

PART I - GENERAL INFORMATION

1. PURPOSE.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Commonwealth) is issuing this Invitation for Bids (IFB) to meet the needs of the Department of General Services to satisfy a need for Custom and Modular Display Systems, Accessories, and Services.

2. TYPE OF CONTRACT.

Upon determination that the Contractor meets the ITQ requirements, the Commonwealth will issue a contract to the Contractor and it will contain the Contract Terms and Conditions as shown in Part V of this IFB. Upon receipt of a Purchase Order (PO) issued under this Contract, the Contractor agrees to furnish the requested services to the Commonwealth agency issuing the PO.

3. NO PRE-BID CONFERENCE.

There will be no pre-bid conference for this IFB. If there are any questions, please forward them to the Issuing Office prior to the bid opening date and time.

4. QUESTIONS.

All questions regarding the IFB must be submitted in writing to the email address of the Issuing Officer provided in the solicitation. All questions received will be answered, in writing, and such responses shall be posted to eMarketplace as an addendum to the IFB. The Issuing Officer shall not be bound by any verbal information nor shall it be bound by any written information that is not either contained within the IFB or formally issued as an addendum by the Issuing Office. The Issuing Office does not consider questions to be a protest of the specifications or of the solicitation.

5. ADDENDA TO THE IFB.

If the Issuing Office deems it necessary to revise any part of this IFB, the Issuing Office will post an addendum to its website at <HTTPS://WWW.PA.GOV/AGENCIES/DGS.HTML> it is the Bidder's responsibility to periodically check the website for any new information or addenda to the IFB.

6. BID PROTEST PROCEDURE.

The Bid Protest Procedure is on the DGS website at:

<https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/dgs/documents/documents/procurement-forms/handbook/pt1/pt%20i%20ch%2058%20bid%20protests.pdf>

7. REJECTION OF BIDS.

The Issuing Office reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, to waive technical defects or any informality in Bids, and to accept or reject any part of any Bid if the best interests of the Commonwealth are thereby served.

8. APPROVED EQUAL.

Whenever an item is defined in this IFB by trade name and catalogue number of a manufacturer or vendor, the term 'or approved equal,' if not inserted therewith shall be implied. Any reference to a particular manufacturer's product either by trade name or by limited description is solely for the purpose of more clearly indicating the minimum standard of quality desired, except where a 'no substitute' is requested. When a 'no substitute' is requested, the Issuing Office will consider Bids for the referenced product only. The term 'or approved equal' is defined as meaning any other make which, in the sole opinion of the Issuing Office, is of such character, quality, and performance equivalence as to meet the standard of quality of products specified for which it is to be used equally as well as that specified. A Bidder quoting on a product other than the referenced product shall: a) furnish complete identification in its Bid of the product it is offering by trade name, brand and/or model number; b) furnish descriptive literature and data with respect to the substitute product it proposes to furnish; and c) indicate any known specification deviations from the referenced product.

9. ALTERNATES.

A Bidder who wants to offer an alternate must notify the Issuing Office in writing, at least five days prior to the scheduled quote opening, that the Bidder intends to offer an alternate in its quote. An "alternate" is a product that deviates from the requirements of the specifications in its composition, qualities, performance, size dimension, etc. The written notification from the Bidder must include a complete description of the alternate and must identify the product's deviations from the specifications. Upon receipt of the notification, the Issuing Office will determine whether the alternate is acceptable. If the Issuing Office, in its discretion, determines that the alternate is acceptable, the Issuing Office will issue a change notice to the request for quote that revises the specifications. If no change notice is issued revising the specification, a quote offering the alternate will not be considered for award. If an item or items in the IFB are designated "no substitute," this provision does not apply and no alternate may be proposed by a bidder nor will any alternate be considered by the Issuing Office.

10. NEW EQUIPMENT.

Unless otherwise specified in this invitation for bids, all products offered by Bidders must be new or remanufactured. A 'new' product is one that will be used first by the Commonwealth after it is manufactured or produced. A

'remanufactured' product is one which: 1) has been rebuilt, using new or used parts, to a condition which meets the original manufacturer's most recent specifications for the item; 2) does not, in the opinion of the Issuing Office, differ in appearance from a new item; and 3) has the same warranty as a new item. Unless otherwise specified in this invitation for bids, used or reconditioned products are not acceptable. This clause shall not be construed to prohibit Bidders from offering products with recycled content, provided the product is new or remanufactured.

11. REPRESENTATIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS.

By submitting its bid, each bidder understands, represents, and acknowledges that:

- a. All of the Bidder's information and representations in the bid are material and important, and the Issuing Office may rely upon the contents of the bid in awarding the contract(s). The Commonwealth shall treat any misstatement, omission or misrepresentation as fraudulent concealment of the true facts relating to the submission, punishable pursuant to 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904.
- b. The Bidder has arrived at the price(s) and amounts in its bid independently and without consultation, communication, or agreement with any other bidder or potential bidder.
- c. The Bidder has not disclosed the price(s), the amount of the bid, nor the approximate price(s) or amount(s) of its bid to any other firm or person who is an Bidder or potential bidder for this IFB.
- d. The Bidder has not attempted, nor will it attempt, to induce any firm or person to refrain from submitting a bid on this contract, or to submit a bid higher than this bid, or to submit any intentionally high or noncompetitive bid or other form of complementary bid.
- e. The Bidder makes its proposal in good faith and not pursuant to any agreement or discussion with, or inducement from, any firm or person to submit a complementary or other noncompetitive bid.
- f. To the best knowledge of the person signing the bid for the Bidder, the Bidder, its affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, and employees are not currently under investigation by any governmental agency and have not in the last four years been convicted or found liable for any act prohibited by State or Federal law in any jurisdiction, involving conspiracy or collusion with respect to bidding or proposing on any public contract, except as the Bidder has disclosed in its bid.
- g. To the best of the knowledge of the person signing the bid for the Bidder and except as the Bidder has otherwise disclosed in its bid, the Bidder has no outstanding, delinquent obligations to the Commonwealth including, but not limited to, any state

tax liability not being contested on appeal or other obligation of the Bidder that is owed to the Commonwealth.

- h. The Bidder is not currently under suspension or debarment by the Commonwealth, any other state or the federal government, and if the Bidder cannot so certify, then it shall submit along with its proposal a written explanation of why it cannot make such certification.
- i. The Bidder has not made, under separate contract with the Issuing Office, any recommendations to the Issuing Office concerning the need for the services described in its bid or the specifications for the services described in the bid.
- j. Each Bidder, by submitting its proposal, authorizes Commonwealth agencies to release to the Commonwealth information concerning the Bidder's Pennsylvania taxes, unemployment compensation and workers' compensation liabilities.
- k. Until the selected Bidder receives a fully executed and approved written contract from the Issuing Office, there is no legal and valid contract, in law or in equity, and the Bidder shall not begin to perform.
- l. The Bidder is not currently engaged, and will not during the duration of the contract engage, in a boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction which the Commonwealth is not prohibited by Congressional statute from engaging in trade or commerce.

PART II - REQUIREMENTS

1. RECIPROCAL LIMITATIONS ACT.

This procurement is subject to the Reciprocal Limitations Act. Bidders must complete and submit with the quote response the State of Manufacture Chart , which is contained in GSPUR-89 ("Reciprocal Limitations Act Requirements") which is attached to and made part of this IFB. The completed State of Manufacture Chart should be submitted as part of the quote response to the Issuing Agency.

2. IRAN FREE PROCUREMENT CERTIFICATION AND DISCLOSURE.

Prior to entering a contract worth at least \$1,000,000 or more with a Commonwealth entity, a bidder must: a) certify it is not on the current list of persons engaged in investment activities in Iran created by the Pennsylvania Department of General Services (“DGS”) pursuant to Section 3503 of the Procurement Code and is eligible to contract with the Commonwealth under Sections 3501-3506 of the Procurement Code; or b) demonstrate it has received an exception from the certification requirement for that solicitation or contract pursuant to Section 3503(e).

All bidders must complete and return the Iran Free Procurement Certification form, which is attached hereto and made part of this IFB. The completed and signed Iran Free Procurement Certification form must be submitted with the Bid Response. See the following web page for current Iran Free Procurement list:

<http://www.dgs.pa.gov/businesses/materials%20and%20services%20procurement/procurement-resources/pages/default.aspx#.WDNfJJgo6Ht>

3. WORKER PROTECTION AND INVESTMENT CERTIFICATION.

Pursuant to Executive Order 2021-06, Worker Protection and Investment (October 21, 2021), the Commonwealth is responsible for ensuring that every Pennsylvania worker has a safe and healthy work environment and the protections afforded them through labor laws. To that end, contractors and grantees of the Commonwealth must certify that they are in compliance with all applicable Pennsylvania state labor and workforce safety laws. Such certification shall be made through the Worker Protection and Investment Certification Form (BOP-2201). Contractor must complete and return the Worker Protection and Investment Certification form with its Bid Response.

4. COSTARS ELECTION TO PARTICIPATE.

A. Section 1902 of the Commonwealth Procurement Code, 62 Pa.C.S. § 1902 (“Section 1902”), authorizes local public procurement units and state-affiliated entities (together, “COSTARS Members”) to participate in Commonwealth procurement contracts that the Department of General Services (“DGS”) may

choose to make available to COSTARS Members. DGS has identified this ITQ as one which will be made available for COSTARS Members' participation.

- a. Only those entities registered with DGS are authorized to participate as COSTARS Members in this Contract. A COSTARS Member may be either a local public procurement unit or a state-affiliated entity.
 1. A "local public procurement unit" is:
 - Any political subdivision (local government unit), such as a municipality, school district, or commission
 - Any public authority (including authorities formed under the Municipality Authorities Act of 1955 or other authorizing legislation, such as the Public Transportation Law or the Aviation Code)
 - Any tax-exempt, nonprofit educational institution or organization
 - Any tax-exempt, nonprofit public health institution or organization
 - Any nonprofit fire, rescue, or ambulance company
 - Any other entity that spends public funds for the procurement of supplies, services, and construction (such as a council of governments, an area government, or an organization that receives public grant funds)

The Department reserves the right to review and determine eligible applicants as Local Public Procurement Units on a case-by-case basis.

2. A state-affiliated entity is a Commonwealth authority or other Commonwealth entity that is not a Commonwealth agency. The term includes:
 - The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
 - The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency
 - The Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System
 - The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority
 - The State Public School Building Authority
 - The Pennsylvania Higher Education Facilities Authority
 - The State System of Higher Education.

The COSTARS Program is not available for use by Executive Agencies and Independent Agencies as defined by the Commonwealth Procurement Code, or any agency or entity using funds appropriated to the Department of General Services through Capital Budget Project Itemization legislation for the procurement of furniture, fixtures, and equipment.

3. A complete list of local public procurement units and state-affiliated entities that have registered with DGS and that are authorized to procure items from the Contract can be found at <http://www.costars.state.pa.us/SearchCOMember.aspx>.
- b. COSTARS Members have the option to purchase from this Contract, from any DGS contract established exclusively for COSTARS Members in accordance with the requirements of Section 1902, from any other cooperative procurement contracts, or from their own procurement contracts established in accordance with the applicable laws governing such procurements. The Contractor understands and acknowledges that there is no guarantee that a COSTARS Member will place an order under this Contract, and that the decision to procure from this Contract is within the sole discretion of each COSTARS Member.
 - c. DGS is acting as a facilitator for COSTARS Members who may wish to purchase under this Contract. COSTARS Members that participate in this Contract and issue purchase orders (“POs”) to Contractors are third party beneficiaries who have the right to sue and be sued for breach of this Contract without joining the Commonwealth or DGS as a party. The Commonwealth will not intervene in any action between a Contractor and a COSTARS Member unless substantial interests of the Commonwealth are involved.
 - d. COSTARS Members electing to participate in this Contract will order items directly from the Contractor and be responsible for payment directly to the Contractor.
 - e. Those Contractors electing to permit COSTARS Members to procure from this Contract shall pay the Required Administrative Fee applicable to the Contractor’s classification:

Contractor Classification	Required Administrative Fee
DGS-verified Small Diverse Business Contractor	\$166
DGS Self-Certified Small Business Contractor	\$500
All Other Contractor	\$1,500

1. Each Contractor electing to permit COSTARS Members to participate in the Contract must submit the COSTARS Program Election to Participate form with its bid submittal and pay the applicable Administrative Fee upon Contract award in order to sell the awarded items/services to COSTARS Members. If the Contractor is a Department of General Services Self-Certified Small Business or

Department of General Services-verified Small Diverse Business, a copy of its active Small Business Contracting Program certificate must be included with the bid submittal.

2. At the beginning of each Contract year and upon any Contract renewal, the Contractor shall submit a check for the required amount, payable to “Commonwealth of PA”. The Contractor must pay the Administrative Fee at each contract renewal date to continue to sell the awarded items/services to COSTARS Members.
- f. DGS has registered the COSTARS name and logo (together, the “COSTARS Brand”) as a trademark with the Pennsylvania Department of State. Therefore, the Contractor may use the COSTARS Brand only as permitted under in this Subsection.
1. The Contractor shall pay the Administrative Fee covering its participation in the program, including without limitation any use of the COSTARS Brand, for each year of the Contract period. The fee is payable upon Contract award and prior to the renewal date for each succeeding Contract period.
 2. DGS grants the Contractor a nonexclusive license to use the COSTARS Brand, subject to the following conditions:
 - The Contractor agrees not to transfer to any third party, including without limitation any of its subcontractors or Contractors, any privileges it may have to use the COSTARS Brand under this Contract.
 - The Contractor agrees not to use the COSTARS Brand to represent or imply any Commonwealth endorsement or approval of its products or services.
 - The Contractor is permitted to use the COSTARS Brand in broadcast, or Internet media solely in connection with this Contract and any other Contract with the Commonwealth under which it has agreed to make sales to COSTARS Purchasers. The Contractor may use the COSTARS Brand on business cards, brochures, and other print publications so long as the purpose is to identify the Contractor as a COSTARS vendor, and only so long as the required Contract fee is kept current.
 - Should this Contract terminate for any reason, the Contractor agrees promptly to remove the COSTARS Brand from any and all print and electronic media and to refrain from using the COSTARS Brand for any purpose whatsoever from the date of Contract termination forward.
 - The Contractor agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and DGS from and against all claims, demands, liabilities, obligations, costs, and expenses

of any nature whatsoever arising out of or based upon the Contractor's use of the COSTARS Brand; and

- The Contractor agrees it has no property rights in the use of the COSTARS Brand by virtue of this nonexclusive license. The Contractor expressly waives any claims, including without limitation due process claims that may otherwise be available under the law in the event of any dispute involving these terms of use.
- g. The Contractor shall furnish to the DGS COSTARS Program Office a quarterly electronic Contract sales report detailing the previous quarter's Contract purchasing activity, using the form and in the format prescribed by DGS. The Contractor shall submit its completed quarterly report no later than the fifteenth calendar day of the succeeding Contract quarter.
1. The Contractor shall submit the reports through the web-based COSTARS Contractors' Gateway of the PA Contractor Portal at <https://paContractorportal.state.pa.us/irj/portal/anonymous> , Enterprise Applications. If a Contractor does not have access to the Internet, the Contractor shall send the reports, using the form and in the format prescribed by DGS, on compact disc via US Postal Service to the DGS COSTARS Program Office, Bureau of Procurement, 6th Floor Forum Place, 555 Walnut Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101-1914.
 2. For each PO received, the Contractor shall include on the report the name and address of each COSTARS-Registered Purchaser that has used the Contract along with the sales date, and dollar volume of sales to the specific Purchaser for the reporting period.
 3. DGS may suspend the Contractor's participation in the COSTARS Program for failure to provide the Quarterly Sales Report within the specified time.
- h. Additional information regarding the COSTARS Program is available on the DGS COSTARS Website at www.costars.state.pa.us.
1. If the Contractor is aware of any qualified entity not currently registered and wishing to participate in the COSTARS Program, please refer the potential purchaser to the DGS COSTARS Website at www.costars.state.pa.us, where it may register by completing the online registration form and receiving DGS confirmation of its registration. To view a list of currently-registered COSTARS member entities, please visit the COSTARS website.
 2. Direct all questions concerning the COSTARS Program to:
Department of General Services

COSTARS Program
1800 Herr Street, 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17103
Telephone: 1-866-768-7827
E-mail GS-PACostars@pa.gov

- i. **COSTARS Program Election to Participate.** If the Contractor is willing to sell the awarded items/services at the same prices and/or discounts, and in accordance with the contractual terms and conditions, to COSTARS members, the Contractor should complete and return the COSTARS Program Election to Participate form which is an attachment to this ITQ. If the Contractor is asserting that it is a Department of General Services Certified Small Business, the Contractor must submit its active certification.

B. COSTARS Reporting Requirements. If you checked “Yes” in Step 6 when developing your qualification bid for the ITQ contract, you agreed to participate in the Commonwealth’s COSTARS program, and you are bound by the COSTARS Purchasers Provision contained within this Statement of Work. The requirement to report COSTARS sales to DGS’ COSTARS Program Office is contained in Section E of the COSTARS Purchasers Provision. By agreeing to participate in the COSTARS program, you are required to report COSTARS sales to DGS on a quarterly basis. Even if you had no COSTARS sales, you must file a report.

- i. COSTARS sales for the ITQ contract can now be reported through the automated COSTARS sales reporting system located on the COSTARS website. Information required will be your vendor number, contract number, date of sale, customer name and the amount of the sale. It is also recommended that you record the COSTARS Member ID number. Detailed instructions appear below.
- j. The deadline for submitting sales information is the 15th day of the month following the end of the quarter. Failure to report COSTARS sales is in breach of contract and may result in DGS suspending your participation in the COSTARS program.
- k. Note: This system is to be used to record sales to COSTARS members ONLY! ZERO sales for a particular quarter must also be reported.

1. INSTRUCTIONS FOR COSTARS SALES REPORTING FOR STATEWIDE CONTRACT CONTRACTORS

- Go to www.dgs.state.pa.us/costars. ‘Click’ on the Contractors button
- ‘Click’ on the COSTARS Contractors’ Gateway link on the right. Click on the State Contract link
- Enter your Vendor Number to gain access to the system. When your Vendor Number is found, you will be taken to the Sales Reporting Authorization screen

- Enter your first and last name. ‘Click’ Continue
- You will be taken to the Sales Reporting Screen. Select from the Contract Number dropdown the Contract Number you want to report sales for and then ‘click’ the Continue button located next to it
- To enter a new Sale or to report “No Sales this Quarter”, ‘click’ on the Insert button at the top left
- Enter the Customer Name or part of the Customer Name into the Customer Search field. If you are reporting “NO SALES THIS QUARTER”, type NO SALES into the search field. ‘Click’ the Search button
- Select the Customer Name from the dropdown list or select NO SALES THIS QUARTER. To proceed, you will need to ‘click’ on the Continue button to the right of the list. The system will locate the Customer Name in the Members database and will pre-fill the Address and County fields for you
- You will then enter a Sales Date and Sales Amount
- ‘Click’ on the Save button. The data is saved and immediately accessible by COSTARS Program staff. For your convenience, there is also a Sales Reporting Manual – for Statewide Contracts in the Resource Center on this site. For additional assistance or questions, please call 1-866-768-7827.

PART III – SELECTION CRITERIA

1. MANDATORY RESPONSIVENESS REQUIREMENTS.

To be eligible for selection, a bid must be:

- a. Timely received from a Bidder; and
- b. Properly signed by the Bidder.

2. METHOD OF AWARD – ALL BIDDERS.

Award will be made to all responsive and responsible bidders.

3. AWARDS.

Unless all Bids are rejected, and except as otherwise provided by law, award will be made through the issuance of a contract/purchase order in accordance with the method of award. Unless otherwise specified by the Issuing Office in the IFB form the Commonwealth reserves the right to award by item or on a total Bid basis, whichever is deemed more advantageous to the Commonwealth. In cases of discrepancies in prices, the unit price will be binding unless the unit price is obviously in error and the extended price is obviously correct, in which case the erroneous unit price will be corrected. As a condition for receipt of award of a contract/purchase order, the Bidder must be registered in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Vendor Master file. In order to register, bidders must visit the Pa Supplier Portal at <https://www.pasupplierportal.state.pa.us/> or call the Customer Support Center at 877-435-7363 or 717-346-2676.

4. TIE BIDS.

All tie bids will be broken by the Issuing Office.

5. PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNTS.

Prompt payment discounts will not be considered in making an award. If prompt payment discounts are offered by any Bidder, however, the Issuing Office will take advantage of such offer.

6. REBATES.

Any rebate applicable at the time of quote should be taken into consideration by the bidder in calculating its price. Bidders must specifically state in their quote, when applicable, that rebates have been considered in arriving at the price. Following award, the Commonwealth will assign to the awarded bidder, any rebates which the bidder stated that he took into consideration. If the bidder fails

to include such a statement, the Commonwealth will receive the full benefit of the manufacturer's rebate.

7. OPTION FOR SEPARATE COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCEDURE.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to purchase products or services covered under this Contract through a separate competitive bidding procedure, whenever Commonwealth deems it in the best interest of the Commonwealth. The right will generally be exercised only when a specific need for a large quantity of the product or service exists or when the price offered is significantly lower than the Contract price.

PART IV – STATEMENT OF WORK

2. STATEMENT OF WORK.

The Commonwealth is seeking bids to procure the services set forth in the attached document entitled "Statement of Work."

PART V – CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

The Contract with the awarded bidder (who shall become the "Contractor") shall include the following terms and conditions:

2. TERM OF CONTRACT.

The term of the Contract shall commence on the Effective Date (as defined below) and shall end on the Expiration Date identified in the Contract, subject to the other provisions of the Contract. The contract may be renewed for one 5-year term.

The Effective Date shall be a) the Effective Date printed on the Contract after the Contract has been fully executed by the Commonwealth (signed and approved as required by the Commonwealth contracting procedures) or b) the "Valid from" date printed on the Contract, whichever is later.

3. EXTENSION OF CONTRACT TERM.

The Commonwealth reserves the right, upon notice to the Contractor, to extend any single term of the Contract for up to three months upon the same terms and conditions.

4. SIGNATURES.

The Contract shall not be a legally binding contract until the fully-executed Contract has been sent to the Contractor. No Commonwealth employee has the authority to verbally direct the commencement of any work or delivery of any supply under this Contract prior to the Effective Date. The Contractor hereby waives any claim or cause of action for any service or work performed prior to the Effective Date.

The Contract may be electronically signed by the Commonwealth. The electronically-printed name of the Purchasing Agent represents the signature of that individual who has the authority, on behalf of the Commonwealth, to bind the Commonwealth to the terms of the Contract. If the Contract output form does not have "Fully Executed" at the top of the first page and does not have the name of the Purchasing Agent printed in the appropriate box, the Contract has not been fully executed.

The fully-executed Contract may be sent to the Contractor electronically or through facsimile equipment. The electronic transmission of the Contract shall require acknowledgement of receipt of the transmission by the Contractor. Receipt of the electronic or facsimile transmission of the Contract shall constitute receipt of the fully-executed Contract.

- a. The Commonwealth and the Contractor specifically agree as follows:

- i. No handwritten signature shall be required in order for the Contract to be legally enforceable.
- ii. The parties agree that no writing shall be required in order to make the Contract legally binding, notwithstanding contrary requirements in any law. The parties hereby agree not to contest the validity or enforceability of a genuine Contract or acknowledgement issued electronically under the provisions of a statute of frauds or any other applicable law relating to whether certain agreements be in writing and signed by the party bound thereby. Any genuine Contract or acknowledgement issued electronically, if introduced as evidence on paper in any judicial, arbitration, mediation, or administrative proceedings, will be admissible as between the parties to the same extent and under the same conditions as other business records originated and maintained in documentary form. Neither party shall contest the admissibility of copies of a genuine Contract or acknowledgements under either the business records exception to the hearsay rule or the best evidence rule on the basis that the Contract or acknowledgement were not in writing or signed by the parties. A Contract or acknowledgment shall be deemed to be genuine for all purposes if it is transmitted to the location designated for such documents.
- iii. Each party will immediately take steps to verify any document that appears to be obviously garbled in transmission or improperly formatted to include re-transmission of any such document if necessary.

5. DEFINITIONS.

Capitalized terms used in these Commonwealth standard terms and conditions that are not otherwise defined in these provisions have the meanings specified in the contract to which it is attached.

6. PURCHASE ORDERS.

Commonwealth agencies may issue Purchase Orders against the Contract. These orders constitute the Contractor's authority to make delivery. All Purchase Orders received by the Contractor up to and including the expiration date of the Contract are acceptable and must be performed in accordance with the Contract. Each Purchase Order will be deemed to incorporate the terms and conditions set forth in the Contract.

Purchase Orders may be electronically signed by the Agency. The electronically-printed name of the purchaser represents the signature of that individual who has the authority, on behalf of the Commonwealth, to authorize the Contractor to proceed.

Purchase Orders may be issued electronically or through facsimile equipment. The electronic transmission of a purchase order shall require acknowledgement of receipt of the transmission by the Contractor. Receipt of the electronic or facsimile transmission

of the Purchase Order shall constitute receipt of an order. Orders received by the Contractor after 4:00 p.m. will be considered received the following business day.

- a. No handwritten signature shall be required in order for the Contract or Purchase Order to be legally enforceable.
- b. The parties agree that no writing shall be required in order to make the Purchase Order legally binding. The parties hereby agree not to contest the validity or enforceability of a Purchase Order or acknowledgement issued electronically under the provisions of a statute of frauds or any other applicable law relating to whether certain agreements be in writing and signed by the party bound thereby. Any Purchase Order or acknowledgement issued electronically, if introduced as evidence on paper in any judicial, arbitration, mediation, or administrative proceedings, will be admissible as between the parties to the same extent and under the same conditions as other business records originated and maintained in documentary form. Neither party shall contest the admissibility of copies of Purchase Orders or acknowledgements under either the business records exception to the hearsay rule or the best evidence rule on the basis that the Purchase Order or acknowledgement were not in writing or signed by the parties. A Purchase Order or acknowledgment shall be deemed to be genuine for all purposes if it is transmitted to the location designated for such documents.
- c. Each party will immediately take steps to verify any document that appears to be obviously garbled in transmission or improperly formatted to include re-transmission of any such document if necessary.

Purchase Orders under \$10,000 in total amount may also be made in person or by telephone using a Commonwealth Purchasing Card. When an order is placed by telephone, the Commonwealth agency shall provide the agency name, employee name, credit card number, and expiration date of the card. Contractors agree to accept payment through the use of the Commonwealth Purchasing Card.

7. INDEPENDENT PRIME CONTRACTOR.

In performing its obligations under the Contract, the Contractor will act as an independent contractor and not as an employee or agent of the Commonwealth. The Contractor will be responsible for all services in this Contract whether or not Contractor provides them directly. Further, the Contractor is the sole point of contact with regard to all contractual matters, including payment of any and all charges resulting from the Contract.

8. DELIVERY.

All vehicle(s) shall be delivered F.O.B. Destination. The Contractor agrees to bear the risk of loss, injury, or destruction of the items ordered prior to the receipt of the items by the Commonwealth. Such loss, injury, or destruction shall not release the Contractor from any contractual obligations. Except as otherwise

provided in this contract, all items must be delivered within the time period specified in the Contract. Time is of the essence and, in addition to any other remedies, the Contract is subject to termination for failure to deliver as specified. Unless otherwise stated in this Contract, delivery must be made within 30 days after the Effective Date.

9. ESTIMATED QUANTITIES.

It shall be understood and agreed that any quantities listed in the Contract are estimated only and may be increased or decreased in accordance with the actual requirements of the Commonwealth and that the Commonwealth in accepting any bid or portion thereof, contracts only and agrees to purchase only the materials and services in such quantities as represent the actual requirements of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth reserves the right to purchase materials and services covered under the Contract through a separate competitive procurement procedure, whenever Commonwealth deems it to be in its best interest.

10. WARRANTY.

The Contractor warrants that all items furnished and all services performed by the Contractor, its agents and subcontractors shall be free and clear of any defects in workmanship or materials. Unless otherwise stated in the Contract, all items are warranted for a period of one year following delivery by the Contractor and acceptance by the Commonwealth. The Contractor shall repair, replace or otherwise correct any problem with the delivered item. When an item is replaced, it shall be replaced with an item of equivalent or superior quality without any additional cost to the Commonwealth.

11. PATENT, COPYRIGHT, TRADEMARK AND TRADE SECRET PROTECTION.

The Contractor warrants that it is the sole owner or author of, or has entered into a suitable legal agreement concerning either: a) the design of any product or process provided or used in the performance of the Contract which is covered by a patent, copyright, or trademark registration or other right duly authorized by state or federal law or b) any copyrighted matter in any report, document or other material provided to the Commonwealth under the contract.

The Contractor shall defend any suit or proceeding brought against the Commonwealth on account of any alleged patent, copyright or trademark infringement in the United States of any of the products provided or used in the performance of the Contract.

This is upon condition that the Commonwealth shall provide prompt notification in writing of such suit or proceeding; full right, authorization and opportunity to conduct the defense thereof; and full information and all reasonable cooperation for the defense of same.

As principles of governmental or public law are involved, the Commonwealth may participate in or choose to conduct, in its sole discretion, the defense of any such action.

If information and assistance are furnished by the Commonwealth at the Contractor's written request, it shall be at the Contractor's expense, but the responsibility for such expense shall be only that within the Contractor's written authorization.

The Contractor shall indemnify and hold the Commonwealth harmless from all damages, costs, and expenses, including attorney's fees that the Contractor or the Commonwealth may pay or incur by reason of any infringement or violation of the rights occurring to any holder of copyright, trademark, or patent interests and rights in any products provided or used in the performance of the Contract.

If any of the products provided by the Contractor in such suit or proceeding are held to constitute infringement and the use is enjoined, the Contractor shall, at its own expense and at its option, either procure the right to continue use of such infringement products, replace them with non-infringement equal performance products or modify them so that they are no longer infringing.

If the Contractor is unable to do any of the preceding, the Contractor agrees to remove all the equipment or software which are obtained contemporaneously with the infringing product, or, at the option of the Commonwealth, only those items of equipment or software which are held to be infringing, and to pay the Commonwealth: 1) any amounts paid by the Commonwealth towards the purchase of the product, less straight line depreciation; 2) any license fee paid by the Commonwealth for the use of any software, less an amount for the period of usage; and 3) the pro rata portion of any maintenance fee representing the time remaining in any period of maintenance paid for. The obligations of the Contractor under this paragraph continue without time limit. No costs or expenses shall be incurred for the account of the Contractor without its written consent.

12. OWNERSHIP RIGHTS.

The Commonwealth shall have unrestricted authority to reproduce, distribute, and use any submitted report, data, or material, and any software or modifications and any associated documentation that is designed or developed and delivered to the Commonwealth as part of the performance of the Contract.

13. ACCEPTANCE.

No item(s) received by the Commonwealth shall be deemed accepted until the Commonwealth has had a reasonable opportunity to inspect the item(s). Any item(s) which is discovered to be defective or fails to conform to the specifications may be rejected upon initial inspection or at any later time if the defects contained in the item(s) or the noncompliance with the specifications were not reasonably ascertainable upon the initial inspection. It shall thereupon become the duty of the Contractor to remove rejected item(s) from the premises without expense to the Commonwealth within fifteen (15) days after notification. Rejected item(s) left longer than 15 days will be regarded as abandoned, and the Commonwealth shall have the right to dispose of them as its own property and

shall retain that portion of the proceeds of any sale which represents the Commonwealth's costs and expenses in regard to the storage and sale of the item(s). Upon notice of rejection, the Contractor shall immediately replace all such rejected item(s) with others conforming to the specifications and which are not defective. If the Contractor fails, neglects or refuses to do so, the Commonwealth shall then have the right to procure a corresponding quantity of such item(s), and deduct from any monies due or that may thereafter become due to the Contractor, the difference between the price stated in the Contract and the cost thereof to the Commonwealth.

14. PRODUCT CONFORMANCE.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to require any and all Contractors to:

1. Provide certified data from laboratory testing performed by the Contractor, or performed by an independent laboratory, as specified by the Commonwealth.
2. Supply published manufacturer product documentation.
3. Permit a Commonwealth representative to witness testing at the Contractor's location or at an independent laboratory.
4. Complete a survey/questionnaire relating to the bid requirements and specifications.
5. Provide customer references.
6. Provide a product demonstration at a location near Harrisburg or the using agency location.

15. REJECTED MATERIAL NOT CONSIDERED ABANDONED.

The Commonwealth shall have the right to not regard any rejected material as abandoned and to demand that the Contractor remove the rejected material from the premises within 30 days of notification. The Contractor shall be responsible for removal of the rejected material as well as proper clean-up. If the Contractor fails or refuses to remove the rejected material as demanded by the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth may seek payment from, or set-off from any payments due to the Contractor under this or any other Contract with the Commonwealth, the costs of removal and clean-up. This is in addition to all other rights to recover costs incurred by the Commonwealth.

16. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW.

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations and local ordinances in the performance of the Contract

17. ENVIRONMENTAL PROVISIONS.

In the performance of the Contract, the Contractor shall minimize pollution and shall strictly comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations, including, but not

limited to: the Clean Streams Law Act of June 22, 1937 (P.L. 1987, No. 394), as amended 35 P.S. Section 691.601 et seq.; the Pennsylvania Solid Waste Management Act, Act of July 7, 1980 (P.L. 380, No. 97), as amended, 35 P.S. Section 6018.101 et seq. ; and the Dam Safety and Encroachment Act, Act of November 26, 1978 (P.L. 1375, No. 325), as amended , 32 P.S. Section 693.1.

18. POST-CONSUMER RECYCLED CONTENT.

Except as specifically waived by the Department of General Services in writing, any products which are provided to the Commonwealth as a part of the performance of the Contract must meet the minimum percentage levels for total recycled content as specified by the Environmental Protection Agency in its Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines, which can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive-procurement-guideline-cpg-program>.

19. RECYCLED CONTENT ENFORCEMENT.

The Contractor may be required, after delivery of the Contract item(s), to provide the Commonwealth with documentary evidence that the item(s) was in fact produced with the required minimum percentage of post-consumer and recovered material content.

20. COMPENSATION.

The Contractor shall be required to furnish the awarded item(s) at the price(s) quoted in the Purchase Order. All item(s) shall be delivered within the time period(s) specified in the Purchase Order. The Contractor shall be compensated only for item(s) that are delivered and accepted by the Commonwealth.

21. COMPENSATION/EXPENSES.

The Contractor shall be required to perform the specified services at the price(s) quoted in the Contract. All services shall be performed within the time period(s) specified in the Contract. The Contractor shall be compensated only for work performed to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth. The Contractor shall not be allowed or paid travel or per diem expenses except as specifically set forth in the Contract.

22. BILLING REQUIREMENTS.

- a. Unless the Contractor has been authorized by the Commonwealth for Evaluated Receipt Settlement or Vendor Self-Invoicing, the Contractor shall include in all of its invoices the following minimum information:
 - i. Vendor name and “Remit to” address, including SAP Vendor number;
 - ii. Bank routing information, if ACH;

- iii. SAP Purchase Order number;
 - iv. Delivery Address, including name of Commonwealth agency;
 - v. Description of the supplies/services delivered in accordance with SAP Purchase Order (include Purchase Order line number if possible);
 - vi. Quantity provided;
 - vii. Unit price;
 - viii. Price extension;
 - ix. Total price; and
 - x. Delivery date of supplies or services.
- b. If an invoice does not contain the minimum information set forth in this paragraph, the Commonwealth may return the invoice as improper. If the Commonwealth returns an invoice as improper, the time for processing a payment will be suspended until the Commonwealth receives a correct invoice. The Contractor may not receive payment until the Commonwealth has received a correct invoice.
- c. Contractors are required to establish separate billing accounts with each using agency and invoice them directly. Each invoice shall be itemized with adequate detail and match the line item on the Purchase Order. In no instance shall any payment be made for services to the Contractor that are not in accordance with the prices on the Purchase Order, the Contract, updated price lists or any discounts negotiated by the purchasing agency

23. PAYMENT.

- a. The Commonwealth shall put forth reasonable efforts to make payment by the required payment date. The required payment date is: (a) the date on which payment is due under the terms of the Contract; (b) 30 days after a proper invoice actually is received at the "Bill To" address if a date on which payment is due is not specified in the Contract (a "proper" invoice is not received until the Commonwealth accepts the service as satisfactorily performed); or (c) the payment date specified on the invoice if later than the dates established by (a) and (b) above. Payment may be delayed if the payment amount on an invoice is not based upon the price(s) as stated in the Contract. If any payment is not made within 15 days after the required payment date, the Commonwealth may pay interest as determined by the Secretary of Budget in accordance with Act No. 266 of 1982 and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. Payment should not be construed by the Contractor as acceptance of the service performed by the Contractor. The Commonwealth reserves the right to conduct further testing and inspection after payment, but within a reasonable

time after performance, and to reject the service if such post payment testing or inspection discloses a defect or a failure to meet specifications. The Contractor agrees that the Commonwealth may set off the amount of any state tax liability or other obligation of the Contractor or its subsidiaries to the Commonwealth against any payments due the Contractor under any contract with the Commonwealth.

- b. The Commonwealth shall have the option of using the Commonwealth purchasing card to make purchases under the Contract or Purchase Order. The Commonwealth's purchasing card is similar to a credit card in that there will be a small fee which the Contractor will be required to pay and the Contractor will receive payment directly from the card issuer rather than the Commonwealth. Any and all fees related to this type of payment are the responsibility of the Contractor. In no case will the Commonwealth allow increases in prices to offset credit card fees paid by the Contractor or any other charges incurred by the Contractor, unless specifically stated in the terms of the Contract or Purchase Order.

24. **AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH) PAYMENTS.**

- a. **Payment Method.** The Commonwealth shall make contract payments through the Automated Clearing House (ACH). Within 10 days of award of the contract or purchase order, the Contractor must submit or must have submitted its ACH information within its user profile in the Commonwealth's procurement system (SRM).
- b. **Unique Identifier.** The Contractor must submit a unique invoice number with each invoice submitted. The Commonwealth shall list the Contractor's unique invoice number on its ACH remittance advice to enable the Contractor to properly apply the state agency's payment to the invoice submitted.
- c. **ACH Information in SRM.** The Contractor shall ensure that the ACH information contained in SRM is accurate and complete. The Contractor's failure to maintain accurate and complete information may result in delays in payments.

25. **TAXES.**

The Commonwealth is exempt from all excise taxes imposed by the Internal Revenue Service and has accordingly registered with the Internal Revenue Service to make tax free purchases under Registration No. 23-23740001-K. With the exception of purchases of the following items, no exemption certificates are required and none will be issued: undyed diesel fuel, tires, trucks, gas guzzler emergency vehicles, and sports fishing equipment. The Commonwealth is also exempt from Pennsylvania state sales tax, local sales tax, public transportation assistance taxes and fees and vehicle rental tax. The Department of Revenue regulations provide that exemption certificates are not required for sales made to governmental entities and none will be issued. Nothing in this paragraph is meant to exempt a construction contractor from the payment of any of these taxes or fees which are required to be paid with respect to the purchase, use, rental, or lease of tangible personal property

or taxable services used or transferred in connection with the performance of a construction contract.

26. ASSIGNMENT OF ANTITRUST CLAIMS.

The Contractor and the Commonwealth recognize that in actual economic practice, overcharges by the Contractor's suppliers resulting from violations of state or federal antitrust laws are in fact borne by the Commonwealth. As part of the consideration for the award of the Contract, and intending to be legally bound, the Contractor assigns to the Commonwealth all right, title and interest in and to any claims the Contractor now has, or may acquire, under state or federal antitrust laws relating to the products and services which are the subject of this Contract.

27. INDEMNIFICATION.

- a. **Contractor Obligations.** The Contractor shall indemnify the Commonwealth against all third-party claims, suits, demands, losses, damages, costs, and expenses, including without limitation, litigation expenses, attorneys' fees, and liabilities, arising out of or in connection with any activities performed by the Contractor or its employees and agents that are related to this contract, as determined by the Commonwealth in its sole discretion.
- b. **Commonwealth Attorneys Act.** The Commonwealth shall provide the Contractor with prompt notice of any claim or suit of which it learns. Pursuant to the Commonwealth Attorneys Act (71 P.S. Section 732-101, et seq.), the Office of Attorney General (OAG) has the sole authority to represent the Commonwealth in actions brought against the Commonwealth. The OAG may, however, in its sole discretion and under any terms as it deems appropriate, delegate its right of defense. If OAG delegates the defense to the Contractor, the Commonwealth will cooperate with all reasonable requests of Contractor made in the defense of such suits.
- c. **Settlement.** Notwithstanding the above, neither party may enter into a settlement of any claim or suit without the other party's written consent, which will not be unreasonably withheld. The Commonwealth may, in its sole discretion, allow the Contractor to control the defense and any related settlement negotiations.

28. AUDIT PROVISIONS.

The Commonwealth shall have the right, at reasonable times and at a site designated by the Commonwealth, to audit the books, documents and records of the Contractor to the extent that the books, documents and records relate to costs or pricing data for the Contract. The Contractor agrees to maintain records which will support the prices charged and costs incurred for the Contract. The Contractor shall preserve books, documents, and records that relate to costs or pricing data for the Contract for a period of three years from date of final payment. The Contractor shall give full and free access to all records to the Commonwealth and/or their authorized representatives.

29. DEFAULT.

- a. The Commonwealth may, subject to the provisions set forth in the Notice of Delays and Force Majeure clauses, and in addition to its other rights under the Contract, declare the Contractor in default by written notice thereof to the Contractor, and terminate (as provided in the Termination clause) the whole or any part of this Contract for any of the following reasons:
- i. Failure to begin work within the time specified in the Contract or Purchase Order or as otherwise specified;
 - ii. Failure to perform the work with sufficient labor, equipment, or material to ensure the completion of the specified work in accordance with the Contract or Purchase Order terms;
 - iii. Unsatisfactory performance of the work;
 - iv. Failure to deliver the awarded item(s) within the time specified in the Contract or Purchase Order or as otherwise specified;
 - v. Improper delivery;
 - vi. Failure to provide an item(s) which is in conformance with the specifications referenced in the Contract or Purchase Order;
 - vii. Delivery of a defective item;
 - viii. Failure or refusal to remove material, or remove and replace any work rejected as defective or unsatisfactory;
 - ix. Discontinuance of work without approval;
 - x. Failure to resume work, which has been discontinued, within a reasonable time after notice to do so;
 - xi. Insolvency or bankruptcy;
 - xii. Assignment made for the benefit of creditors;
 - xiii. Failure or refusal within 10 days after written notice by the Contracting Officer, to make payment or show cause why payment should not be made, of any amounts due for materials furnished, labor supplied or performed, for equipment rentals, or for utility services rendered;
 - xiv. Failure to protect, repair or make good any damage or injury to property;

- xv. Breach of any provision of the Contract;
 - xvi. Failure to comply with representations made in the Contractor's bid/proposal; or
 - xvii. Failure to comply with applicable industry standards, customs and practice.
- b. In the event that the Commonwealth terminates this Contract or any Purchase Order in whole or in part as provided in Subparagraph a. above, the Commonwealth may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as it determines, items similar or identical to those so terminated, and the Contractor shall be liable to the Commonwealth for any reasonable excess costs for such similar or identical items included within the terminated part of the Contract or Purchase Order.
 - c. If the Contract or a Purchase Order is terminated as provided in Subparagraph a. above, the Commonwealth, in addition to any other rights provided in this paragraph, may require the Contractor to transfer title and deliver immediately to the Commonwealth in the manner and to the extent directed by the Contracting Officer, such partially completed items, including, where applicable, reports, working papers and other documentation, as the Contractor has specifically produced or specifically acquired for the performance of such part of the Contract or Purchase Order as has been terminated. Except as provided below, payment for completed work accepted by the Commonwealth shall be at the Contract price. Except as provided below, payment for partially completed items including, where applicable, reports and working papers, delivered to and accepted by the Commonwealth shall be in an amount agreed upon by the Contractor and Contracting Officer. The Commonwealth may withhold from amounts otherwise due the Contractor for such completed or partially completed works, such sum as the Contracting Officer determines to be necessary to protect the Commonwealth against loss.
 - d. The rights and remedies of the Commonwealth provided in this paragraph shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Contract.
 - e. The Commonwealth's failure to exercise any rights or remedies provided in this paragraph shall not be construed to be a waiver by the Commonwealth of its rights and remedies in regard to the event of default or any succeeding event of default.
 - f. Following exhaustion of the Contractor's administrative remedies as set forth in the Contract Controversies Provision of the Contract, the Contractor's exclusive remedy shall be to seek damages in the Board of Claims.

30. FORCE MAJEURE.

- a. Neither party will incur any liability to the other if its performance of any obligation under this Contract is prevented or delayed by causes beyond its control and without the fault or negligence of either party. Causes beyond a party's control may include, but aren't limited to, acts of God or war, changes in controlling law, regulations, orders or the requirements of any governmental entity, severe weather conditions, civil disorders, natural disasters, fire, epidemics and quarantines, general strikes throughout the trade, and freight embargoes.
- b. The Contractor shall notify the Commonwealth orally within five days and in writing within 10 days of the date on which the Contractor becomes aware, or should have reasonably become aware, that such cause would prevent or delay its performance. Such notification shall (i) describe fully such cause(s) and its effect on performance, (ii) state whether performance under the contract is prevented or delayed and (iii) if performance is delayed, state a reasonable estimate of the duration of the delay. The Contractor shall have the burden of proving that such cause(s) delayed or prevented its performance despite its diligent efforts to perform and shall produce such supporting documentation as the Commonwealth may reasonably request. After receipt of such notification, the Commonwealth may elect to cancel the Contract, cancel the Purchase Order, or to extend the time for performance as reasonably necessary to compensate for the Contractor's delay.
- c. In the event of a declared emergency by competent governmental authorities, the Commonwealth by notice to the Contractor, may suspend all or a portion of the Contract or Purchase Order.

31. TERMINATION.

The Commonwealth has the right to terminate this Contract or any Purchase Order for any of the following reasons. Termination shall be effective upon written notice to the Contractor.

- a. **TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE:** The Commonwealth shall have the right to terminate the Contract or a Purchase Order for its convenience if the Commonwealth determines termination to be in its best interest. The Contractor shall be paid for work satisfactorily completed prior to the effective date of the termination, but in no event shall the Contractor be entitled to recover loss of profits.
- b. **NON-APPROPRIATION:** The Commonwealth's obligation to make payments during any Commonwealth fiscal year succeeding the current fiscal year shall be subject to availability and appropriation of funds. When funds (state and/or federal) are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal year period, the Commonwealth shall have the right to terminate the Contract or a Purchase Order. The Contractor shall be reimbursed for the reasonable value of any nonrecurring costs incurred but not amortized in the price of the supplies or services delivered under the Contract.

Such reimbursement shall not include loss of profit, loss of use of money, or administrative or overhead costs. The reimbursement amount may be paid from any appropriations available for that purpose.

- c. **TERMINATION FOR CAUSE:** The Commonwealth shall have the right to terminate the Contract or a Purchase Order for Contractor default under the Default Clause upon written notice to the Contractor. The Commonwealth shall also have the right, upon written notice to the Contractor, to terminate the Contract or Purchase Order for other cause as specified in the Contract or by law. If it is later determined that the Commonwealth erred in terminating the Contract or a Purchase Order for cause, then, at the Commonwealth's discretion, the Contract or Purchase Order shall be deemed to have been terminated for convenience under the Subparagraph a.

32. CONTRACT CONTROVERSIES.

- a. In the event of a controversy or claim arising from the Contract, the Contractor must, within six months after the cause of action accrues, file a written claim with the contracting officer for a determination. The claim shall state all grounds upon which the Contractor asserts a controversy exists. If the Contractor fails to file a claim or files an untimely claim, the Contractor is deemed to have waived its right to assert a claim in any forum. At the time the claim is filed, or within 60 days thereafter, either party may request mediation through the Commonwealth Office of General Counsel Dispute Resolution Program.
- b. If the Contractor or the Contracting Officer requests mediation, and the other party agrees, the Contracting Officer shall promptly make arrangements for mediation. Mediation shall be scheduled so as to not delay the issuance of the final determination beyond the required **120 days** after receipt of the claim if mediation is unsuccessful. If mediation is not agreed to or if resolution is not reached through mediation, the Contracting Officer shall review timely-filed claims and issue a final determination, in writing, regarding the claim. The final determination shall be issued within **120 days** of the receipt of the claim, unless extended by consent of the Contracting Officer and the Contractor. The Contracting Officer shall send his/her written determination to the Contractor. If the Contracting Officer fails to issue a final determination within the **120 days** (unless extended by consent of the parties), the claim shall be deemed denied. The Contracting Officer's determination shall be the final order of the purchasing agency.
- c. Within 15 days of the mailing date of the determination denying a claim or within 135 days of filing a claim if, no extension is agreed to by the parties, whichever occurs first, the Contractor may file a statement of claim with the Commonwealth Board of Claims. Pending a final judicial resolution of a controversy or claim, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the Contract in a manner consistent with the determination of the contracting officer and the

Commonwealth shall compensate the Contractor pursuant to the terms of the Contract.

33. ASSIGNABILITY AND SUBCONTRACTING.

- a. Subject to the terms and conditions of this paragraph, this Contract shall be binding upon the parties and their respective successors and assigns.
- b. The Contractor shall not subcontract with any person or entity to perform all or any part of the work to be performed under this Contract without the prior written consent of the Contracting Officer, which consent may be withheld at the sole and absolute discretion of the Contracting Officer.
- c. The Contractor may not assign, in whole or in part, this Contract or its rights, duties, obligations, or responsibilities hereunder without the prior written consent of the Contracting Officer, which consent may be withheld at the sole and absolute discretion of the Contracting Officer.
- d. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Contractor may, without the consent of the Contracting Officer, assign its rights to payment to be received under the Contract, provided that the Contractor provides written notice of such assignment to the Contracting Officer together with a written acknowledgement from the assignee that any such payments are subject to all of the terms and conditions of the Contract.
- e. For the purposes of this Contract, the term “assign” shall include, but shall not be limited to, the sale, gift, assignment, pledge, or other transfer of any ownership interest in the Contractor provided, however, that the term shall not apply to the sale or other transfer of stock of a publicly traded company.
- f. Any assignment consented to by the Contracting Officer shall be evidenced by a written assignment agreement executed by the Contractor and its assignee in which the assignee agrees to be legally bound by all of the terms and conditions of the Contract and to assume the duties, obligations, and responsibilities being assigned.
- g. A change of name by the Contractor, following which the Contractor’s federal identification number remains unchanged, is not considered to be an assignment. The Contractor shall give the Commonwealth written notice of any such change of name.

34. OTHER CONTRACTORS.

The Commonwealth may undertake or award other contracts for additional or related work, and the Contractor shall fully cooperate with other contractors and Commonwealth employees, and coordinate its work with such additional work as may be required. The Contractor shall not commit or permit any act that will interfere with the performance of

work by any other contractor or by Commonwealth employees. This paragraph shall be included in the Contracts of all contractors with which this Contractor will be required to cooperate. The Commonwealth shall equitably enforce this paragraph as to all contractors to prevent the imposition of unreasonable burdens on any contractor.

35. NONDISCRIMINATION/SEXUAL HARASSMENT.

- a. **Representations.** The Contractor represents that it is presently in compliance with and will remain in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies relating to nondiscrimination and sexual harassment for the term of the contract. The Contractor shall, upon request and within the time periods requested by the Commonwealth, furnish all necessary employment documents and records, including EEO-1 reports, and permit access to its books, records, and accounts by the Commonwealth for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with provisions of this Nondiscrimination/Sexual Harassment Clause.
- b. **Nondiscrimination/Sexual Harassment Obligations.** The Contractor shall not:
 - i. in any manner discriminate in the hiring of any employee(s) for the manufacture of supplies, performance of work, or any other activity required under this contract or any subcontract, by reason of race, gender, creed, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or in violation of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act (“PHRA”) and applicable federal laws, against any citizen of this Commonwealth who is qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates.
 - ii. in any manner discriminate by reason of race, gender, creed, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or in violation of the PHRA and applicable federal laws, against or intimidate any employee involved in the manufacture of supplies, the performance of work, or any other activity required under this contract.
 - iii. in any manner discriminate by reason of race, gender, creed, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or in violation of the PHRA and applicable federal laws, in the provision of services under this contract.
 - iv. in any manner discriminate by reason of race, gender, creed, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or in violation of PHRA and applicable federal laws, against any subcontractor or supplier who is qualified to perform the work to which this contract relates.
 - v. in any manner discriminate against employees by reason of participation in or decision to refrain from participating in labor activities protected under the Public Employee Relations Act, Pennsylvania Labor Relations Act or National Labor Relations Act, as applicable and to the extent determined by

entities charged with such Acts' enforcement and shall comply with any provision of law establishing organizations as employees' exclusive representatives.

- c. **Establishment of Contractor Policy.** The Contractor shall establish and maintain a written nondiscrimination and sexual harassment policy that complies with the applicable law and these Nondiscrimination/Sexual Harassment provisions and shall inform its employees in writing of the policy. The policy must contain a provision that states that sexual harassment will not be tolerated and employees who practice it will be disciplined. For the entire period of the contract, the Contractor shall: (1) post its written nondiscrimination and sexual harassment policy or these Nondiscrimination/Sexual Harassment provisions conspicuously in easily accessible and well-lighted places customarily frequented by employees at or near where the contracted services are performed; or (2) provide electronic notice of the policy or this clause to its employees not less than annually.
- d. **Notification of Violations.** The Contractor's obligations pursuant to these provisions are ongoing from the effective date and through the termination date of the contract. Accordingly, the Contractor shall notify the Commonwealth if, at any time during the term of this contract, it becomes aware of any actions or occurrences that would result in violation of these provisions.
- e. **Cancellation or Termination of Contract.** The Commonwealth may cancel or terminate this contract and all money due or to become due under this contract may be forfeited for a violation of the terms and conditions of these Nondiscrimination/Sexual Harassment provisions. In addition, the agency may proceed with debarment or suspension and may place the Contractor in the Contractor Responsibility File.
- f. **Subcontracts.** The Contractor shall include these Nondiscrimination/Sexual Harassment provisions in its contracts with all subcontractors providing goods or services under this contract. The incorporation of these provisions in the Contractor's subcontracts does not create privity of contract between the Commonwealth and any subcontractor, and no third-party beneficiaries are created by those provisions. If the Contractor becomes aware of a subcontractor's violation of this clause, the Contractor shall use its best efforts to ensure the subcontractor's compliance with these provisions.

36. **CONTRACTOR INTEGRITY.**

- a. **Definitions.** For purposes of these Contractor Integrity Provisions, the following definitions apply:
 - i. "Affiliate" means two or more entities where (a) a parent entity owns more than 50% of the voting stock of each of the entities; (b) a common shareholder or group of shareholders owns more than 50% of the voting

stock of each of the entities; or (c) the entities have a common proprietor or general partner.

- ii. “Contractor” means the individual or entity, that has entered into this contract with the Commonwealth.
- iii. “Contractor Related Parties” means any Affiliates of the Contractor and the Contractor’s executive officers, Pennsylvania officers and directors, or owners of five percent or more interest in the Contractor.
- iv. “Financial Interest” means ownership of more than a five percent interest in any business or holding a position as an officer, director, trustee, partner, employee, or holding any position of management.
- v. “Gratuity” means tendering, giving, or providing anything of more than nominal monetary value including, but not limited to, cash, travel, entertainment, gifts, meals, lodging, loans, subscriptions, advances, deposits of money, services, employment, or contracts of any kind. The exceptions set forth in the [Governor’s Code of Conduct, Executive Order 1980-18](#), as may be amended, 4 Pa. Code §7.153(b), apply.
- vi. “Non-bid Basis” means a contract awarded or executed by the Commonwealth with Contractor without seeking bids or proposals from any other potential bidder or offeror.

b. Representations and Warranties.

- i. **Contractor Representation and Warranties.** The Contractor represents, to the best of its knowledge and belief, and warrants that within the last five years neither the Contractor nor Contractor Related Parties have:
 - (1) been indicted or convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or business honesty or integrity in any jurisdiction;
 - (2) been suspended, debarred, or otherwise disqualified from entering into any contract with any governmental agency;
 - (3) had any business license or professional license suspended or revoked;
 - (4) had any sanction or finding of fact imposed as a result of a judicial or administrative proceeding related to fraud, extortion, bribery, bid rigging, embezzlement, misrepresentation or anti-trust; and
 - (5) been, and are not currently, the subject of a criminal investigation by any federal, state or local prosecuting or investigative agency or civil anti-trust investigation by any federal, state, or local prosecuting or investigative agency.

- ii. **Contractor Explanation.** If the Contractor cannot make the representations and warranties set forth above at the time of its submission of its bid or proposal or if this contract is awarded on a non-bid basis at the time of the execution of the contract, the Contractor shall submit a written explanation outlining the reasons why it cannot make those representations and warranties. The Commonwealth may, based on its evaluation of the explanation provided, determine whether it is in the Commonwealth's best interest to execute the contract.
 - iii. **Further Representations.** By submitting any bills, invoices, or requests for payment pursuant to this contract, the Contractor further represents that it has not violated any of these Contractor Integrity Provisions during the term of the contract.
 - iv. **Notice.** The Contractor shall immediately notify the Commonwealth, in writing, if at any time during the term of the contract it becomes aware of any event that would cause the Contractor's certification or explanation to change. The Contractor acknowledges that the Commonwealth may, in its sole discretion, terminate the contract for cause if it learns that any of the certifications made in these provisions are currently false or misleading due to intervening factual circumstances or were false or misleading or should have been known to be false or misleading when entering into the contract.
- c. **Contractor Responsibilities.** During the term of this contract, the Contractor shall:
- i. maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity.
 - ii. take no action in violation of any applicable laws, regulations, or other requirements applicable to the Contractor that govern Commonwealth contracting and procurement.
 - iii. establish and implement a written business integrity policy that includes, at a minimum, the requirements of these provisions as they relate to the Contractor's activity with the Commonwealth and Commonwealth employees and ensure that its employees comply with the policy.
 - iv. not accept, agree to give, offer, confer, agree to confer, or promise to confer, directly or indirectly, any gratuity or pecuniary benefit to any person, or to influence or attempt to influence any person in violation of any federal or state law, regulation, executive order, statement of policy, management directive, or bulletin applicable to the provision of goods or services under this contract.
 - v. not have a financial interest in any other contractor, subcontractor, or supplier providing services, labor, or material under this contract, unless the financial interest is disclosed to the Commonwealth in writing and the

Commonwealth consents to Contractor's financial interest. The Contractor must disclose the financial interest to the Commonwealth at the time of bid or proposal submission, or if no bids or proposals are solicited, no later than the date the Contractor signs the contract. The Commonwealth shall be deemed to have consented if the required disclosure is received and all of the required Commonwealth signatures are affixed.

- vi. comply with the requirements of the Lobbying Disclosure Act (65 Pa.C.S. §13A01 et seq.) regardless of the method of award.
 - vii. comply with the requirements of Section 1641 of the Pennsylvania Election Code (25 P.S. §3260a) if this contract was awarded on a Non-bid Basis.
 - viii. immediately notify the Commonwealth contracting officer or the Office of the State Inspector General, in writing, when the Contractor has reason to believe that any breach of ethical standards as set forth in law, the Governor's Code of Conduct, or these Contractor Integrity Provisions has occurred or may occur, including, but not limited to, contact by a Commonwealth officer or employee, which, if acted upon, would violate the ethical standards.
- d. **Investigations.** If a State Inspector General investigation is initiated, the Contractor shall:
- i. reimburse the Commonwealth for the reasonable costs of investigation incurred by the Office of the State Inspector General for investigations of the Contractor's compliance with the terms of this or any other agreement between the Contractor and the Commonwealth that results in the suspension or debarment of the Contractor. The Contractor shall not be responsible for investigative costs for investigations that do not result in the Contractor's suspension or debarment.
 - ii. cooperate with the Office of the State Inspector General in its investigation of any alleged Commonwealth agency or employee breach of ethical standards and any alleged Contractor non-compliance with these Contractor Integrity Provisions and make identified Contractor employees available for interviews at reasonable times and places.
 - iii. upon the inquiry or request of an Inspector General, provide, or if appropriate, make promptly available for inspection or copying, any information of any type or form deemed relevant by the Office of the State Inspector General to Contractor's integrity and compliance with these provisions. This information may include, but is not be limited to, Contractor's business or financial records, documents or files of any type or form that refer to or concern this contract.

- e. **Termination.** For violation of any of these Contractor Integrity Provisions, the Commonwealth may terminate this and any other contract with the Contractor, claim liquidated damages in an amount equal to the value of anything received in breach of these Contractor Integrity provisions, claim damages for all additional costs and expenses incurred in obtaining another contractor to complete performance under this contract, and debar and suspend the Contractor from doing business with the Commonwealth. These rights and remedies are cumulative, and the use or non-use of any one does not preclude the use of all or any other. These rights and remedies are in addition to those the Commonwealth may have under law, statute, regulation, or contract.
- f. **Subcontracts.** The Contractor shall include these Contractor Integrity Provisions in its contracts with all subcontractors providing goods or services under this contract. The incorporation of this provision in the Contractor's subcontracts does not create privity of contract between the Commonwealth and any subcontractor, and no third-party beneficiaries are created by the inclusion of these provisions. If the Contractor becomes aware of a subcontractor's violation of these provisions, the Contractor shall use its best efforts to ensure the subcontractor's compliance with these provisions.

37. **CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY.**

- a. **Definition.** For the purpose of these provisions, the term "Contractor" means as any person, including, but not limited to, a bidder, offeror, loan recipient, grantee or lessor, who has furnished or performed or seeks to furnish or perform, goods, supplies, services, leased space, construction or other activity, under a contract, grant, lease, purchase order or reimbursement agreement with the Commonwealth. The term also includes a permittee, licensee, or any agency, political subdivision, instrumentality, public authority, or other public entity in the Commonwealth.
- b. **Contractor Representations.**
 - i. The Contractor represents for itself and its subcontractors required to be disclosed or approved by the Commonwealth, that as of the date of its execution of this contract, that neither the Contractor, nor any such subcontractors, are under suspension or debarment by the Commonwealth or any governmental entity, instrumentality, or authority and, if the Contractor cannot make this representation, the Contractor shall submit, along with its contract, a written explanation of why such certification cannot be made.
 - ii. The Contractor represents that as of the date of its execution of this contract it has no tax liabilities or other Commonwealth obligations, or has filed a timely administrative or judicial appeal if such liabilities or obligations exist, or is subject to a duly approved deferred payment plan if such liabilities exist.

- c. **Notification.** The Contractor shall notify the Commonwealth if, at any time during the term of this contract, it becomes delinquent in the payment of taxes, or other Commonwealth obligations, or if it or, to the best of its knowledge, any of its subcontractors are suspended or debarred by the Commonwealth, the federal government, or any other state or governmental entity. The Contractor shall provide this notification within 15 days of the date of suspension or debarment.
- d. **Default.** The Contractor's failure to notify the Commonwealth of its suspension or debarment by the Commonwealth, any other state, or the federal government constitutes an event of default of the contract with the Commonwealth.
- e. **Reimbursement.** The Contractor shall reimburse the Commonwealth for the reasonable costs of investigation incurred by the Office of State Inspector General for investigations of the Contractor's compliance with the terms of this contract or any other agreement between the Contractor and the Commonwealth that results in the suspension or debarment of the Contractor. These costs include, but are not limited to, salaries of investigators, including overtime; travel and lodging expenses; and expert witness and documentary fees. The Contractor shall not be responsible for investigative costs for investigations that do not result in the Contractor's suspension or debarment.
- f. **Suspension and Debarment List.** The Contractor may obtain a current list of suspended and debarred Commonwealth contractors by visiting the eMarketplace website at <http://www.emarketplace.state.pa.us> and clicking the Debarment list tab.

38. **OFFSET.**

The Commonwealth may set off the amount of any state tax liability or other obligation of the Contractor, or its subsidiaries, owed to the Commonwealth against any payments due the Contractor under any contract between the Commonwealth and Contractor.

39. **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.**

- a. **No Exclusion.** Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S. Code § 12101, et seq., no qualified individual with a disability may, on the basis of the disability, be excluded from participation in this contract or from activities provided for under this contract.
- b. **Compliance.** For all goods and services provided pursuant to this contract, the Contractor shall comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the "General Prohibitions Against Discrimination" set forth in 28 C. F. R. § 35.130, and all other regulations promulgated under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act that apply to state and local governments.

- c. **Indemnification.** The Contractor shall indemnify the Commonwealth against all third-party claims, suits, demands, losses, damages, costs, and expenses, including without limitation, litigation expenses, attorneys' fees, and liabilities, arising out of or in connection with the Contractor's failure or its employee's or agent's failure to comply with the provisions of paragraph a, as determined by the Commonwealth in its sole discretion.

40. COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES.

The Contractor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure the Contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business. For breach or violation of this warranty, the Commonwealth shall have the right to terminate the Contract without liability or in its discretion to deduct from the Contract price or consideration, or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

41. APPLICABLE LAW AND FORMUM.

This contract is governed by and must be interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (without regard to any conflict of laws provisions) and the decisions of the Pennsylvania courts. The Contractor consents to the jurisdiction of any court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and any federal courts in Pennsylvania, and waives any claim or defense that such forum is not convenient or proper. Any Pennsylvania court or tribunal has in personam jurisdiction over the Contractor, and the Contractor consents to service of process in any manner authorized by Pennsylvania law. This provision may not be interpreted as a waiver or limitation of the Commonwealth's rights or defenses.

42. INTEGRATION.

This Contract, including the Invitation for Bids, the Contractor's bid, all referenced documents, and any Purchase Order constitutes the entire agreement between the parties. No agent, representative, employee or officer of either the Commonwealth or the Contractor has authority to make, or has made, any statement, agreement or representation, oral or written, in connection with the Contract, which in any way can be deemed to modify, add to or detract from, or otherwise change or alter its terms and conditions. No negotiations between the parties, nor any custom or usage, shall be permitted to modify or contradict any of the terms and conditions of the Contract. No modifications, alterations, changes, or waiver to the Contract or any of its terms shall be valid or binding unless accomplished by a written amendment signed by both parties.

43. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE.

If any conflicts or discrepancies should arise in the terms and conditions of this Contract, or the interpretation thereof, the order of precedence shall be:

- a. This Contract; and
- b. The data resident on the [ITQ web site](#) and incorporated herein by reference at the date of execution of the Contract or issuance of an RFQ off of this Contract, whichever is later, including but not limited to the promises and certifications the Contractor made in qualifying for the Contract.

If any conflicts or discrepancies should arise in the interpretation of a PO, the order of precedence shall be:

- a. This Contract;
- b. The service category definitions, descriptions, qualification requirements, and contract terms and conditions set forth in the RFQ; and
- c. The PO and any attachment thereto, including: (1) the Contractor's Quote, as accepted by the Commonwealth; (2) the RFQ.

44. CONTROLLING TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

The terms and conditions of this Contract shall be the exclusive terms of agreement between the Contractor and the Commonwealth. All quotations requested and received from the Contractor are for obtaining firm pricing only. Other terms and conditions or additional terms and conditions included or referenced in the Contractor's quotations, invoices, business forms, or other documentation shall not become part of the parties' agreement and shall be disregarded by the parties, unenforceable by the Contractor and not binding on the Commonwealth.

45. CHANGES.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to make changes at any time during the term of the Contract or any renewals or extensions thereof: 1) to increase or decrease the quantities resulting from variations between any estimated quantities in the Contract and actual quantities; 2) to make changes to the services within the scope of the Contract; 3) to notify the Contractor that the Commonwealth is exercising any Contract renewal or extension option; or 4) to modify the time of performance that does not alter the scope of the Contract to extend the completion date beyond the Expiration Date of the Contract or any renewals or extensions thereof. Any such change shall be made by the Contracting Officer by notifying the Contractor in writing. The change shall be effective as of the date of the change, unless the notification of change specifies a later effective date. Such increases, decreases, changes, or modifications will not invalidate the Contract, nor, if performance security is being furnished in conjunction with the Contract, release the security obligation. The Contractor agrees to provide the service in accordance with the change order. Any

dispute by the Contractor in regard to the performance required by any notification of change shall be handled through Contract Controversies Provision.

46. BACKGROUND CHECKS.

- a. The Contractor must, at its expense, arrange for a background check for each of its employees, as well as the employees of any of its subcontractors, who will have access to Commonwealth facilities, either through on-site access or through remote access. Background checks are to be conducted via the Request for Criminal Record Check form and procedure found at https://www.psp.pa.gov/Documents/Public%20Documents/criminal_history/CRC%20Request%20SP%204-164.pdf. The background check must be conducted prior to initial access and on an annual basis thereafter.
- b. Before the Commonwealth will permit access to the Contractor, the Contractor must provide written confirmation that the background checks have been conducted. If, at any time, it is discovered that a Contractor employee has a criminal record that includes a felony or misdemeanor involving terroristic behavior, violence, use of a lethal weapon, or breach of trust/fiduciary responsibility or which raises concerns about building, system or personal security or is otherwise job-related, the Contractor shall not assign that employee to any Commonwealth facilities, shall remove any access privileges already given to the employee and shall not permit that employee remote access unless the Commonwealth consents to the access, in writing, prior to the access. The Commonwealth may withhold its consent in its sole discretion. Failure of the Contractor to comply with the terms of this Section on more than one occasion or Contractor's failure to appropriately address any single failure to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth may result in the Contractor being deemed in default of its Contract.
- c. The Commonwealth specifically reserves the right of the Commonwealth to conduct background checks over and above that described herein.
- d. Access to certain Capitol Complex buildings and other state office buildings is controlled by means of card readers and secured visitors' entrances. Commonwealth contracted personnel who have regular and routine business in Commonwealth worksites may be issued a photo identification or access badge subject to the requirements of the contracting agency and DGS set forth in [Enclosure 3 of Commonwealth Management Directive 625.10 \(Amended\) Card Reader and Emergency Response Access to Certain Capitol Complex Buildings and Other State Office Buildings](#). The requirements, policy and procedures include a processing fee payable by the Contractor for contracted personnel photo identification or access badges.

47. CONFIDENTIALITY.

- a. The Contractor agrees to protect the confidentiality of the Commonwealth's confidential information. The Commonwealth agrees to protect the confidentiality of Contractor's confidential information. In order for information to be deemed confidential, the party claiming confidentiality must designate the information as "confidential" in such a way as to give notice to the other party (notice may be communicated by describing the information, and the specifications around its use or disclosure, in the SOW). Neither party may assert that information owned by the other party is such party's confidential information. The parties agree that such confidential information shall not be copied, in whole or in part, or used or disclosed except when essential for authorized activities under this Contract and, in the case of disclosure, where the recipient of the confidential information has agreed to be bound by confidentiality requirements no less restrictive than those set forth herein. Each copy of such confidential information shall be marked by the party making the copy with any notices appearing in the original. Upon termination or cancellation of this Contract or any license granted hereunder, the receiving party will return to the disclosing party all copies of the confidential information in the receiving party's possession, other than one copy, which may be maintained for archival purposes only, and which will remain subject to this Contract's security, privacy, data retention/destruction and confidentiality provisions (all of which shall survive the expiration of this Contract). Both parties agree that a material breach of these requirements may, after failure to cure within the time frame specified in this Contract, and at the discretion of the non-breaching party, result in termination for default pursuant to the DEFAULT provision of this Contract, in addition to other remedies available to the non-breaching party.

- b. Insofar as information is not otherwise protected by law or regulation, the obligations stated in this section do not apply to information:
 - i. already known to the recipient at the time of disclosure other than through the contractual relationship;
 - ii. independently generated by the recipient and not derived from the information supplied by the disclosing party;
 - iii. known or available to the public, except where such knowledge or availability is the result of unauthorized disclosure by the recipient of the proprietary information;
 - iv. disclosed to the recipient without a similar restriction by a third party who has the right to make such disclosure; or
 - v. required to be disclosed by law, regulation, court order, or other legal process.

There shall be no restriction with respect to the use or disclosure of any ideas, concepts, know-how or data processing techniques developed alone or jointly with

the Commonwealth in connection with services provided to the Commonwealth under this Contract.

- c. The Contractor shall use the following process when submitting information to the Commonwealth it believes to be confidential and/or proprietary information or trade secrets:
- i. Prepare an un-redacted version of the appropriate document;
 - ii. Prepare a redacted version of the document that redacts the information that is asserted to be confidential or proprietary information or a trade secret; and
 - iii. Prepare a signed written statement that states:
 - (1) the attached material contains confidential or proprietary information or trade secrets;
 - (2) the Contractor is submitting the material in both redacted and un-redacted format in accordance with 65 P.S. § 67.707(b); and
 - (3) the Contractor is requesting that the material be considered exempt under 65 P.S. § 67.708(b)(11) from public records requests.
 - iv. Submit the two documents along with the signed written statement to the Commonwealth.

48. MANUFACTURER’S PRICE REDUCTION.

If, prior to the delivery of the awarded item(s) by the Contractor, a price reduction is announced by the original equipment manufacturer, a comparative price reduction will be given to the Commonwealth by the Contractor.

49. WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS.

The Contractor represents and agrees that:

- i. It will pay every employee engaged in the performance of the contract printing work the prevailing wage rate, as determined by the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, and provide for such employees working conditions equivalent to those prevalent in the locality in which the contract will be performed; or
- ii. It has a collective bargaining agreement in effect between the Contractor and its employees, who will process and produce the printing under any contract/purchase order awarded to the company, and its employees are represented by a responsible organization which is in no way influenced or

controlled by management. In this instance, the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement shall be considered as conditions prevalent in the Contractor's locality.

The Contractor agrees that if it receives a contract/purchase order award, the Contractor shall maintain the conditions described in Paragraph (a) of this Section in the performance of the contract/purchase order.

50. EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY.

To be eligible for award, a Contractor must, at the time of bid submission, be the owner or lessee of sufficient equipment and machinery to perform the work specified in this solicitation.

51. QUALITY.

All work must be performed in a manner acceptable to the Commonwealth. Composition shall be neat and free from broken or battered type. Presswork shall be of the first grade, producing a clear, clean, sharp impression, and printed head-to-head unless designated as otherwise on a PaPublisher job ticket or a Print Specification.

Presswork must be 150 line screen or greater. Color registration must be within .005 inches (.125 mm) and must be maintained through the press run.

Sets shall be uniformly and evenly trimmed and the printed image shall be squared with the trimmed edges, unless otherwise specified. The Contractor must guarantee 100% collation of all books. Variable imaging must be "laser quality" unless authorized otherwise by the Commonwealth.

The Contractor shall work with the Commonwealth to achieve the highest level of image quality that can be obtained with existing equipment. The Contractor should expect technical advances throughout the life of the contract. Language stated in this contract should not be used to impede technological advances that will benefit the Commonwealth. However, such advances shall not add costs for the Commonwealth, nor shall such advances be used as a deterrent to future competitive solicitations.

52. ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to order additional quantities, not to exceed ten percent of the original quantities, of any printed job within 60 days after delivery of the original job. The Commonwealth shall pay for any additional quantities based upon the original contract price.

53. PAPER STOCK.

Unless otherwise specified, the Contractor is responsible for furnishing the paper stock required to meet the Commonwealth's needs. In some cases, the Commonwealth may

choose to supply paper stock. The Contractor shall check the required quantity and quality upon receipt of stock and, if it is not of the required type and amount, the Contractor shall notify the Commonwealth immediately. If the Commonwealth provides the paper and the amount is in excess of the amount needed for the job, under no circumstances shall the Contractor print more than the amount specified on the order unless ordered to do so in writing by the Commonwealth. Any and all discrepancies should be reported and all paper in excess of that used for the job shall be returned to the Commonwealth unless otherwise directed in writing by the Commonwealth. The Contractor shall assume all risk of loss, damage or theft of all paper and supplies received by the Contractor from the Commonwealth. In the event the delivered paper is lost, damaged, destroyed or stolen, the Contractor shall replace the items with items of like quality and value or reimburse the Commonwealth for the replacement value of the items.

The Contractor must provide a product quality guarantee to the Commonwealth for all items purchased. Only those papers listed in the most current edition of the Competitive Grade Finder Buyers Guide – North American Edition, or as otherwise accepted by Grade Finders, Inc., for publication in subsequent editions of any of its paper buyers guides will be considered. For products not listed in the current Competitive Grade Finder, a copy of Grade Finders' letter of acceptability must be included with your quote.

54. PROOFS.

All Print Specifications shall include the type of proofing method required for the job. Below are the general types of proofing methods used by the Commonwealth:

- **Electronic Digital Proofs** – Generally used for monochrome and spot color printing. The Contractor shall provide this proof in a PDF format to the Commonwealth within three working days of receipt of all necessary artwork. Orders received through PAArtwork are exempt from this proofing process since agencies are required to proof their artwork online.
- **Digital Color Matchprint/Hard Copy Proof** – Generally used for four-color process work and higher. The Contractor shall provide this proof to the Commonwealth within three working days of receipt of all necessary artwork. If an electronic digital proof or hard copy proof is also required under the order, the Contractor shall provide this proof to the Commonwealth within two working days of approval of the electronic digital proof.

The Contractor must standardize on a specific output format for digital color matchprints and must submit this format to Commonwealth within two weeks of issuance of the contract. Once this standard format has been approved by the Commonwealth, the Contractor shall not alter from this method without the explicit approval of the Commonwealth.

- **Press Proofs/Checks** – Press proofs are only to be utilized for critical types of printing as determined by the Commonwealth. If a press check is required (as

designated on the PAAuthor job ticket or the Print Specification), the Contractor must notify the Commonwealth of the scheduled press check at least two working days in advance if running the job at a facility located within Pennsylvania. If the job is scheduled to run at a location outside of the state, the Contractor must notify the Commonwealth at least five working days in advance so that the Commonwealth has sufficient time to make the necessary travel arrangements. In addition, the press check must occur between 8 am and 5 pm EST, Monday through Friday.

Once a proof is received, the Commonwealth shall make a good faith effort to return the proof within three to five working days.

55. AUTHOR'S ALTERATIONS.

Author's alterations refer to changes to the copy or format of a Commonwealth document after the Contractor has started processing the document for print. Charges for author's alterations shall be based on an hourly rate as specified in the contract.

56. PACKAGING.

The Commonwealth's Contractor Shipping and Receiving Guidelines provide general packaging and palletizing requirements. These standards apply to all print-related orders. The Commonwealth may include additional specifications for the individual bundling of printed materials.

57. IGSIGNIAS AND LABELS.

The Contractor's logo or any insignia of any kind shall not be placed on any printing for the Commonwealth. This is not to be construed as forbidding the printing of the Union Label thereon.

58. OWNERSHIP OF ASSET AND RESOURCE FILES.

All materials provided and/or created by or for the Commonwealth, including artwork, negatives, digital files (including native art files or print-ready PDFs) and/or photographs used to produce any of the items under this contract will become the property of the Commonwealth. No materials shall be altered in any way without the express written consent of the Commonwealth. The Contractor shall retain film negatives and/or digital files in its archive for the life of this contract. Approximately three months prior to the end of the contract, the Contractor shall contact the Commonwealth for approval before materials are properly discarded.

59. SAFEKEEPING.

The Contractor shall be responsible for the safekeeping of all artwork delivered to the Contractor and held as insurer of the same and save and keep harmless from all damages

or loss by fire and otherwise. If any such material is damaged or lost, the Contractor will replace it.

60. COPYRIGHT.

The Commonwealth and the Contractor understand and agree that any original works of authorship (the "Works") developed under this Contract are created under the direction and control of the Commonwealth and shall constitute a work made for hire by an independent contractor under the United States Copyright Laws. Accordingly, the Commonwealth shall acquire the right, title and interest in and to any Works developed under this Contract including the right to reproduce and distribute the Works to Commonwealth employees and third parties, the right to prepare derivative works based upon the Works and the right to publicly display the Works.

In the event that the Works developed under this Contract do not fall within the specifically enumerated works that constitute a work made for hire under the United States Copyright Laws, the Contractor agrees to assign and, upon their authorship or creation, expressly and automatically assigns all copyright interests, proprietary rights and any other right, title and interest in and to such Works to the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth shall acquire all the rights and privileges accorded an owner of copyright including, without limitation, the exclusive right to reproduce, prepare derivative works based upon the existing Works, distribute copies to the public by sale and the right to perform and display such Works.

Upon completion or termination of this Contract, the Contractor shall immediately deliver all working papers, files and other documentation to the Commonwealth.

61. ORDERING.

The Contractor will be required to accept orders via PaPublisher, email, fax, phone, and in some cases, mail (requiring a P.O. Box). The ability to accept orders must be available at least all weekdays (Monday through Friday) from 7:00 AM EST to 5:00 PM EST. The Contractor must also provide the Commonwealth with a confirmation notice indicating receipt of the order within 24 hours upon receipt.

62. CANCELLATION OF ORDERS.

If at any time it becomes necessary for any reason to cancel all or any portion of an order, the Commonwealth reserves the right to do so, notifying the Contractor by a phone call followed by written confirmation (which may include cancelling the order in PaPublisher or notification through e-mail). The Contractor shall be paid for the particular operations completed up to the time of cancellation, and in no case shall the Contractor be entitled to receive payment for uncompleted work or for damages because of such a cancellation. Completed and/or uncompleted work will be disposed of in a manner mutually agreeable to the Commonwealth and the Contractor.

63. TRANSMITTAL OF ART FILES AND PROOFS.

The Contractor shall be responsible for all costs involved in the transmittal of necessary art files and proofs between the Commonwealth and the Contractor. The Contractor must provide a means for electronic transmittal, physical pick-up and delivery, or the utilization of an express mail service. Such services must be available all weekdays (Monday through Friday) from 7:00 AM EST to 5:00 PM EST.

If utilizing FTP (file transfer protocol) to receive artwork outside of PaPublisher, the selected Contractor must implement a means of secure FTP between the Contractor and the Commonwealth. Anonymous log in to the FTP site may not be used.

64. SITE VISITS/PRESS CHECKS

The Commonwealth reserves the right to visit the Contractor's and its subcontractors' production facilities for a demonstration of their capabilities and processes, including adherence to special facility security requirements, or for business meetings. The Commonwealth will pay for its own travel expenses for such site visits.

Additionally, the Commonwealth reserves the right to be present for press checks or during any phase of production to observe operations and check the quality of production. The Commonwealth will pay for its own travel expenses for such visits.

65. PRINTER'S ERRORS

The Contractor shall be held responsible for all errors that it may commit, and it shall be liable for all expenses incident to the reproduction of any printed matter in its corrected form when so required by the Commonwealth. If any job is rejected because of error attributable to the Contractor, it shall promptly reprint the job without extra charge and furnish all necessary printing paper, other materials and labor at its own cost.

66. INK.

All ink shall be made of renewal vegetable-based products. Petroleum-based inks are not to be used.

Ink shall be fade proof and waterproof. Inks shall withstand reasonable abrasion and shall not flake or smear. Ink coverage must be full and uniform, free from pin-points, feathering or other imperfections. Characters must be clean and sharp with well-defined edges, must have uniform density, no voids or fill-ins, with strokes of average thickness. The ink must be sufficiently non-reflective. There must be no extraneous ink or other marks (i.e., smudges) around the characters.

67. PAPER SAMPLES.

When requested by the Commonwealth, the Contractor will provide paper samples without delay in accordance with the request. If necessary, the Commonwealth will determine conformity to the specifications based on the results of its tests and/or examination. All samples required for test purposes will not be returned to the Contractor, nor will the Commonwealth pay for them.

When the Commonwealth requests samples of paper delivered directly to the Contractor from a paper mill, the Contractor will expedite the request and not use the paper until written acceptance is received from the Commonwealth.

68. DELAYED OR LOST SHIPMENTS.

Overdue shipments are the responsibility of the Contractor. The Contractor must trace the items within 48 hours and, if needed, replace the items at no additional cost to the Commonwealth. The Contractor's claim for such additional work must be made to the carrier.

69. FURNISHING PRICES TO PUBLISHERS.

The Commonwealth may request that the Contractor furnish printing services to publishers under contract by the Commonwealth. The request will only apply to items printed for the Commonwealth or the Commonwealth customers as requested by the Commonwealth. Under these circumstances, the Contractor shall charge the publisher the Commonwealth's contract price, and shall bill the publisher for all charges, while still providing the level of service as normally required by the Commonwealth.

70. TESTING OF ITEMS.

The Commonwealth may require certain printed items to pass certain tests, such as ability to run them through equipment, durability, accuracy, or acceptability of features. Such requirements will be clearly identified in the Commercial Print Specification for a given document. The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any items that do not pass the Commonwealth's test(s). The Contractor will be responsible for providing replacements of any failed items at no cost to the Commonwealth. The Contractor may also be responsible for reimbursing the Commonwealth for any costs incurred by the Commonwealth as a result of the items failing the test(s). The Commonwealth will work with the Contractor on items which require scheduling and testing.

71. NOTICE.

Any written notice to any party under this Contract shall be deemed sufficient if delivered personally, or by facsimile, telecopy, electronic or digital transmission (provided such delivery is confirmed), or by a recognized overnight courier service (e.g., DHL, Federal Express, etc.), with confirmed receipt, or by certified or registered United States mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, and sent to the following:

- a. If to the Contractor: the Contractor's address as recorded in the Commonwealth's Supplier Registration system.
- b. If to the Commonwealth: the address of the Issuing Office as set forth on the Contract.

72. RIGHT TO KNOW LAW.

- a. **Applicability.** The Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law, 65 P.S. §§ 67.101-3104, (“RTKL”) applies to this contract.
- b. **Contractor Assistance.** If the Commonwealth needs the Contractor’s assistance in any matter arising out of the RTKL related to this contract, the Commonwealth shall notify the Contractor that it requires the Contractor’s assistance, and the Contractor shall provide to the Commonwealth:
 - i. access to, and copies of, any document or information in the Contractor’s possession (Requested Information) arising out of this contract that the Commonwealth reasonably believes is a public record under the RTKL, within ten calendar days after receipt of written notification; and
 - ii. any other assistance as the Commonwealth may reasonably request, in order to comply with the RTKL with respect to this contract.
- c. **Trade Secret or Confidential Proprietary Information.** If the Contractor considers the Requested Information to include a Trade Secret or Confidential Proprietary Information, as those terms are defined by the RTKL, or other information that the Contractor considers exempt from production under the RTKL, the Contractor shall notify the Commonwealth and provide, within seven calendar days of receipt of the written notice a written statement, signed by a representative of the Contractor, that explains why the requested material is exempt from public disclosure under the RTKL. If the Commonwealth determines that the Requested Information is clearly not exempt from disclosure, the Contractor shall provide the Requested Information to the Commonwealth within five business days of receipt of written notice of the Commonwealth’s determination.
- d. **Reimbursement.**
 - i. **Commonwealth Reimbursement.** If the Contractor fails to provide the Requested Information and the Commonwealth is ordered to produce the Requested Information, the Contractor shall reimburse the Commonwealth for any damages, penalties, or costs that the Commonwealth may incur as a result of the Contractor’s failure, including any statutory damages assessed against the Commonwealth.

- ii. **Contractor Reimbursement.** The Commonwealth will reimburse the Contractor for any costs that the Contractor incurs as a direct result of complying with these provisions only to the extent allowed under the fee schedule established by the Office of Open Records or as otherwise provided by the RTKL.
- e. **Challenges of Commonwealth Release.** The Contractor may file a legal challenge to any Commonwealth decision to release a record to the public with the Office of Open Records, or in the Pennsylvania Courts, however, the Contractor shall reimburse the Commonwealth for any legal expenses incurred by the Commonwealth as a result of the challenge, including any damages, penalties or costs that the Commonwealth may incur as a result of the Contractor's legal challenge, regardless of the outcome.
- f. **Waiver.** As between the parties, the Contractor waives all rights or remedies that may be available to it as a result of the Commonwealth's disclosure of Requested Information pursuant to the RTKL.
- g. **Survival.** The Contractor's obligations contained in this Section survive the termination or expiration of this contract.

73. WORKER PROTECTION AND INVESTMENT.

- a. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable Pennsylvania state labor laws and worker safety laws including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. Construction Workplace Misclassification Act;
 - ii. Employment of Minors Child Labor Act;
 - iii. Minimum Wage Act;
 - iv. Prevailing Wage Act;
 - v. Equal Pay Law;
 - vi. Employer to Pay Employment Medical Examination Fee Act;
 - vii. Seasonal Farm Labor Act;
 - viii. Wage Payment and Collection Law;
 - ix. Industrial Homework Law;
 - x. Construction Industry Employee Verification Act;

- xi. Act 102: Prohibition on Excessive Overtime in Healthcare;
- xii. Apprenticeship and Training Act; and
- xiii. Inspection of Employment Records Law.

74. DATA BREACH OR LOSS

- a. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable data protection, data security, data privacy and data breach notification laws, including but not limited to the *Breach of Personal Information Notification Act*, as amended November 22, 2022, P.L. 2139, No. 151, 73 P.S. §§ 2301—2330. Further, to the extent the Contractor maintains, stores, or manages computerized data on behalf of the Commonwealth that constitutes personal information, as defined in the *Breach of Personal Information Notification Act*, the Contractor shall comply with the then current version of the following IT Policies (ITPs): *Data Classification Policy*, *IT Security Incident Reporting Policy*, and *Encryption Policy*.
- b. For Data and Confidential Information in the possession, custody, and control of the Contractor or its employees, agents, and/or subcontractors:
 - i. The Contractor shall report unauthorized access, use, release, loss, destruction or disclosure of Data or Confidential Information (“Incident”) to the Commonwealth within **one hour** of when the Contractor knows of or reasonably suspects such Incident, and the Contractor must immediately take all reasonable steps to mitigate any potential harm or further access, use, release, loss, destruction or disclosure of such Data or Confidential Information.
 - ii. The Contractor shall provide timely notice to all individuals that may require notice under any applicable law or regulation as a result of an Incident. The notice must be pre-approved by the Commonwealth. At the Commonwealth’s request, Contractor shall, at its sole expense, provide credit monitoring services to all individuals that may be impacted by any Incident requiring notice.
 - iii. The Contractor shall be solely responsible for any costs, losses, fines, or damages incurred by the Commonwealth due to Incidents.
- c. As to Data and Confidential Information fully or partially in the possession, custody, or control of the Contractor and the Commonwealth, the Contractor shall diligently perform all of the duties required in this section in cooperation with the Commonwealth, until the time at which a determination of responsibility for the Incident, and for subsequent action regarding the Incident, is made final.