

Kennebec Valley Community College 92 Western Avenue Fairfield, ME 04937

Competitive Bid Request for Proposal This is Not an Order

Grant Writing Services

Date: M Site Walk-thru: Ne Proposal Due On: Ju Return Proposal To: Bu Ke 92

Telephone:

Email:

May 26, 2022 Not Applicable June 13, 2022 Brianne Pushor Kennebec Valley Community College 92 Western Avenue Fairfield, Maine 04937 (207)-453-5076 bpushor@kvcc.me.edu

Competitive Bid Request for Proposal

Grant Writing Services

| Table of Contents | Tabl | e of | Con | tents |
|--------------------------|------|------|-----|-------|
|--------------------------|------|------|-----|-------|

| 1.0 Introduction | . 2 |
|--|-----|
| 2.0 Background | . 2 |
| 3.0 Schedule / Modifications | . 2 |
| 4.0 Examination of Specifications and Schedule | . 2 |
| 5.0 Submission of Bids | . 3 |
| 6.0 Scope of Services | . 3 |
| 7.0 Contractor's Insurance | .4 |
| 8.0 Interpretation of Contract Documents | . 4 |
| 9.0 Bid Review and Evaluation | . 4 |
| 10.0 Preparation of Bids | . 5 |
| 11.0 Withdrawal of Bids | . 5 |
| 12.0 Taxation and Compliance | . 6 |
| 13.0 Prohibited Terms and Conditions | . 6 |



Competitive Bid Request for Proposal Grant Writing Services

1.0 Introduction

Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC) is soliciting proposals from consultants experienced and qualified to provide grant writing services and assist the college in applying for federal, state, and local grants.

A detailed explanation of the scope and specifications is contained in **Section 6.0**, **Scope of Services**. Preference will be given to the proposals conforming to the specifications provided; however, alternate recommendations may be considered. If a vendor chooses to make inquiries on the specifications provided, the rules set forth in **Section 8.0**, **Interpretation of Contract Documents**, apply. KVCC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the proposals received, in part or in whole.

2.0 Background

Kennebec Valley Community College is a comprehensive community college offering technical, career, and transfer education in addition to customized training for businesses and industries in Kennebec, Somerset, Waldo and Knox Counties. The College is located on two campuses in mid-Maine. Its 70-acre main campus in Fairfield, Maine is reached by taking Exit 132 off Interstate 95. The 600-acre Harold Alfond Campus is located seven miles north of the Fairfield campus on U.S. Route 201 in Hinckley, Maine.

3.0 Schedule / Modifications

| Description | Day/Date | Time | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--|
| RFP Issued | 05/26/2022 | | |
| Site Walkthrough | Not applicable | | |
| Proposals Due On | 06/13/2022 | 3:00 P.M. ET | |
| Award Decision & Notification | 06/17/2022 | | |

4.0 Examination of Specifications and Schedule

Each bidder or authorized agent is expected to examine the bid specifications, contract documents and all other instructions pertaining to this RFP. Failure to do so will be at the bidder's own risk, and the bidder cannot secure relief on the plea of error in the bid. KVCC reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids in part or in whole.

5.0 Submission of Bids

The Proposal, which must be signed by a person having proper authority to legally obligate the offering company, along with any additional supporting material, **must be received no later than June 13, 2022 by 3:00 (ET)**.

All proposals are to be marked "<u>Grant Writing Services</u>" and mailed to: Brianne Pushor Director of Operations Kennebec Valley Community College 92 Western Avenue Fairfield, ME 04937

Proposals may also be e-mailed to: <u>bpushor@kvcc.me.edu</u>, with the subject line "Grant Writing Services"

6.0 Scope of Services

The Scope of Services set forth in this Request for Proposal (RFP) represents an outline of the services the College anticipates the successful proposer to perform and is presented for the primary purpose of allowing the College to compare proposals. The precise scope of services shall be negotiated between the College and the successful Proposer.

6.1 Scope

The contractor shall provide the following services:

- a. Grant writing Provide grant writing services on behalf of the College.
- b. *Project management* The Grant Writer will manage grant proposal development by establishing timelines, facilitating communication, conducting project planning and consortium meetings, and developing and compiling required documents per project and grant deadlines.
- c. *Prepare application materials* The Grant Writer will be responsible for drafting, collaboratively reviewing, and finalizing required grant applications and supporting documents including but not limited to the grant narrative, letters of support, budget, budget narrative, and other required attachments. The Grant Writer will provide opportunities for college staff to review, and revise if necessary, grant documents promptly in a manner that allows full completion of materials by the grant deadline.
- d. Facilitating grant timeline and meeting submission deadline-

1. The Grant Writer will provide the first draft of a full grant proposal, including all required supporting documents, to the College's Leadership Committee, or their designee, at least two weeks prior to the grant submission deadline for review and preliminary determination of accuracy and alignment with project and grant intent.

2. The Grant Writer will make all requested revisions and provide the second draft of the full grant proposal including all required supporting documents, to the College's Leadership Committee, or their designee, at least one week prior to the grant submission deadline.

3. The Grant Writer will make all final revisions and provide the final draft of the full grant proposal, including all required supporting documents, to the College's Leadership Committee, or their designee, at least 48 hours prior to the grant submission deadline.

4. The Grant Writer will be responsible for working with the College's Leadership Committee designee to ensure the submission of the full grant proposal and all supporting documents and attachments at least 24 hours prior to the grant submission deadline. The Grant Writer will ensure that all grant submissions and uploads comply with grant application requirements and that the application is confirmed to be fully submitted, and assigned a tracking number, per the grant agency requirements.

5. Should the above referenced grant timeline be determined impracticable by both the College and the Grant Writer; an alternate grant timeline may be mutually agreed upon and documented in writing.

7.0 Contractor's Insurance

The Contractor shall maintain throughout the term of the agreement general liability insurance to insure against all claims of bodily injury or death, and property damage, arising out of work performed under this agreement. Such insurance shall provide coverage in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and shall list KVCC as an added insured Contractor shall also maintain worker's compensation insurance in amounts required by state law.

8.0 Interpretation of Contract Documents

No oral interpretation will be provided to any bidder as to the meaning of the specifications or other contract documents. Every request for such interpretation shall be made in writing at least three (3) or more days before the proposal due date and submitted to:

Brianne Pushor, Director of Operations Grant Writing Services Kennebec Valley Community College 92 Western Avenue Fairfield, ME 04937

or via email at <u>bpushor@kvcc.me.edu</u>

Any interpretation made to a bidder will be issued in the form of an addendum to the contract/bid documents which, if issued, shall be sent as promptly as practicable to all persons to whom the specifications have been issued. All such addenda shall become part of the contract/bid documents.

9.0 Bid Review and Evaluation

The College reserves the right to reject all proposals, to waive any informalities and technicalities, and to solicit and re-advertise for new proposals, or to abandon the project in its entirety. The College reserves the right to make the award to that proposer who, in the opinion of the College, will be in the best interest of and/or the most advantageous to the College.

1. Evaluation Method

- a. Technical ability to meet the outlined specifications
- b. Proposer's project approach, experience, and reference input
- c. Cost, to include all discounts

10.0 Preparation of Bids

KVCC seeks the proposal that meets the specifications noted in this RFP. KVCC will review all proposals. The bidder shall include with the proposal any terms and conditions specific to their proposal.

To ensure all proposals are fairly evaluated, scored, and ranked, it is very important that the RFP responses are prepared according to the prescribed format. Failure to follow this requirement may result in the disqualification of your proposal.

Each valid proposal shall include:

- a. Basic Submittal Information and forms
 - 1. Letter of Intent: This letter will summarize in a brief concise manner; the proposer understands the scope of work and make a positive commitment to perform the work/service in a timely manner. The letter must be signed by an official authorized to make such commitments and enter a contract with the College. The letter must indicate the official's title or authority. The letter should not exceed two (2) pages in length.
 - 2. Proposer Certification form Enclosure 1: Proposal Certification
 - 3. Contractor's Qualification Statement Enclosure 2: Contractor's Qualification Statement
 - 4. Corporate Information: If proposer is a corporation, provide a copy of the certification from the State Secretary verifying proposer's corporate status and good standing, and in the case of out of state corporation, evidence of authority to do business in the state of Maine.
- b. Organization, Experience & Staff qualifications
 - 1. Organization Credentials: Provide a description of proposer's experience which qualifies you to provide the services identified in Proposal Specifications section.
 - 2. Staff Credentials: List experience of each staff within the firm who will be assigned to this project. Include current job description, resume, education/college degrees, licenses, and professional certifications. Designate number of years with the company and if all experience is while employed by the proposer's firm.
 - 3. List of federal grants the organization has successfully applied for and received for clients, including name of organization who won the grant, federal granting agency, name of grant, date, and amount of award.
 - 4. Current References: The firm will provide a listing of, at minimum, three (3) clients it has or is providing successful grant writing services to that are consistent with the requirements and the scope set forth in this RFP. The listing shall include name of the client, the name of the contact person, address, email, and telephone number and a brief explanation of the services that were provided.
- c. Fee Structure
 - 1. Provide a fee and expense proposal for the cost of services for applying for one federal grant. The proposal fee should be an hourly rate up to a maximum amount. The maximum amount shall include everything necessary for the execution and completion of the Agreement.

The College shall not be liable for any expenses incurred in connection with the preparation of a response to this RFP.

11.0 Withdrawal of Bids

All proposals must be valid for at least thirty (30) days after the proposal due date, after which time proposals shall expire unless the proposer had been notified and agrees to an extension.

KVCC reserves the right to modify or withdraw this invitation, to reject any or all proposals, and to terminate any subsequent negotiations at any time. KVCC also reserves the right to choose the proposal that best meets the needs of its facility and training programs.

12.0 Taxation and Compliance

Maine Community College System d/b/a Kennebec Valley Community College is an educational institution organized under the laws of the State of Maine and so its purchase of goods is exempt from state, federal, and local sales and use taxes. The successful bidder agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local statutes, laws, codes, rules, regulations, ordinances and orders in the performance of the Contract.

13.0 Prohibited Terms and Conditions

NOTICE TO VENDORS AND BIDDERS: STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL MCCS CONTRACTS

The following standard contracting terms and conditions are incorporated and shall become a part of any final contract that will be awarded by any college or other operating unit of the Maine Community College System (collectively "MCCS"). These terms and conditions derive from the public nature and limited resources of the MCCS. <u>MCCS DOES NOT AGREE TO:</u>

- 1. Provide any defense, hold harmless or indemnity;
- 2. Waive any statutory or constitutional immunity;
- 3. Apply the law of a state other than Maine;
- 4. Procure types or amounts of insurance beyond those MCCS already maintains or waive any rights of subrogation;
- 5. Add any entity as an additional insured to MCCS policies of insurance;
- 6. Pay attorneys' fees; costs, including collection costs; expenses or liquidated damages;
- 7. Promise confidentiality in a manner contrary to Maine's Freedom of Access Act;
- 8. Permit an entity to change unilaterally any term or condition once the contract is signed;
- 9. Automatic renewals for term(s) greater than month-to-month;
- 10. Limitations on MCCS' recovery of lawful damages incurred as a result of breach of the contract;
- 11. Limitation of the time period under which claims can be made or actions brought arising from the contract;
- 12. Vendor's terms prevailing over MCCS' standard terms and conditions, including addenda; and
- 13. Unilateral modifications to the contract by the vendor.

BY SUBMITTING A RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL, BID OR OTHER OFFER TO DO BUSINESS WITH MCCS, YOUR ENTITY UNDERSTANDS AND AGREES THAT:

- 1. The above standard terms and conditions are thereby incorporated into any agreement entered into between MCCS and your entity; that such terms and condition shall control in the event of any conflict with such agreement; and that your entity will not propose or demand any contrary terms;
- 2. The above standard terms and conditions will govern the interpretation of such agreement notwithstanding the expression of any other term and/or condition to the contrary;
- 3. Your entity will not propose to any college or other operating unit of the MCCS any contractual documents of any kind that are not in at least 11-point black font on a white background and completely contained in one Word or PDF document, and that any references to terms and conditions, privacy policies or any other conditions referenced outside of the contract will not apply; and
- 4. Your entity will identify at the time of submission which, if any, portion or your submitted materials are entitled to "trade secret" exemption from disclosure under Maine's Freedom of Access Act; that failure to so identify will authorize MCCS to conclude that no portions are so exempt; and that your entity will defend, indemnify and hold harmless MCCS in any and all legal actions that seek to compel MCCS to disclose under Maine's Freedom of Access Act some or all of your submitted materials and/or contract, if any, executed between MCCS and your entity.

Kennebec Valley Community College Competitive Bid Request for Proposal Grant Writing Services Enclosure 1

PROPOSAL CERTIFICATION

I certify that this proposal is made without prior understanding, agreement or connection with any corporation, firm or person submitting a proposal for the same materials, supplies or equipment, and is, in all respects, fair and without collusion or fraud. I agree to abide by all conditions of this proposal; I certify that I am authorized to sign this proposal.

I hereby agree to furnish the items and/or services at the prices and terms stated in my proposal. I have read and understand the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposal.

This company is in compliance with the non-discrimination clause contained in Section 202, Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, relative to Equal Employment Opportunity for all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin and the implementing rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor.

I certify that I have received the following addenda (if any):

| Addendum: | Dated: | |
|-------------------------|--------|--|
| Signature: | | |
| | | |
| Legal Name of Proposer: | | |
| | | |
| City, State, Zip: | | |
| | Fax: | |
| State of Incorporation: | | |
| Tax ID Number: | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Kennebec Valley Community College Competitive Bid Request for Proposal Grant Writing Services Enclosure 2

CONTRACTOR'S QUALIFICATION STATEMENT

The undersigned certifies under oath the truth and correctness of all statements and all answers to questions and information provided hereinafter.

| Sub | mitted by Name: | _ () Corporation |
|---|---|------------------|
| Ado | lress: | _ () Partnership |
| Prir | cipal Office: | _ () Individual |
| Note: Attach separate sheets as required. | | () Joint Venture |
| | | () Other |
| 1. | How many years has your organization provided the requested services? _ | |
| 2. | How many years under the present business name? | |
| | If applicable: | |
| | Former business name: | # Years: |
| | | |
| 3. | Corporations, answer the following: | |
| | Date of incorporation: | |
| | State of incorporation: | |
| | President: | |
| | Regional Manager: | |
| | District Manager: | |
| | | |
| 4. | Partnerships, answer the following: | |
| | Date of organization: | |
| | Type of partnership: | |
| | Names and addresses of partners (if applicable): | |
| | 1) | |
| | 2) | |
| | 3) | |
| | | |

5. If other than a corporation or partnership, describe organization and name the principals:

| 1)_ | |
|-----|------|
| 2) | |
| 3) | |

- 6. Have you ever failed to complete any contract awarded to you? If so, indicate when, where, why, and provide names and telephone numbers of persons we may speak with about this: _____
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____
 - 3) _____
- 7. Has any officer or partner of your organization ever been an officer or partner of another organization that failed to complete a contact? Yes _____ No _____
 If yes, state circumstances: ______
- Worker's Compensation insurance policy number: _________
 Name of company: ________ Policy amount: ________
- 9. Comprehensive General Liability policy number: ______ Policy amount: ______ Policy amount: ______

(\$500,000 combined single limit minimum)

Will Kennebec Valley Community College be named as additional insured for General Liability coverage if your firm is awarded the bid? Yes_____ No _____ (A "No" answer will disqualify your bid.)

10. Name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) designated as liaison with the College in administering the contract in the event of bid award (attach sheet if necessary):

| Date: | | · | |
|----------------------------|------|---|--|
| Name of Company: | | | |
| By (Authorized Signature): | | | |
| Title: | | | |