage for claims and/or suits which may arise out of or result from the Contractor's performance and/or furnishing of the services, whether performed and /or furnished by the Contractor, any sub-contractor, partner, supplier, or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them to perform or furnish any of the work, goods, products or services, or by anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable. Any insurance carried by FANO shall be excess and not contributing insurance. The limits may be met by purchasing an umbrella or excess policy meeting both requirements.
 - (b) The total limit of insurance must be equal to or greater than the minimum acceptable not less than limits indicated below. If any policies contain a deductible or self-insurance retention, then the evidence of insurance for those policies shall disclose the deductible/ retention amount. Additionally, each line of insurance may have its own set of requirements that must be met. **"CLAIMS MADE" POLICIES OF INSURANCE ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE** for general liability but are acceptable for professional liability policies.
 - (c) The Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer and The Finance Authority of New Orleans (FANO) are hereby named as an Additional Insured.
 - (d) If the Contractor's liability insurance program does not contain the standard ISO separation of insureds provision, or a substantially similar clause, then they shall be endorsed to provide Cross Liability coverage.
 - (e) The Contractor shall endorse their policies (as applicable) to provide Waiver of Subrogation Endorsement to include written contracts in favor of FANO, its elected and appointed Officials, Board, Committees, agents, directors, servants, employees and volunteers.
 - II. Types and Amounts
 - 2) General Liability:
 - (a) Commercial General Liability Form CG 00 01, or pre-approved alternative providing at least as broad coverage, insurance shall be written on an "occurrence" basis; with a minimal

- acceptable limit of not less than \$500,000 per occurrence; \$1,000,000 aggregate;
- (b) The insurance shall cover liability arising from independent contractors and liability assumed under an insured contract.

Note: The General Liability policy shall not exclude any standardized coverage included in the required basic form or limit Contractual Coverages for the services in any way that would prohibit or limit the reporting of any claim or suit and the subsequent defense and indemnity there for which would normally be provided by the policy.

III. General Specifications

- (a) Contractor's Liability Insurance: If applicable, the Contractor shall require all sub-contractors to maintain, in limits equal to or greater than the Contractor's, the same insurance coverage for Work performed or materials provided for the Work. The Contractor shall insert this requirement in all contracts or agreements, whether written and/or oral, with all entities and/or persons who perform any Work under this contract. At no time shall the Contractor allow any sub-contractors to perform Work without the required types and limits of insurance coverage. In the event of a sub-contractor's non-compliance with this requirement, the Contractor shall be responsible for any damages or liabilities arising from the sub-contractor's work, actions, or inactions.
- (b) General Requirements:
- (i) Qualifications of Insurers:
 1. All insurance required for the Contract is to be purchased and maintained by the Contractor from insurance companies that are duly licensed and authorized by the State of Louisiana to issue insurance policies for the limits and coverages so required. Such insurance companies utilized are to have a minimum rating of A-VI (or the current requirements of the State of Louisiana Public Bid Law (RS: 38:2211-2296) as of the most current edition of A.M. Best's Key Rating Guide.
 2. If any insurance company providing any insurance coverage furnished by the Contractor is declared bankrupt, becomes insolvent, loses its right to do business in Louisiana, or ceases to meet the requirements of this Document, the Contractor shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, substitute another insurance company acceptable to FANO. FANO reserves the right to mandate cessation of all Work until the receipt of acceptable replacement insurance.
 - (c) Partnerships: If the Contractor is a partnership then the evidence of all primary and excess liability insurance required to be maintained during the term hereunder shall be furnished in the name of the partnership. Evidence of continuing primary commercial general liability insurance, which shall remain in effect in the name of the partnership shall also be furnished.
 - (d) Certificates of Insurance: The Contractor shall furnish to FANO Certificates of Insurance effecting coverages required in this Contract. The certificates for each insurance policy are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The certificates are to be on forms that are to be received and approved by FANO. FANO reserves the right to obtain complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, at any time.
 - (e) Objection by FANO: If FANO has any objection to the coverage afforded by, or any other provisions of, the insurance required to be purchased and maintained by the Contractor in accordance with the insurance requirements for the Work on the basis of non-conformance with the Contract, FANO shall notify the Contractor in writing after receipt of the Certificates. The Contractor shall provide a written response to FANO's objections within ten (10) days from the date of the letter request.
 - (f) The Contractor's Failure: Upon failure of the Contractor or his subcontractor to purchase, furnish, deliver or maintain such insurance as required herein, at the election of FANO, the

Contract, may be forthwith declared suspended, discontinued, or terminated. Failure of the Contractor to purchase and maintain insurance shall not relieve the Contractor from any liability under the Contract, nor shall the insurance requirements affect the obligations of the Contractor concerning indemnification.

- (g) No Waiver of Liability: Acceptance of evidence of the insurance requirements by FANO in no way relieves or decreases the liability of the Contractor for the performance of the Work under the Contract. Additionally, the Contractor is responsible for any losses, expenses, damages, claims and/or suits and costs of any kind which exceed the Contractor's limits of liability or which may be outside the coverage scope of the Contractor's insurance policies. The insurance requirements outlined in this Document shall in no way be construed to limit or eliminate the liability of the Contractor that may arise from the performance of Work under the Contract.
- (h) The Contractor's coverage is to be primary for any and all claims and/or suits related to or arising from the Work and any insurance coverage maintained by FANO is to be deemed as excess of the Contractor's insurance coverage and shall not contribute with or to it in any way.
- (i) No Recourse Against FANO: The insurance companies issuing the policies shall have no recourse against FANO for payment of any premiums, deductibles, retentions or for assessments under any form of policy. These shall be borne by and be the sole responsibility of the Contractor.
- (j) FANO's Liability Insurance: In addition to the insurance required to be provided by The Contractor above, FANO, at its option, may purchase and maintain at FANO's expense its own liability insurance as will protect FANO against claims which may arise from operations under the Contract.

Point of Contact: All correspondence and other communications regarding this procurement should be directed to the attention of: The Finance Authority of New Orleans, Attention: Procurement Team, 618 Baronne Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70113. Substantive questions must be submitted by proposers in writing via email only to the Procurement Team at procurement@financeauthority.org no later than (7) days before submittal deadline. Any request received after that time may not be reviewed for inclusion in this Solicitation. The request shall contain the requester's name, address, and telephone number.

FANO will issue a response to any inquiry if it deems it necessary, by written addendum to the Solicitation, posted on FANO's website, and issued prior to the Solicitation Due Date & Time. The Proposer shall not rely on any representation, statement or explanation other than those made in this Solicitation document or in any addendums issued. Where there appears to be a conflict between this Solicitation and any addendum issued, the last addendum issued will prevail.

From the time of advertising, and until the final award, there is a prohibition on communication by Proposers (or anyone on their behalf) with FANO's staff and Board of Trustees. This does not apply to contract negotiations, or communications in writing at any time with any FANO employee regarding matters not concerning this Solicitation.

Breaking the established prohibition on communication may result in a disqualification of your proposal.

- END OF SECTION -

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Attachment “A”

SCOPE OF SERVICES

FANO requests that the proposing firm provide auditing services to FANO in accordance with the requirements of Government Auditing Standards for the year ending December 31, 2018.

The engagement will encompass all funds under the control of The Finance Authority of New Orleans. There will be no limitations on the scope of the engagement. The engagement contract will be awarded for a specified contract period, which may include multi-year engagements. The contract periods and engagement periods are included in the specific information.

The audit must be a financial audit performed in accordance with:

- Generally accepted auditing standards, promulgated by the Auditing Standards Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
- The standards contained in government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.
- U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Federal Awards.

In conjunction with the previously mentioned standards, the firm should:

- Plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement caused by errors, fraud, or other illegal acts.
- Examine sufficient evidential matter to support the opinions and comments expressed within the auditor's report.
- Assess the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall financial statement presentation.
- Include an assessment of the risk that errors and fraud may cause the financial statements to contain a material misstatement and consider illegal acts that could have a direct material effect on the financial statements to contain a material misstatement and consider illegal acts that could have a direct material effect on the financial statements, to the extent required by the previously mentioned standards, and based on the assessment, design tests to detect such matter.
- Conduct the Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures as mandated by the Louisiana a Legislative Auditor.

The selected respondent will be responsible for the performance of audits and delivery of final audit reports by June 30th following the end of the fiscal year for FANO; and provide appropriate communications to Louisiana Legislative Auditor, FANO Boards of Trustees and Directors and as deemed necessary, provide accounting assistance to FANO.

- END OF SECTION -

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Attachment “B”

SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION

This section should serve to introduce the firm and acknowledge the scope of the proposal. It should include administrative information including, at a minimum, response date, firm contact name and telephone number. The firm should describe itself by providing its full legal name, date of establishment, license number(s), federal tax identification number, type of entity and business enterprise, short history, current ownership structure and any recent or materially significant proposed change in ownership. The firm should also include the stipulation that the proposal is valid for a time period of ninety (90) days from the date of submission.

This section MUST contain the following statement signed by the applicant or its authorized representative,

“By responding to this RFP, respondent agrees to FANO’s Required Contract Provisions as provided in Attachment “D” and therefore waives any future right to contest the required provisions.”

I. Executive Summary

This section should serve to introduce the firm and acknowledge the scope of the proposal. It should include administrative information including, at a minimum, the name of the point of contact, the physical and email address, and telephone number of the individual or firm. If a firm, the name and title of the individual authorized to negotiate contract terms and make binding commitments shall also be included.

This section must include the stipulation that the proposal is valid for a time period of ninety (90) days from the date of submission.

This section MUST contain the following statement signed by the applicant or its authorized representative,
“

By responding to this RFP, respondent agrees to FANO’s Required Contract Provisions as provided in Attachment G and Attachment H and therefore waives any future right to contest the required provisions.”

2. Corporate Background/Relevant Experience

This section should describe the firm by providing (1) its full legal name, (2) date of establishment, (3) type of entity and business enterprise, (4) short history, (5) its current ownership structure and (6) disclose any recent materially significant or proposed changes in ownership.

This section should also demonstrate the firm's prior experience and quality of service provide on working on engagements similar in size, scope, and function to the proposed contract.

The firm should describe any examples or characteristics that would be uniquely relevant in evaluating the experience of the firm to handle the proposed project. The firm should describe its presence in and commitment to New Orleans.

If the firm intends to subcontract for portions of the work, the firm should clearly identify any contractual arrangements and should include specific designations of the tasks to be performed by the subcontractor. Information required of the firm under the terms of this RFP shall also be required for each subcontractor.

Additionally, firms should discuss their understanding of FANO's needs as they relate to the scope and address how the services described in Attachment A: Scope of Services will be provided, including applicable timeframes.

3. Staff Qualifications of the Firm

The firm should provide detailed information about the experience and qualifications of the firm's assigned personnel whom are considered key to the success of the project. This includes the firm's own staff and staff from any subcontractors to be used. The firm's staff (and/or his subcontractor) should demonstrate the necessary experience and knowledge in:

- The service being procured in this RFP;
- Familiarity with FANO's mission, focus and typical project types;
- Working in and with the Public Sector.

Resumes or Curriculum Vitae (CV) should be provided for all key staff assigned to the project. Information regarding assigned key staff members shall include, but are not limited to, education, training, technical experience, functional experience, specific dates and names of employers, relevant and related experience, past and present projects with dates and responsibilities and any applicable certifications. This section should also include the roles and responsibilities of each person on this project, their planned level of effort, their anticipated duration of involvement, and their on-site availability.

4. References

Provide a list of at least three (3) current references for the most relevant completed contracts that directly relate to the scope of services to be offered by the firm. Include the reference company's name, address, contact name and title, phone number, email address, and description of the service provided. The references should collectively commend the firm's capacity.

5. Fee Schedule

Provide a schedule of hourly rates in separate attachment where clearly identified with the words "Schedule of Hourly Rates". The fee schedule shall contain hourly rates and job titles of all staff that may be assigned work under the contract resulting from this RFP. Cost estimates will be considered as "not to exceed" quotations, except to the extent that the assumed scope is changed by agreement in writing.

If there exists discounted rates for public or governmental entities like FANO, then please provide such rates.

NOTE: Proposed fees shall be valid for a minimum of 90 days upon receipt.

6. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Information

FANO seeks to extend subcontracting opportunities to City of New Orleans DBE Certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE's) in order to promote their economic growth. A DBE contract goal of ten(10) percent has been established for this contract.

The offeror/bidder shall agree to use its best efforts, as determined by the Compliance Director, in accordance with the factors set forth in FANO's DBE goals, to meet the contract goal for DBE participation in the performance of this contract.

All firms shall complete and submit the DBE Participation Form (Attachment G) and address the following:

- a. The names and addresses of all DBE firms that will participate in the contract;
- b. The commitment of the participation of each DBE firm participating in the contract on a basis of the percentage of the total dollar value of the contract;
- c. Written confirmation from the named DBE(s), verifying their participation in the contract as provided in the commitments made under (a) and (b) above; and
- d. If the contract goal is not met, evidence of best efforts.

7. Insurance

The proposer shall provide evidence of insurance coverage and minimum required limits by completing and submitting Attachment E, Certificate of Insurance Coverage, as a part of their proposal.

8. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

The proposer shall disclose any direct or indirect, current or future, conflicts of interest between themselves and FANO and their respective employees in the attached Conflict of Interest Disclosure Affidavit (Attachment F). If questions arise about potential conflicts of interests, please contact FANO prior to submitting proposal.

Proposer must provide the following affirmations:

1. An affirmation that the proposer is properly licensed for the public private practice as a certified public accountant or public accountant in accordance with GAGAS.

2. An affirmation that the proposer meets the independence requirements of the Government Auditing Standards, published by General Accounting Standards, published by the General Accounting Office.

The firm must provide copies of the most recent peer review and the status of any disciplinary actions taken against the firm in the past five years by the Louisiana State Board of CPAs or the AICPA.

Performance

Timeless and Responsiveness – The selected vendor will be expected to return all FANO phones calls and/or emails communication within forty-eight (48) hours. FANO and vendor will develop mutually agreed upon deadlines and penalties for specific deliverables or technical assistance as appropriate. Vendor’s failure to meet mutually agreed upon task-specific deadlines may result in five percent (5%) penalty discount on the subsequent invoice.

Termination - The individual or firm contracted will be subject to audit/monitoring, by FANO, if it is determined that the individual or firm has misrepresented themselves and is not competent to perform the task, in which case, this may result in a termination of the contract.

Termination may also be for serious misconduct, habitual neglect of duty or incompetence, conduct incompatible with FANO’s mission, policies, procedures or any applicable local, state or federal law.

- END OF SECTION -

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Attachment “C”

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

FANO will apply the following selection criteria and weighting factors to evaluate submissions:

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 35% | Relevant Experience: Specialized experience and technical competence directly related to proposed services; |
| 25% | Staff Qualifications: Qualifications of staff assigned to audit, performance history, including, without limitation, competency, responsiveness, work quality and the ability to meet schedules and deadlines; |
| 10% | Approach: The degree to which Innovative concepts, approaches, and methodologies not presented in the Scope of Services are utilized to ensure the timely completion of the audit. |
| 15% | DBE: The degree to which the Proposer’s response meets or exceeds a DBE contract goal of ten (10) percent has been established for this contract. |
| 15% | Cost |

Proposals received in response to this solicitation may be evaluated using a two-stage evaluation process. During Stage I of the evaluation process, proposals will be evaluated and scored by an Evaluation Committee. The committee will score each proposal. Scoring will be based on the predetermined evaluation criteria. The available points associated with each criterion are shown above. The results of the evaluation of proposals will be used to determine those proposals to be considered in the competitive range and included on the short list.

Stage II of the evaluation process may entail interviews and/or presentations with the respondents included on the short list. Respondents not included on the short list will not proceed to Stage II of the evaluation process. The purpose of the interviews is to promote an understanding of FANO’s requirements with respect to this RFP, promote an understanding of the respondents’ proposals, and to arrive at agreeable contract terms.

FANO will award a contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror or offerors whose offer, conforming to the solicitation, will be most advantageous, price and other technical factors specified herein considered.

FANO reserves the right to make contract award without negotiations, to make multiple awards, to make no award or decline to enter negotiations should it believe that no respondent to this RFP will be capable of delivering the necessary level of services within an acceptable price range and/or time period. FANO further reserves the right to forego Stage II of the evaluation process and enter negotiations based on the results of Stage I of the evaluation process. Any contract award will be based on initial proposals received.

- END OF SECTION -

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Attachment "D"

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. **NON-DISCRIMINATION**. In the performance of this Contract, the Contractor will not discriminate on the basis, whether in fact or perception, of a person's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sex (gender), sexual orientation, gender identity, domestic partner status, marital status, physical or mental disability, or AIDS- or HIV-status against (1) any employee of FANO working with the Contractor in any of Contractor's operations within Orleans Parish or (2) any person seeking accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, services, or membership in all business, social, or other establishments or organizations operated by the Contractor. The Contractor agrees to comply with and abide by all applicable federal, state and local laws relating to non-discrimination, including, without limitation, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.
2. **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**. In all hiring or employment made possible by, or resulting from this contract, there (1) will not be any discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, sexual orientation, creed, culture, or ancestry, and (2) where applicable, affirmative action will be taken to ensure that the Contractor's employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, sexual orientation, creed, culture, or ancestry. This requirement shall apply to, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation and selection for training, including apprenticeship. All solicitations or advertisements for employees shall state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, sexual orientation, creed, culture, or ancestry.
3. **INDEMNIFICATION**. The Contractor shall indemnify and hold FANO harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits, judgments of sums of money to any party accruing against FANO for loss of life or injury or damage to persons or property growing out of, resulting from, or by reason of any act or omission or the operation of the Contractor, its agents, servants or employees while engaged in or about or in connection with the discharge or performance of the services to be done or performed by the Contractor hereunder and shall also hold FANO harmless from any and all claims and/or liens for labor, services, or materials furnished to the Contractor in connection with the performance of its obligations under this Contract.
4. **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF EXCLUSION OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION COVERAGE**. Contractor herein expressly agrees and acknowledges that it is an independent contractor as defined in LA. R.S. 23:1021 (6) and as such, it is expressly agreed and understood between the parties hereto, in entering into this Contract, that The Finance Authority of New Orleans shall not be liable to the Contractor

for any benefits or coverage as provided by the Workmen's Compensation Law of the State of Louisiana, and further, under the provisions of LA. R.S. 23:1034 anyone employed by the Contractor shall not be considered an employee of FANO for the purpose of Worker's Compensation coverage.

5. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF EXCLUSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION COVERAGE. The Contractor herein expressly declares and acknowledges that it is an independent contractor, and, as such, is being hired by FANO under this Contract for Hire as noted and defined in LA. R.S. 23:1472(E), and, therefore, it is expressly declared and understood between the parties hereto, in entering into this Contract, or agreement for hire, and in connection with unemployment compensation only, that:

- a. The Contractor has been and will be free from any control or direction by FANO over the performance of the services covered by this contract; and
- b. Services to be performed by the Contractor are outside the normal course and scope of FANO's usual business; and
- c. The Contractor has been independently engaged in performing the services listed herein prior to the date of this agreement.

Consequently, neither the Contractor nor anyone employed by the Contractor shall be considered an employee of FANO for the purpose of unemployment compensation coverage, the same being hereby expressly waived and excluded by the parties hereto.

6. WAIVER OF SICK AND ANNUAL LEAVE BENEFITS. It is expressly agreed and understood between the parties entering into this services agreement that the Contractor, acting as an independent agent, shall not receive any sick and annual leave benefits from The Finance Authority of New Orleans.

7. EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION AND VENUE. For all claims arising out of or related to this Agreement, the Contractor hereby consents and yields to the jurisdiction of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, and expressly waives any (A) pleas of jurisdiction based upon Contractor's residence and (B) right of removal to federal court based upon diversity of citizenship.

8. CHOICE OF LAWS. This Contract shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana, without regard to its conflict of laws provisions.

9. DURATION. The services to be provided under the terms of this Contract shall begin upon execution of Contract and shall end no later than twelve (12) months after. It is understood and acknowledged by all signers to this Contract that work described under these terms is to be accomplished during the time period specified herein.

10. EXTENSION. This Contract may be extended at the option of FANO, and the extension of the Contract facilitates the continuity of services provided herein. This Contract may be extended by FANO for five (5) additional one-year terms.

11. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE. FANO may terminate this Contract at any time during the term of the Contract by giving the Contractor written notice of FANO's intention to terminate at least thirty (30) days before the date of termination.

12. TERMINATION FOR NON-APPROPRIATION. This Contract will terminate immediately in the event of non-appropriation of funds sufficient to maintain this Contract without the requirement of notice and FANO will not be liable for any amounts beyond the funds appropriated and encumbered for this Contract.

13. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE. FANO and the Contractor shall each have the right to terminate this Contract for cause, effective immediately upon the giving of written notice to the other party of its intent to terminate and the reasons therefore. "Cause" includes without limitation any failure to perform any obligation or abide by any condition of this Contract or the failure of any representation or warranty in this Contract.

14. SUSPENSION. FANO may suspend this Contract at any time and for any reason by giving two (2) business day's written notice to the Contractor. The Contractor will resume work upon five (5) business day's written notice from FANO.

15. CONFLICT OF INTEREST. In the interest of ensuring that efforts of the Contractor do not conflict with the interests of FANO, and in recognition of the Contractor's responsibility to FANO, the Contractor agrees to decline any offer of employment if its independent work on behalf of FANO is likely to be adversely affected by the acceptance of such employment. The initial determination of such a possibility rests with the Contractor. It is incumbent upon the Contractor to notify FANO and provide full disclosure of the possible effects of such employment on the Contractor's independent work in behalf of FANO. Final decision on any disputed offers of other employment for the Contractor shall rest with FANO.

16. NON-SOLICITATION. The Contractor has not employed or retained any company or person, other than a bona fide employee working solely for him, to solicit or secure the subject Contract. The Contractor has not paid or agreed to pay any person, other than a bona fide employee working for him, any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or any other consideration contingent upon or resulting from the subject Contract.

17. AUDIT AND INSPECTION. The Contractor will submit to any FANO audit, inspection, and review and, at FANO's request, will make available all documents relating or pertaining to this Contract maintained by or under the control of the Contractor, its employees, agents, assigns, successors and subcontractors, during normal business hours at the Contractor's office or place of business in Louisiana. If no such location is available, the Contractor will make the documents available at a time and location that is convenient for FANO.

18. OWNERSHIP INTEREST DISCLOSURE. The Contractor will provide a sworn affidavit listing all natural or artificial persons with an ownership interest in the Contractor and stating that no other person holds an ownership interest in the Contractor via a counter letter. For the purposes of this provision, an "ownership interest" shall not be deemed to include ownership of stock in a publicly traded corporation or ownership of an interest in a mutual fund or trust that holds an interest in a publicly traded corporation. If the Contractor fails to submit the required affidavits, FANO may, after thirty (30) days' written notice to the Contractor, take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payments until such the required affidavits are submitted.

19. PROHIBITION AGAINST FINANCIAL INTEREST IN AGREEMENT. No elected official or employee of FANO shall have a financial interest, direct or indirect, in the Contract, including through any financial interest held by the spouse, child, or parent. Any willful violation of this provision,

with the expressed or implied knowledge of the Contractor, will render this Contract voidable by FANO and shall entitle FANO to recover, in addition to any other rights and remedies available to FANO, all monies paid by FANO to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract without regard to the Contractor's satisfactory performance.

20. PROHIBITION ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY. None of the funds, materials, property, or services provided directly or indirectly under the terms of this Contract shall be used in the performance of this Contract for any partisan political activity, or to further the election or defeat of any candidate for public office.

21. SUBCONTRACTOR REPORTING. The Contractor will provide a list of all natural or artificial persons who are retained by the Contractor at the time of the Contract's execution and who are expected to perform work as subcontractors in connection with the Contractor's work for FANO. For any subcontractor proposed to be retained by the Contractor to perform work on the Contract with FANO, the Contractor must provide notice to FANO within thirty (30) days of retaining that subcontractor. If the Contractor fails to submit the required lists and notices, FANO may, after thirty (30) days' written notice to the Contractor, take any action it deems necessary, including, without limitation, causing the suspension of any payments, until the required lists and notices are submitted.

22. NON-EXCLUSIVITY. This Contract is non-exclusive and the Contractor may provide services to other clients, subject to FANO's approval of any potential conflicts with the performance of this Contract and FANO may engage the services of others for the provision of some or all of the work to be performed under this Contract.

23. CONVICTED FELON STATEMENT. No principal, member, or officer of the Contractor has, within the preceding five (5) years, been convicted of, or pled guilty to, a felony under state or federal statutes for embezzlement, theft of public funds, bribery, or falsification or destruction of public records.

24. ASSIGNABILITY. The Contractor shall not assign any interest in this Contract and shall not transfer any interest in the same without prior written consent of FANO.

25. TERMS BINDING. The terms and conditions of the Contract are binding on any heirs, successors, transferees, and assigns.

26. AMENDMENT. The Contract shall not be modified except by written amendment executed by duly authorized representatives of the parties.

27. NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES. The Contract is entered into for the exclusive benefit of FANO and the Contractor, and FANO and the Contractor expressly disclaim any intent to benefit anyone not a party to this Contract.

28. SEVERABILITY. If a court of competent jurisdiction finds any provision of the Contract to be unenforceable as written, the unenforceable provision should be reformed, if possible, so that it is enforceable to the maximum extent permitted by law, or, if reformation is not possible, the unenforceable provision will be fully severable and the remaining provisions of the Contract will remain in full force and effect and will be construed and enforced as if the unenforceable provision was never a part the Contract.

29. CONSTRUCTION OF AGREEMENT. Neither party will be deemed to have drafted the Contract. The Contract has been reviewed by all parties and will be construed and interpreted according to the

ordinary meaning of the words used so as to fairly accomplish the purposes and intentions of all parties. No term of the Contract will be construed or resolved in favor of or against FANO or the Contractor on the basis of which party drafted the uncertain or ambiguous language. The headings and captions of the Contract are provided for convenience only and are not intended to have effect in the construction or interpretation of the Contract. Where appropriate, the singular includes the plural and neutral words and words of any gender include the neutral and other gender.

30. SURVIVAL. All representations and warranties and all obligations concerning record retention, inspections, audits, ownership, indemnification, payment, remedies, jurisdiction, venue, choice of law, and warranties shall survive the expiration, suspension, or termination of the Contract and continue in full force and effect.

31. NON-WAIVER. The failure of FANO to insist upon strict compliance with any provision of the Contract, to enforce any right or to seek any remedy upon discovery of any default or breach of the Contractor at such time as the initial discovery of the existence of such noncompliance, right, default or breach shall not affect or constitute a waiver of FANO's right to insist upon such compliance, exercise such right or seek such remedy with respect to that default or breach or any prior contemporaneous or subsequent default or breach.

32. REMEDIES CUMULATIVE. No remedy set forth in the Contract or otherwise conferred upon or reserved to any party shall be considered exclusive of any other remedy available to a party. Rather, each remedy shall be deemed distinct, separate and cumulative and each may be exercised from time to time as often as the occasion may arise or as may be deemed expedient.

33. MANDATORY LANGUAGE. All contracts and subcontracts shall have the following language inserted:

“All members of the Board of Trustees and all of the officers and employees of The Finance Authority of New Orleans (FANO) are subject to the provisions of the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics (See LSA-R.S. 42:1101, et seq.). The LA Code of Governmental Ethics contains broad prohibitions covering potential conflicts of interest.

If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of the LA Ethics Code you should contact immediately either:

1. FANO staff; or
2. The staff of The Commission on Ethics for Public Employees at (504) 765-2308.

Contractors and parties to sub-agreements shall notify FANO in writing of any request or solicitation by a Board member or employee which violates or is contrary to the LA State Code of Governmental Ethics, FANO's Procurement Policy or otherwise has the appearance of undo influence.”

34. INCORPORATION INTO SUBCONTRACTS. The Contractor will incorporate these Contract Terms and Conditions into all subcontracts, by reference or otherwise, and will require all subcontractors to comply with these provisions.

-END OF SECTION-

THE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS
Request for Proposals (RFP)
Financial Audit Services
RFP:002-2019
February 4, 2019
Submittals due by: 4:00 pm (CST) on February 15, 2019

Attachment "E"

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE COVERAGE

**Application Submitted By
(Name of Firm):** _____

Name of Surety Company: _____

Name of Surety Agent: _____

Surety Agent's Phone: _____

The below signed hereby certifies the following information to be true and correct.

Type of Coverage/ Minimum Required Limits	Policy or Binder #	Actual Limits	Expiration Date
Professional Liability/ \$500,000 Occurrence; \$1,000,000 Aggregate			

Check the appropriate box(es)
below:

- Limits on above policy will be increased
- Above policy now in effect
- Policy will be obtained before contract signed

The following additional clauses shall be considered a part of the above policy(s), the same as if specifically written therein, as pertains to the above stated contract.

1. The Executive Director /Chief Executive Officer and The Finance Authority of New Orleans (FANO) are hereby named as an Additional Insured.
2. The Policy(s) cannot be reduced or canceled without at least forty-five (45) days prior written notice to FANO.
3. The insurance company is prohibited from pleading government function in the absence of any specified written authority from FANO.
4. The Policy(s) will automatically include and cover all phases of work, equipment, persons, et cetera, which are normally covered while performing work under the above contract, whether specifically written therein or not.

FANO is hereby granted authority to contact the agency directly to confirm information or obtain copies of certificates of insurance. FANO bears no responsibility for premiums or other cost of insurance. If policy(s) is not currently in effect, it will be written immediately upon notice of award, and a copy of binder or certificate will be sent directly to FANO. A properly executed copy of this document shall be legally binding as a Carrier Certificate of Insurance Form.

Authorized Agent's Signature

Date

-END OF SECTION-

THE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS
Request for Proposals (RFP)
Financial Audit Services
RFP:002-2019
February 4, 2019
Submittals due by: 4:00 pm (CST) on February 15, 2019

Attachment "F"

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF _____

Before me, the undersigned authority, came and appeared _____
_____, who, being first duly sworn, deposed and said that:

1. He/She is the _____ and authorized representative of _____
_____, hereafter called "Respondent."
2. The Respondent submits the attached RFP Response in response to the (Financial Audit Services RFP:002-2019).
3. The Respondent hereby confirms that a conflict(s) of interest exists/does not exist/may exist in connection with this solicitation (circle your response) which might impair Respondent's ability to perform if awarded the contract, including any familial or business relationships that the Respondent, the proposed subcontractors, and their principals have with FANO Trustees, officers and employees. *(If a conflict(s) of interest exists and/or may exist, describe in a letter the nature of the conflict, the parties involved and why there is a conflict. Attach said letter to this form).*

Respondent Representative (Signature)

(Print or type name)

(Address)

Sworn to and subscribed before me, _____, Notary Public, this ____ day of _____, 2018

Notary Public (signature) Notary ID#/Bar Roll #

-END OF SECTION-

THE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS
Request for Proposals (RFP)
Financial Audit Services
RFP:002-2019
February 4, 2019
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Attachment "G"

DBE Participation Form

Complete the following and submit with your proposal to confirm your level of DBE participation.

Please check the appropriate space:

_____ The bidder/offeror is committed to a minimum of _____% DBE utilization on this contract.

_____ The bidder/offeror, if unable to meet the DBE goal of _____ %, is committed to a minimum of _____% DBE utilization on this contract and will submit documentation demonstrating good faith efforts.

Name of Bidder/Offer Firm:

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

By: _____,

_____ / _____ / _____

(Signature) (Title) (Date)

The bidder/offeror is committed to utilizing DBE participation on the project in the following manner.

Please check the appropriate space:

_____ The bidder/offeror is committed to a minimum of _____% DBE utilization on this contract.

_____ The bidder/offeror, if unable to meet the DBE goal of _____% is committed to a minimum of _____% DBE utilization on this contract and will submit documentation demonstrating good faith efforts.

Name of DBE Firm:

DBE Firm Owner or Contract:

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

DBE Type: _____ SLDBE Certified: _____ DOTD/LAUCP Certified: _____ Other:

_____ Scope of Work Attached. Proposed DBE% _____

Scope of Work: Describe the work to be performed by the DBE firm.

-END OF SECTION-