

STATE OF ALASKA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



FULFILLMENT AND SAMPLES BANK SERVICES

RFP

ISSUED DECEMBER 23, 2024

FULFILLMENT, SHIPMENT, INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

ISSUED BY:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ALASKA SEAFOOD MARKETING INSTITUTE

PRIMARY CONTACT:

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OFFERORS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO RETURN THIS FORM.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: YOU MUST REGISTER WITH THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER LISTED IN THIS DOCUMENT TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS. FAILURE TO CONTACT THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER MAY RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS	4
SEC. 1.01 PURPOSE OF THE RFP.....	4
SEC. 1.02 BUDGET.....	4
SEC. 1.03 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS.....	4
SEC. 1.04 PRIOR EXPERIENCE.....	4
SEC. 1.05 REQUIRED REVIEW.....	5
SEC. 1.06 QUESTIONS PRIOR TO DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS.....	5
SEC. 1.07 RETURN INSTRUCTIONS.....	5
SEC. 1.08 PROPOSAL CONTENTS.....	6
SEC. 1.09 ASSISTANCE TO OFFERORS WITH A DISABILITY.....	6
SEC. 1.10 AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSALS.....	7
SEC. 1.11 AMENDMENTS TO THE RFP.....	7
SEC. 1.12 RFP SCHEDULE.....	7
SEC. 1.13 ALTERNATE PROPOSALS.....	7
SEC. 1.14 NEWS RELEASES.....	7
SECTION 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION	8
SEC. 2.01 BACKGROUND INFORMATION.....	8
SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK & CONTRACT INFORMATION	9
SEC. 3.01 SCOPE OF WORK.....	9
SEC. 3.02 CONTRACT TERM AND WORK SCHEDULE.....	11
SEC. 3.03 DELIVERABLES.....	11
SEC. 3.04 CONTRACT TYPE.....	11
SEC. 3.05 PROPOSED PAYMENT PROCEDURES.....	11
SEC. 3.06 CONTRACT PAYMENT.....	11
SEC. 3.07 LOCATION OF WORK.....	12
SEC. 3.08 SUBCONTRACTORS.....	12
SEC. 3.09 JOINT VENTURES.....	13
SEC. 3.10 RIGHT TO INSPECT PLACE OF BUSINESS.....	13
SEC. 3.11 CONTRACT PERSONNEL.....	13
SEC. 3.12 INSPECTION & MODIFICATION - REIMBURSEMENT FOR UNACCEPTABLE DELIVERABLES.....	13
SEC. 3.13 CONTRACT CHANGES - UNANTICIPATED AMENDMENTS.....	13
SEC. 3.14 NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY.....	13
SEC. 3.15 INDEMNIFICATION.....	14
SEC. 3.16 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.....	14
SEC. 3.17 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT.....	15
SECTION 4. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT	16
SEC. 4.01 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT.....	16
SEC. 4.02 INTRODUCTION.....	16
SEC. 4.03 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT.....	16
SEC. 4.04 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT.....	16
SEC. 4.05 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT.....	16
SEC. 4.06 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS.....	17
SEC. 4.07 VALUE OF PROPOSAL.....	17
SEC. 4.08 EVALUATION CRITERIA.....	17
SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION	18
SEC. 5.01 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT (250).....	18
SEC. 5.02 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT (100).....	18

SEC. 5.03	MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT (100)	18
SEC. 5.04	EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS (250)	18
SEC. 5.05	VALUE OF PROPOSAL (200)	19
SEC. 5.06	ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE (100)	19
SECTION 6.	GENERAL PROCESS INFORMATION	20
SEC. 6.01	INFORMAL DEBRIEFING	20
SEC. 6.02	ALASKA BUSINESS LICENSE AND OTHER REQUIRED LICENSES	20
SEC. 6.03	SITE INSPECTION	20
SEC. 6.04	CLARIFICATION OF OFFERS	21
SEC. 6.05	DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFERORS	21
SEC. 6.06	EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS	21
SEC. 6.07	CONTRACT NEGOTIATION	21
SEC. 6.08	FAILURE TO NEGOTIATE	21
SEC. 6.09	OFFEROR NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION	22
SEC. 6.10	PROTEST	22
SEC. 6.11	APPLICATION OF PREFERENCES	23
SEC. 6.12	ALASKA BIDDER PREFERENCE	23
SEC. 6.13	ALASKA VETERAN PREFERENCE	24
SEC. 6.14	ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE	24
SEC. 6.15	FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS	24
SEC. 6.16	EXAMPLES: CONVERTING COST TO POINTS & APPLYING PREFERENCES	24
SECTION 7.	GENERAL LEGAL INFORMATION	26
SEC. 7.01	STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS	26
SEC. 7.02	QUALIFIED OFFERORS	26
SEC. 7.03	PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT	26
SEC. 7.04	ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS	26
SEC. 7.05	HUMAN TRAFFICKING	26
SEC. 7.06	RIGHT OF REJECTION	27
SEC. 7.07	STATE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION COSTS	27
SEC. 7.08	DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENTS	27
SEC. 7.09	ASSIGNMENTS	28
SEC. 7.10	DISPUTES	28
SEC. 7.11	SEVERABILITY	28
SEC. 7.12	SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS	28
SEC. 7.13	SOLICITATION ADVERTISING	28
SEC. 7.14	FEDERALLY IMPOSED TARIFFS	28

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS

SEC. 1.01 PURPOSE OF THE RFP

The **ALASKA SEAFOOD MARKETING INSTITUTE (ASMI)**, is soliciting proposals for the a logistics provider to manage its seafood samples. This includes inventory management, facilitating product pickup, and packing and shipping seafood products both in the US and internationally. The seafood sample bank is stored at Unisea Cold Storage located at 15110 NE 90th St Suite 110, Redmond, WA 98052. The offeror will be in charge of maintaining inventory levels and fulfilling domestic and international shipments. This contract requires working with ASMI and its Overseas Marketing Representatives (OMRs), storage of product samples, coordinating shipments of display products for trade shows, technical trainings, and seminars, familiarity and experience with creating required NOAA health certification documents, and the maintenance of a ASMI's inventory management system.

International division:

ASMI aims to bring Alaska seafood companies one step closer to their partners in select regions by keeping samples of a wide variety of Alaska seafood products, including but not limited to Alaska pollock blocks, surimi and mince, five species of salmon, Alaska flatfish and Alaska whitefish available for technical trainings and seminars in our international markets. The successful offeror will maintain a stock of a variety of requested Alaska seafood products in these international markets to ensure Alaska seafood companies are closer to their regional partners. The successful offeror will maintain a minimum number of fish per species at the request of ASMI and then notify said team when the display product inventory is low; the offeror will store and transport the items domestically in the US to the port of export and then ship to various regions across the globe. The successful offeror will help manage, and oversee the storage, and inventory management of the seafood product located at Unisea Cold Storage located in Seattle, Washington.

Domestic and Communications division:

The successful offeror will receive, process, and respond to requests for Alaska seafood products from ASMI, and exercise flexibility when last-minute requests are made. The successful offeror will work with both the international, domestic, and communications teams at ASMI for their individual programs needs.

SEC. 1.02 BUDGET

The **ALASKA SEAFOOD MARKETING INSTITUTE** estimates a budget of between **\$150,000** and **\$200,000** dollars for completion of this project.

Payment for the contract is subject to funds already appropriated and identified.

SEC. 1.03 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must be received no later than **3 PM** prevailing Alaska Time on **JANUARY 20, 2025** Late proposals or amendments will be disqualified and not opened or accepted for evaluation.

SEC. 1.04 PRIOR EXPERIENCE

In order for offers to be considered responsive offerors must meet these minimum prior experience requirements:

- **Offerors must demonstrate at least five years' experience in handling the storage, inventory management of, creation of health certificates, and successfully accepted shipments of seafood samples both domestically and internationally.**
- **Offerors must employ at least one professional(s) with experience in providing the services that are required under this solicitation.**
 - **Must provide resume(s) for any individual performing contracting services.**
- **Offerors must complete the additional document entitled 'Samples Bank Cost Proposal.' This document proposes one international and one domestic shipment requests the offeror is likely to receive.**

An offeror's failure to meet these minimum prior experience requirements will cause their proposal to be considered non-responsive and rejected.

SEC. 1.05 REQUIRED REVIEW

Offerors should carefully review this solicitation for defects and questionable or objectionable material. Comments concerning defects and questionable or objectionable material should be made in writing and received by the procurement officer at least ten days before the deadline for receipt of proposals. This will allow time for the issuance of any necessary amendments. It will also help prevent the opening of a defective proposal and exposure of offeror's proposals upon which award could not be made.

SEC. 1.06 QUESTIONS PRIOR TO DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

All questions must be in writing and directed to the procurement officer. The interested party must confirm telephone conversations in writing.

Two types of questions generally arise. One may be answered by directing the questioner to a specific section of the RFP. These questions may be answered over the telephone. Other questions may be more complex and may require a written amendment to the RFP. The procurement officer will make that decision.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER: **BECKY MONAGLE** – PHONE **907-465-5570** - TDD **711**

SEC. 1.07 RETURN INSTRUCTIONS

Proposals may be emailed to bmonagle@alaskaseafood.org. The email must contain the RFP number in the subject line.

The **maximum** size of a single email (including all text and attachments) that can be received by the state is **20mb (megabytes)**. If the email containing the proposal exceeds this size, the proposal must be sent in multiple emails that are each less than 20 megabytes and each email must comply with the requirements described above.

Please note that email transmission is not instantaneous. Similar to sending a hard copy proposal, if you are emailing your proposal, the state recommends sending it enough ahead of time to ensure the email is delivered by the deadline for receipt of proposals.

It is the offeror's responsibility to contact the issuing agency by email at bmonagle@alaskaseafood.org or by phone at 907.465.5570 to confirm that the proposal has been received. The state is not responsible for unreadable, corrupt, or missing attachments.

SEC. 1.08 PROPOSAL CONTENTS

The following information must be included in all proposals.

(a) AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

All proposals must be signed by an individual authorized to bind the offeror to the provisions of the RFP. Proposals must remain open and valid for at least 90-days from the date set as the deadline for receipt of proposals.

(b) OFFEROR'S CERTIFICATION

By signature on the proposal, offerors certify that they comply with the following:

- A. the laws of the State of Alaska;
- B. the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
- C. the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
- D. the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
- E. all terms and conditions set out in this RFP;
- F. a condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at, without collusion, under penalty of perjury; and
- G. that the offers will remain open and valid for at least 90 days.

If any offeror fails to comply with [a] through [g] of this paragraph, the state reserves the right to disregard the proposal, terminate the contract, or consider the contractor in default.

(c) VENDOR TAX ID

A valid Vendor Tax ID must be submitted to the issuing office with the proposal or within five days of the state's request.

(d) CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Each proposal shall include a statement indicating whether or not the firm or any individuals working on the contract has a possible conflict of interest (e.g., currently employed by the State of Alaska or formerly employed by the State of Alaska within the past two years) and, if so, the nature of that conflict. The procurement officer reserves the right to **consider a proposal non-responsive and reject it** or cancel the award if any interest disclosed from any source could either give the appearance of a conflict or cause speculation as to the objectivity of the contract to be performed by the offeror.

SEC. 1.09 ASSISTANCE TO OFFERORS WITH A DISABILITY

Offerors with a disability may receive accommodation regarding the means of communicating this RFP or participating in the procurement process. For more information, contact the procurement officer no later than ten days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

SEC. 1.10 AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSALS

Amendments to or withdrawals of proposals will only be allowed if acceptable requests are received prior to the deadline that is set for receipt of proposals. No amendments or withdrawals will be accepted after the deadline unless they are in response to the state's request in accordance with 2 AAC 12.290.

SEC. 1.11 AMENDMENTS TO THE RFP

If an amendment is issued, it will be provided to all who were notified of the RFP and to those who have registered with the procurement officer after receiving the RFP.

SEC. 1.12 RFP SCHEDULE

The RFP schedule set out herein represents the State of Alaska's best estimate of the schedule that will be followed. If a component of this schedule, such as the deadline for receipt of proposals, is delayed, the rest of the schedule may be shifted accordingly. All times are Alaska Time.

- Issue RFP **DECEMBER 23, 2024**,
- Deadline for Receipt of Proposals **JANUARY 20, 2025**.
- Proposal Evaluation Committee complete evaluation by **JANUARY 24, 2025**,
- State of Alaska issues Notice of Intent to Award a Contract **JANUARY 27, 2025**,
- State of Alaska issues contract **FEBRUARY 7, 2025**,
- Contract starts **FEBRUARY 7, 2025** or upon completion of all required signatures.

This RFP does not, by itself, obligate the state. The state's obligation will commence when the contract is approved by the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute's Executive Director. Upon written notice to the contractor, the state may set a different starting date for the contract. The state will not be responsible for any work done by the contractor, even work done in good faith, if it occurs prior to the contract start date set by the state.

SEC. 1.13 ALTERNATE PROPOSALS

Offerors may only submit one proposal for evaluation.

In accordance with 2 AAC 12.830 alternate proposals (proposals that offer something different than what is asked for) will be rejected.

SEC. 1.14 NEWS RELEASES

News releases related to this RFP will not be made without prior approval of the project director.

SECTION 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SEC. 2.01 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. **ASMI's Mission:** The primary objective of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute is to create a dynamic, market-driven environment that will expand the global consumption of Alaska seafood. It accomplishes this by fostering growth opportunities with the food industry. ASMI's programs emphasize collaborative marketing and quality assurance efforts and build the identity of Alaska Seafood as a brand.
2. **ASMI's Authority:** ASMI was established by the Alaska State Legislature in 1981 as a public corporation within the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED) State of Alaska. As a cooperative effort between the State of Alaska and private industry, the Institute has four legislative mandates: 1) to promote all species of Alaska seafood worldwide; 2) to maintain and promote quality awareness from point of harvest to final distribution; 3) to disseminate information on prices paid and market conditions for raw salmon and salmon products; and, 4) investigate new product forms and future markets for Alaska salmon.

ASMI is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors appointed by the governor of Alaska. The board consists of five processors and two harvesters. Five standing committees provide ASMI's board and staff with input and promotional direction. Staff is located in Juneau, Alaska, which is the corporate headquarters.

3. **Current Program:** ASMI currently works with a third-party logistics company that completes all health certifications required by NOAA and documents requested by the receiving country, and coordinates and manages on-time shipments for all international and domestic trade show display products. The program is an integral part of ASMI's trade show fulfillment program designed to enhance the seafood industry and consumer awareness of Alaska seafood products and encourage buyers to purchase Alaska seafood products.

The Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute has been a participant in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Market Access Program (MAP) since 1986 and the Regional Agricultural Promotion Program since 2024. ASMI employs its USDA MAP and RAPP funds by developing and executing "generic" marketing and promotional programs directed toward international markets.

SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK & CONTRACT INFORMATION

SEC. 3.01 SCOPE OF WORK

ASMI is seeking proposals for a logistics provider to manage its seafood samples. This includes inventory management, facilitating product pickup, and packing and shipping seafood products both in the US and internationally. The seafood sample banks is stored at Unisea Cold Storage located at 15110 NE 90th St Suite 110, Redmond, WA 98052. The offeror will be in charge of maintaining inventory levels and fulfilling domestic and International shipments. In performing and accomplishing the general scope of services, the individual or company will work in cooperation with ASMI's International Marketing Director and other designated program staff. As required by ASMI's grant funding, all accounting will adhere to Federal RAPP grant, and State of Alaska fiscal and accounting policies.

The service provider must fulfill the following objectives:

3.01 (a): Maintain online inventory management system

- Online inventory management system may be hosted, maintained, and remain updated and accurate by the offeror. ASMI will identify the inventory management database of choice, that the successful offeror must utilize. All inventory changes must be recorded in the inventory management database within 72 hours of receipt or distribution.
 - Offeror must track the date of expiration for each product lot received, dispose and/or donate expired or unusable seafood products appropriately, and update these changes in the inventory database system.
- The offeror will receive a list outlining the minimum number of items required per species and product format that must always be available in inventory. It is the offeror's responsibility to inform ASMI staff when inventory levels are low, ensuring that adequate stock is maintained at all times. Inventory management system must be accessible to ASMI headquarters staff to review.
- Inventory management system must detail species, product format, available inventory by number of individual seafood items (i.e. fish or crustacean), and employ a tracking system of products received from Alaska seafood suppliers.
- Inventory management system must be capable of separating and itemizing products for each ASMI program that will utilize the product; international, domestic, communications teams.
 - The successful offeror is responsible for tracking which program utilized which product for invoicing purposes.

3.01 (b) Store Seafood Product Samples

- The successful offeror will be required to coordinate storage of seafood products, and work with Unisea Cold Storage. The offeror will be the main point of contact with Alaska seafood suppliers to receive products in advance of shipments for events or trade shows.
 - Minimum total amounts of required product will be identified by ASMI HQ team members from the international, domestic, and communications teams.
 - The offeror must maintain the minimum inventory by notifying ASMI in advance so that ASMI can procure the product and deliver it to the successful offeror's storage facility.

- The offeror will occasionally receive last-minute requests to fulfill shipments and must display flexibility and adaptability for quick turnaround on projects as assigned by ASMI.
- Offeror may have cold storage capacity to store product temporarily for the international, domestic, and communications teams prior to shipping but no charges will be allowed as a separate cost.
- The offeror will ensure that all Alaska seafood suppliers from which ASMI is sourcing products are authorized to ship to all international destinations, including Asia, the EU, and Latin America.

3.01 (c) Coordinate Shipments of Display Products for Trade Shows, Technical Trainings, and Seminars

The successful offeror will be responsible for and required to:

- ASMI staff will create a proforma document detailing the quantity, species, and product type required for specific shipments. The successful offeror will be responsible for obtaining the items from ASMI's cold storage, packing the order, and compiling the display product for ASMI international, domestic, and communications teams in a timely manner.
 - The winning proposal is responsible for shipping the order with enough lead time to ensure that the product clears customs before the event or trade show, depending on the specific customs requirements of the country. This situation is continually changing, and communication will take place between ASMI, the winning proposer, and the overseas marketing representative. ASMI expects to provide the winning proposer with sufficient lead time for all shipments to prevent any overtime charges.
- Adequately package all orders to ensure the product arrives in as high-quality, frozen condition as possible, including sufficient dry ice and/or appropriate packing materials.
- The offeror will ship all orders using the most cost-effective service provider, unless otherwise specified by ASMI.
- Accurately prepare all NOAA health certificates and export documentation required for seafood product upon entry into the foreign country.
 - This may require communication with the receiving country's government officials, Overseas Marketing Representatives (OMRs), consignees, importers, and ASMI.
- Track the shipment until it is received in-country and is successfully cleared through customs.
- Freight costs must be actuals with no markup. Documentation supporting the freight cost must be part of the invoice back up.

3.01 (d) Have extensive knowledge of creating health certificates and Export Documentation for export of seafood products

Required documents will vary depending on the country receiving the shipments and can include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Certificate of origin
- Proforma invoice(s)
- NOAA health certificates
- Invoices
- Halal certification documents

3.01 (d) Work with ASMI to establish a Samples Banks Internationally

- Offeror will work with ASMI to establish a Samples Bank in the following, but not limited to, regions: Southeast Asia, Middle East, North Africa, Eastern and Southern Europe, and Latin America.
 - Offeror will work with ASMI and their Overseas Marketing Representatives (OMRs) to identify importers with cold storage capacity, who can receive the shipments for storage in the region.
 - Offeror will work with the consignee to coordinate shipment and receipt of the products at various locations and times throughout the fiscal year.
- Offeror will be responsible for tracking the inventory sent to each ASMI Samples Bank site, reporting the inventory to ASMI upon request, and replenishing the inventory as necessary.

3.01 (e) Compile and Submit Comprehensive Invoices

The International, Domestic, and Communications teams at ASMI will be utilizing the successful offeror to fulfill their product orders and shipments. Each team has separate funds and accounting procedures that require the contractor to submit detailed invoices listing which project the invoice is being submitted for.

- Offeror is required to include a detailed list of products and services used, and which team the shipment was completed on behalf of.

3.01 (f) Perform Quarterly Quality Check of Products and Dispose of Expired Product

The offeror must detail their policies or procedures in assuring quality assurance of the products stored at Unisea Cold Storage and how they identify whether the product has expired and cannot be used for trade shows, technical seminars, or trainings. The offeror will establish a system to inventory the products and dispose of expired products.

SEC. 3.02 CONTRACT TERM AND WORK SCHEDULE

The length of the contract will be from the date of award, approximately **February 7, 2025** through **June 30, 2025** with up to two (2) one-year renewal options.

SEC. 3.03 DELIVERABLES

Deliverables are included in Section 3.01 for Scope of Work.

SEC. 3.04 CONTRACT TYPE

This contract is a **FIRM, FIXED PRICE** contract.

SEC. 3.05 PROPOSED PAYMENT PROCEDURES

The state will make payments based on a negotiated payment schedule. Each billing must consist of an invoice and progress report. No payment will be made until the progress report and invoice has been approved by the project director.

SEC. 3.06 CONTRACT PAYMENT

No payment will be made until the contract is approved by the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute's Executive Director. Under no conditions will the state be liable for the payment of any interest charges associated with the cost of the contract. The state is not responsible for and will not pay local, state, or federal taxes. All costs associated with the contract must be stated in U.S. currency.

SEC. 3.07 LOCATION OF WORK

The location(s) the work is to be performed, completed and managed at the **LOCATION** at the selected offeror's firm and/or approved subcontractor(s), with notable exceptions such as travel to or within Alaska.

The state **WILL NOT** provide workspace for the contractor. The contractor must provide its own workspace.

By signature on their proposal, the offeror certifies that all services provided under this contract by the contractor and all subcontractors shall be performed in the United States.

If the offeror cannot certify that all work will be performed in the United States, the offeror must contact the procurement officer in writing to request a waiver at least 10 days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

The request must include a detailed description of the portion of work that will be performed outside the United States, where, by whom, and the reason the waiver is necessary.

Failure to comply with these requirements may cause the state to reject the proposal as non-responsive, or cancel the contract.

SEC. 3.08 SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractors may be used to perform work under this contract. If an offeror intends to use subcontractors, the offeror must identify in the proposal the names of the subcontractors and the portions of the work the subcontractors will perform.

In the event that the offeror is subcontracting with an agency for a significant amount of the program budget (over \$35,000), the offeror needs to adhere to the MAP and/or RAPP contracting guidelines.

Subcontractor experience **SHALL NOT** be considered in determining whether the offeror meets the requirements set forth in **SEC. 1.04 PRIOR EXPERIENCE**.

If a proposal with subcontractors is selected, the offeror must provide the following information concerning each prospective subcontractor within five working days from the date of the state's request:

- complete name of the subcontractor;
- complete address of the subcontractor;
- type of work the subcontractor will be performing;
- percentage of work the subcontractor will be providing;
- evidence that the subcontractor holds a valid Alaska business license; and
- a written statement, signed by each proposed subcontractor that clearly verifies that the subcontractor is committed to render the services required by the contract.

An offeror's failure to provide this information, within the time set, may cause the state to consider their proposal non-responsive and reject it. The substitution of one subcontractor for another may be made only at the discretion and prior written approval of the project director.

Note that if the subcontractor will not be performing work within Alaska, they will not be required to hold an Alaska business license.

SEC. 3.09 JOINT VENTURES

Joint ventures will not be allowed.

SEC. 3.10 RIGHT TO INSPECT PLACE OF BUSINESS

At reasonable times, the state may inspect those areas of the contractor's place of business that are related to the performance of a contract. If the state makes such an inspection, the contractor must provide reasonable assistance.

SEC. 3.11 CONTRACT PERSONNEL

Any change of the project team members or subcontractors named in the proposal must be approved, in advance and in writing, by the project director or procurement officer. Changes that are not approved by the state may be grounds for the state to terminate the contract.

SEC. 3.12 INSPECTION & MODIFICATION - REIMBURSEMENT FOR UNACCEPTABLE DELIVERABLES

The contractor is responsible for the completion of all work set out in the contract. All work is subject to inspection, evaluation, and approval by the project director. The state may employ all reasonable means to ensure that the work is progressing and being performed in compliance with the contract. The project director or procurement officer may instruct the contractor to make corrections or modifications if needed in order to accomplish the contract's intent. The contractor will not unreasonably withhold such changes.

Substantial failure of the contractor to perform the contract may cause the state to terminate the contract. In this event, the state may require the contractor to reimburse monies paid (based on the identified portion of unacceptable work received) and may seek associated damages.

SEC. 3.13 CONTRACT CHANGES - UNANTICIPATED AMENDMENTS

During the course of this contract, the contractor may be required to perform additional work. That work will be within the general scope of the initial contract. When additional work is required, the project director will provide the contractor a written description of the additional work and request the contractor to submit a firm time schedule for accomplishing the additional work and a firm price for the additional work. Cost and pricing data must be provided to justify the cost of such amendments per AS 36.30.400.

The contractor will not commence additional work until the procurement officer has secured any required state approvals necessary for the amendment and issued a written contract amendment, approved by ASMI's Executive Director.

SEC. 3.14 NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Contractor agrees that all confidential information shall be used only for purposes of providing the deliverables and performing the services specified herein and shall not disseminate or allow dissemination of confidential information except as provided for in this section. The contractor shall hold as confidential and will use reasonable care (including both facility physical security and electronic security) to prevent unauthorized access by, storage, disclosure, publication, dissemination to and/or use by third parties of, the confidential information. "Reasonable care" means compliance by the contractor with all applicable federal and state law, including the Social Security Act and HIPAA. The contractor must promptly notify the state in writing if it becomes aware of any storage, disclosure, loss, unauthorized access to or use of the confidential information.

Confidential information, as used herein, means any data, files, software, information or materials (whether prepared by the state or its agents or advisors) in oral, electronic, tangible or intangible form and however stored, compiled or memorialized that is classified confidential as defined by State of Alaska classification and categorization guidelines provided by the state to the contractor or a contractor agent or otherwise made available to the contractor or a contractor agent in connection with this contract, or acquired, obtained or learned by the contractor or a contractor agent in the performance of this contract. Examples of confidential information include, but are not limited to: technology infrastructure, architecture, financial data, trade secrets, equipment specifications, user lists, passwords, research data, and technology data (infrastructure, architecture, operating systems, security tools, IP addresses, etc).

If confidential information is requested to be disclosed by the contractor pursuant to a request received by a third party and such disclosure of the confidential information is required under applicable state or federal law, regulation, governmental or regulatory authority, the contractor may disclose the confidential information after providing the state with written notice of the requested disclosure (to the extent such notice to the state is permitted by applicable law) and giving the state opportunity to review the request. If the contractor receives no objection from the state, it may release the confidential information within 30 days. Notice of the requested disclosure of confidential information by the contractor must be provided to the state within a reasonable time after the contractor's receipt of notice of the requested disclosure and, upon request of the state, shall seek to obtain legal protection from the release of the confidential information.

The following information shall not be considered confidential information: information previously known to be public information when received from the other party; information freely available to the general public; information which now is or hereafter becomes publicly known by other than a breach of confidentiality hereof; or information which is disclosed by a party pursuant to subpoena or other legal process and which as a result becomes lawfully obtainable by the general public.

SEC. 3.15 INDEMNIFICATION

The contractor shall indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the contracting agency from and against any claim of, or liability for error, omission or negligent act of the contractor under this agreement. The contractor shall not be required to indemnify the contracting agency for a claim of, or liability for, the independent negligence of the contracting agency. If there is a claim of, or liability for, the joint negligent error or omission of the contractor and the independent negligence of the contracting agency, the indemnification and hold harmless obligation shall be apportioned on a comparative fault basis. "Contractor" and "contracting agency", as used within this and the following article, include the employees, agents and other contractors who are directly responsible, respectively, to each. The term "independent negligence" is negligence other than in the contracting agency's selection, administration, monitoring, or controlling of the contractor and in approving or accepting the contractor's work.

SEC. 3.16 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Without limiting contractor's indemnification, it is agreed that contractor shall purchase at its own expense and maintain in force at all times during the performance of services under this agreement the following policies of insurance. Where specific limits are shown, it is understood that they shall be the minimum acceptable limits. If the contractor's policy contains higher limits, the state shall be entitled to coverage to the extent of such higher limits.

Certificates of Insurance must be furnished to the procurement officer prior to beginning work and must provide for a notice of cancellation, non-renewal, or material change of conditions in accordance with policy provisions.

Failure to furnish satisfactory evidence of insurance or lapse of the policy is a material breach of this contract and shall be grounds for termination of the contractor's services. All insurance policies shall comply with and be issued by insurers licensed to transact the business of insurance under AS 21.

Workers' Compensation Insurance: The contractor shall provide and maintain, for all employees engaged in work under this contract, coverage as required by AS 23.30.045, and; where applicable, any other statutory obligations including but not limited to Federal U.S.L. & H. and Jones Act requirements. The policy must waive subrogation against the State.

Commercial General Liability Insurance: covering all business premises and operations used by the Contractor in the performance of services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of \$300,000 combined single limit per claim.

Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance: covering all vehicles used by the contractor in the performance of services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of \$300,000 combined single limit per claim.

SEC. 3.17 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT

If the project director or procurement determines that the contractor has refused to perform the work or has failed to perform the work with such diligence as to ensure its timely and accurate completion, the state may, by providing written notice to the contractor, terminate the contractor's right to proceed with part or all of the remaining work.

This clause does not restrict the state's termination rights under the contract provisions of Appendix A.

SECTION 4. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

SEC. 4.01 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

The state discourages overly lengthy and costly proposals, however, in order for the state to evaluate proposals fairly and completely, offerors must follow the format set out in this RFP and provide all information requested.

SEC. 4.02 INTRODUCTION

Proposals must include the complete name and address of offeror's firm and the name, mailing address, and telephone number of the person the state should contact regarding the proposal.

Proposals must confirm that the offeror will comply with all provisions in this RFP; and, if applicable, provide notice that the firm qualifies as an Alaskan bidder. Proposals must be signed by a company officer empowered to bind the company. An offeror's failure to include these items in the proposals may cause the proposal to be determined to be non-responsive and the proposal may be rejected.

SEC. 4.03 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT

Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that illustrate their understanding of the requirements of the project and the project schedule.

SEC. 4.04 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT

Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that set out the methodology they intend to employ and illustrate how the methodology will serve to accomplish the work and meet ASMI's project schedule. Describe the process and methods your individual company employs for the following:

- A. Successful Shipment - Please provide two examples of seafood shipments that demonstrate successful completion. The international product shipment (#1 on Cost Proposal) requires health certifications (NOAA, and receiving country health documents), on-time delivery, and successful arrival of the seafood shipment. The domestic shipment (#2 on Cost Proposal) only requires necessary documentation for a US shipment.
- B. Inventory Management database
 - a. Provide a written explanation on how your organization will maintain an accurate record of inventory.
- C. Client and customer relations
 - a. Please complete 'attachment A—Cost Proposal' for a shipment sent internationally and one sent within the US.
 - b. Must provide an example of an itemized invoice that you would create, for example, #1 and #2, which should include the rates and services identified in the Cost Proposal.

SEC. 4.05 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT

Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that set out the management plan they intend to follow and illustrate how the plan will serve to accomplish the work and meet the state's project schedule.

SEC. 4.06 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Offerors must provide an organizational chart specific to the personnel assigned to accomplish the work called for in this RFP; illustrate the lines of authority; designate the individual responsible and accountable for the completion of each component and deliverable of the RFP.

Offerors must provide a narrative description that identifies the experience of the Offeror which describes similar work performed and provide resumes of key personnel who will be responsible for overseeing the assigned tasks.

Offerors must provide three professional references, including names, complete addresses, phone numbers and email addresses for similar projects the offeror's firm has completed.

SEC. 4.07 COST OF PROPOSAL

Based on the requirements of this RFP, offerors are to provide a detailed cost proposal reflecting the following:

1. International shipment total with estimated actual freight charge to equal \$2,500.
2. Domestic shipment total with estimated actual freight charge to equal \$1,000.
3. Fulfillment services – hourly rate. This includes services for fulfilling product for shipment, including pulling and packaging the products, inserting dry ice, etc.
4. Fulfillment service expedited – hourly rate. This includes services for fulfilling product for shipment, including pulling and packaging the products, inserting dry ice, etc.
5. Health certification & export documentation prep
6. Inventory management & quality check
7. Driving rate/transportation costs – picking up released product, retail pick up, point of product departure – UPS, FedEx, Airport, etc.

SEC. 4.08 EVALUATION CRITERIA

All proposals will be reviewed to determine if they are responsive. Proposals determined to be responsive will be evaluated using the criterion that is set out in **SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION.**

An evaluation may not be based on discrimination due to the race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, disability, or political affiliation of the offeror.

SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS USED TO SCORE THIS PROPOSAL IS **1000**

SEC. 5.01 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT (100)

Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

- 1) How well has the offeror demonstrated a thorough understanding of the purpose and scope of the project?
- 2) How well has the offeror identified pertinent issues and potential problems related to the project?
- 3) To what degree has the offeror demonstrated an understanding of the deliverables ASMI expects it to provide?

SEC. 5.02 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT (300)

Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

- 1) How comprehensive is the methodology, and does it depict a logical approach to fulfilling the RFP requirements?
- 2) How well does the methodology match and achieve the objectives set out in the RFP?

SEC. 5.03 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT (125)

Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

- 1) How well does the management plan support all of the project requirements and logically lead to the deliverables required in the RFP?
- 2) Is the organization of the project team clear?
- 3) Has the offeror gone beyond the minimum tasks necessary to meet the objectives of the RFP?
- 4) To what degree is the proposal practical and feasible?
- 5) To what extent has the offeror identified potential problems?

SEC. 5.04 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS (200)

Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

1) Questions regarding the personnel:

- a) Do the individuals assigned to the project have experience on similar projects?
- b) Are resumes complete and do they demonstrate backgrounds that would be desirable for individuals engaged in the work the project requires?

2) Questions regarding the firm and subcontractor (if used):

- a) How well has the firm demonstrated experience in completing similar projects on time and within budget?

- b) How successful is the general history of the firm regarding timely and successful completion of projects?
- c) Has the firm provided letters of reference from previous clients?
- d) If a subcontractor will perform work on the contract, how well do they measure up to the evaluation used for the offeror?

SEC. 5.05 COST OF PROPOSAL (175)

SEC. 5.06 ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE (100)

If an offeror qualifies for the Alaska Bidder Preference, the offeror will receive an Alaska Offeror Preference. The preference will be 10% of the total available points. This amount will be added to the overall evaluation score of each Alaskan offeror.

SECTION 6. GENERAL PROCESS INFORMATION

SEC. 6.01 INFORMAL DEBRIEFING

When the contract is completed, an informal debriefing may be performed at the discretion of the project director. If performed, the scope of the debriefing will be limited to the work performed by the contractor.

SEC. 6.02 ALASKA BUSINESS LICENSE AND OTHER REQUIRED LICENSES

After the award of a contract, an offeror must hold a valid Alaska business license. However, in order to receive the Alaska Bidder Preference and other related preferences, such as the Alaska Veteran Preference and Alaska Offeror Preference, an offeror must hold a valid Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. Offerors should contact the **Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing, PO Box 110806, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806**, for information on these licenses. Acceptable evidence that the offeror possesses a valid Alaska business license may consist of any one of the following:

- copy of an Alaska business license;
- certification on the proposal that the offeror has a valid Alaska business license and has included the license number in the proposal;
- a canceled check for the Alaska business license fee;
- a copy of the Alaska business license application with a receipt stamp from the state's occupational licensing office; or
- a sworn and notarized statement that the offeror has applied and paid for the Alaska business license.

You are not required to hold a valid Alaska business license at the time proposals are opened if you possess one of the following licenses and are offering services or supplies under that specific line of business:

- fisheries business licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue or Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
- liquor licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue for alcohol sales only,
- insurance licenses issued by Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Insurance, or
- Mining licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue.

Prior the deadline for receipt of proposals, all offerors must hold any other necessary applicable professional licenses required by Alaska Statute.

SEC. 6.03 SITE INSPECTION

The state may conduct on-site visits to evaluate the offeror's capacity to perform the contract. An offeror must agree, at risk of being found non-responsive and having its proposal rejected, to provide the state reasonable access to relevant portions of its work sites. Individuals designated by the procurement officer at the state's expense will make site inspection.

SEC. 6.04 CLARIFICATION OF OFFERS

In order to determine if a proposal is reasonably susceptible for award, communications by the procurement officer or the proposal evaluation committee (PEC) are permitted with an offeror to clarify uncertainties or eliminate confusion concerning the contents of a proposal. Clarifications may not result in a material or substantive change to the proposal. The evaluation by the procurement officer or the PEC may be adjusted as a result of a clarification under this section.

SEC. 6.05 DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFERORS

The state may conduct discussions with offerors in accordance with AS 36.30.240 and 2 AAC 12.290. The purpose of these discussions will be to ensure full understanding of the requirements of the RFP and proposal. Discussions will be limited to specific sections of the RFP or proposal identified by the procurement officer. Discussions will only be held with offerors who have submitted a proposal deemed reasonably susceptible for award by the procurement officer. Discussions, if held, will be after initial evaluation of proposals by the procurement officer or the PEC. If modifications are made as a result of these discussions they will be put in writing. Following discussions, the procurement officer may set a time for best and final proposal submissions from those offerors with whom discussions were held. Proposals may be reevaluated after receipt of best and final proposal submissions.

If an offeror does not submit a best and final proposal or a notice of withdrawal, the offeror's immediate previous proposal is considered the offeror's best and final proposal.

Offerors with a disability needing accommodation should contact the procurement officer prior to the date set for discussions so that reasonable accommodation can be made. Any oral modification of a proposal must be reduced to writing by the offeror.

SEC. 6.06 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

The procurement officer, or an evaluation committee made up of at least three state employees or public officials, will evaluate proposals. The evaluation will be based solely on the evaluation factors set out in **SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION**.

After receipt of proposals, if there is a need for any substantial clarification or material change in the RFP, an amendment will be issued. The amendment will incorporate the clarification or change, and a new date and time established for new or amended proposals. Evaluations may be adjusted as a result of receiving new or amended proposals.

SEC. 6.07 CONTRACT NEGOTIATION

After final evaluation, the procurement officer may negotiate with the offeror of the highest-ranked proposal. Negotiations, if held, shall be within the scope of the request for proposals and limited to those items which would not have an effect on the ranking of proposals. If the highest-ranked offeror fails to provide necessary information for negotiations in a timely manner, or fails to negotiate in good faith, the state may terminate negotiations and negotiate with the offeror of the next highest-ranked proposal.

SEC. 6.08 FAILURE TO NEGOTIATE

If the selected offeror

- fails to provide the information required to begin negotiations in a timely manner; or

- fails to negotiate in good faith; or
- indicates they cannot perform the contract within the budgeted funds available for the project; or
- if the offeror and the state, after a good faith effort, simply cannot come to terms,

the state may terminate negotiations with the offeror initially selected and commence negotiations with the next highest ranked offeror.

SEC. 6.09 OFFEROR NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION

After the completion of contract negotiation, the procurement officer will issue a written Notice of Intent to Award and send copies of that notice to all offerors who submitted proposals. The notice will set out the names of all offerors and identify the offeror selected for award.

SEC. 6.10 PROTEST

AS 36.30.560 provides that an interested party may protest the content of the RFP.

An interested party is defined in 2 AAC 12.990(a) (7) as "an actual or prospective bidder or offeror whose economic interest might be affected substantially and directly by the issuance of a contract solicitation, the award of a contract, or the failure to award a contract."

If an interested party wishes to protest the content of a solicitation, the protest must be received, in writing, by the procurement officer at least ten days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

AS 36.30.560 also provides that an interested party may protest the award of a contract or the proposed award of a contract.

If an offeror wishes to protest the award of a contract or the proposed award of a contract, the protest must be received, in writing, by the procurement officer within ten days after the date the Notice of Intent to Award the contract is issued.

A protester must have submitted a proposal in order to have sufficient standing to protest the proposed award of a contract. Protests must include the following information:

- the name, address, and telephone number of the protester;
- the signature of the protester or the protester's representative;
- identification of the contracting agency and the solicitation or contract at issue;
- a detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds of the protest including copies of relevant documents; and the form of relief requested.

Protests filed by telex or telegram are not acceptable because they do not contain a signature. Fax copies containing a signature are acceptable.

The procurement officer will issue a written response to the protest. The response will set out the procurement officer's decision and contain the basis of the decision within the statutory time limit in AS 36.30.580. A copy of the decision will be furnished to the protester by certified mail, fax or another method that provides evidence of receipt.

All offerors will be notified of any protest. The review of protests, decisions of the procurement officer, appeals, and hearings, will be conducted in accordance with the State Procurement Code (AS 36.30), Article 8 "Legal and Contractual Remedies."

SEC. 6.11 APPLICATION OF PREFERENCES

Certain preferences apply to all contracts for professional services, regardless of their dollar value. The Alaska Bidder, Alaska Veteran, and Alaska Offeror preferences are the most common preferences involved in the RFP process. Additional preferences that may apply to this procurement are listed below. Guides that contain excerpts from the relevant statutes and codes, explain when the preferences apply and provide examples of how to calculate the preferences are available at the **Department of Administration, Division of Shared Service's** web site:

<http://doa.alaska.gov/dgs/pdf/pref1.pdf>

- Alaska Products Preference - AS 36.30.332
- Recycled Products Preference - AS 36.30.337
- Local Agriculture and Fisheries Products Preference - AS 36.15.050
- Employment Program Preference - AS 36.30.321(b)
- Alaskans with Disabilities Preference - AS 36.30.321(d)

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development keeps a list of qualified employment programs and individuals who qualify as persons with a disability. As evidence of a business' or an individual's right to the Employment Program or Alaskans with Disabilities preferences, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will issue a certification letter. To take advantage of these preferences, a business or individual must be on the appropriate Division of Vocational Rehabilitation list prior to the time designated for receipt of proposals. Offerors must attach a copy of their certification letter to the proposal. **An offeror's failure to provide this certification letter with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.**

Sec. 6.12 ALASKA BIDDER PREFERENCE

An Alaska Bidder Preference of 5% will be applied to the price in the proposal. The preference will be given to an offeror who:

- 1) holds a current Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals;
- 2) submits a proposal for goods or services under the name appearing on the offeror's current Alaska business license;
- 3) has maintained a place of business within the state staffed by the offeror, or an employee of the offeror, for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of the proposal;
- 4) is incorporated or qualified to do business under the laws of the state, is a sole proprietorship and the proprietor is a resident of the state, is a limited liability company (LLC) organized under AS 10.50 and all members are residents of the state, or is a partnership under former AS 32.05, AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 and all partners are residents of the state; and

5) if a joint venture, is composed entirely of ventures that qualify under (1)-(4) of this subsection.

Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form

In order to receive the Alaska Bidder Preference, the proposal must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this RFP. An offeror does not need to complete the Alaska Veteran Preference questions on the form if not claiming the Alaska Veteran Preference. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

SEC. 6.13 ALASKA VETERAN PREFERENCE

An Alaska Veteran Preference of 5%, not to exceed \$5,000, will be applied to the price in the proposal. The preference will be given to an offeror who qualifies under AS 36.30.990(2) as an Alaska bidder and is a:

- A. sole proprietorship owned by an Alaska veteran;
- B. partnership under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 if a majority of the partners are Alaska veterans;
- C. limited liability company organized under AS 10.50 if a majority of the members are Alaska veterans; or
- D. corporation that is wholly owned by individuals, and a majority of the individuals are Alaska veterans.

In accordance with AS 36.30.321(i), the bidder must also add value by actually performing, controlling, managing, and supervising the services provided, or for supplies, the bidder must have sold supplies of the general nature solicited to other state agencies, other government, or the general public.

Alaska Veteran Preference Certification

In order to receive the Alaska Veteran Preference, the proposal must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this RFP. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

SEC. 6.14 ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE

2 AAC 12.260(e) provides Alaska offerors a 10% overall evaluation point preference. Alaska bidders, as defined in AS 36.30.990(2), are eligible for the preference. An Alaska offeror will receive 10 percent of the total available points added to their overall evaluation score as a preference.

SEC. 6.15 FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS

The distribution of points based on cost will be determined as set out in 2 AAC 12.260(c). The lowest cost proposal will receive the maximum number of points allocated to cost. The point allocations for cost on the other proposals will be determined using the formula:

$$[(Price\ of\ Lowest\ Cost\ Proposal) \times (Maximum\ Points\ for\ Cost)] \div (Cost\ of\ Each\ Higher\ Priced\ Proposal)$$

SEC. 6.16 EXAMPLES: CONVERTING COST TO POINTS & APPLYING PREFERENCES

(a) FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS

STEP 1

List all proposal prices, adjusted where appropriate by the application of applicable preferences claimed by the offeror.

Offeror #1	\$40,000
Offeror #2	\$42,750
Offeror #3	\$47,500

STEP 2

In this example, the RFP allotted 40% of the available 100 points to cost. This means that the lowest cost will receive the maximum number of points.

Offeror #1 receives 40 points.

The reason they receive that amount is because the lowest cost proposal, in this case \$40,000, receives the maximum number of points allocated to cost, 40 points.

Offeror #2 receives 37.4 points.

\$40,000 lowest cost x 40 maximum points for cost = 1,600,000 ÷ \$42,750 cost of Offeror #2's proposal = 37.4

Offeror #3 receives 33.7 points.

\$40,000 lowest cost x 40 maximum points for cost = 1,600,000 ÷ \$47,500 cost of Offeror #3's proposal = 33.7

(b) ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE

STEP 1

Determine the number of points available to qualifying offerors under this preference.

100 Total Points Available in RFP x 10% Alaska Offeror preference = 10 Points for the preference

STEP 2

Determine which offerors qualify as Alaska bidders and thus, are eligible for the Alaska Offeror preference. For the purpose of this example, presume that all of the proposals have been completely evaluated based on the evaluation criteria in the RFP. The scores at this point are:

Offeror #1	83 points	No Preference	0 points
Offeror #2	74 points	Alaska Offeror Preference	10 points
Offeror #3	80 points	Alaska Offeror Preference	10 points

STEP 3

Add the applicable Alaska Offeror preference amounts to the offerors' scores:

Offeror #1	83 points	
Offeror #2	84 points	(74 points + 10 points)
Offeror #3	90 points	(80 points + 10 points)

STEP 4

Offeror #3 is the highest scoring offeror and would get the award, provided their proposal is responsive and responsible.

SECTION 7. GENERAL LEGAL INFORMATION

SEC. 7.01 STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS

The contractor will be required to sign and submit the State's Standard Agreement Form for Professional Services Contracts (Appendix A). This form is found on ASMI's website www.alaskaseafood.org for your review. The contractor must comply with the contract provisions set out in this attachment. No alteration of these provisions will be permitted without prior written approval from the Department of Law. Objections to any of the provisions in Appendix A must be set out in the offeror's proposal in a separate document. Please include the following information with any change that you are proposing:

1. Identify the provision the offeror takes exception with.
2. Identify why the provision is unjust, unreasonable, etc.
3. Identify exactly what suggested changes should be made.

SEC. 7.02 QUALIFIED OFFERORS

Per 2 AAC 12.875, unless provided for otherwise in the RFP, to qualify as an offeror for award of a contract issued under AS 36.30, the offeror must:

- 1) Add value in the contract by actually performing, controlling, managing, or supervising the services to be provided; or
- 2) Be in the business of selling and have actually sold on a regular basis the supplies that are the subject of the RFP.

If the offeror leases services or supplies or acts as a broker or agency in providing the services or supplies in order to meet these requirements, the procurement officer may not accept the offeror as a qualified offeror under AS 36.30.

SEC. 7.03 PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT

Part of all of this RFP and the successful proposal may be incorporated into the contract.

SEC. 7.04 ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The state reserves the right to add terms and conditions during contract negotiations. These terms and conditions will be within the scope of the RFP and will not affect the proposal evaluations.

SEC. 7.05 HUMAN TRAFFICKING

By signature on their proposal, the offeror certifies that the offeror is not established and headquartered or incorporated and headquartered in a country recognized as Tier 3 in the most recent United States Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report.

The most recent United States Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report can be found at the following website: <https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/>

Failure to comply with this requirement will cause the state to reject the proposal as non-responsive, or cancel the contract.

SEC. 7.06 RIGHT OF REJECTION

Offerors must comply with all of the terms of the RFP, the State Procurement Code (AS 36.30), and all applicable local, state, and federal laws, codes, and regulations. The procurement officer may reject any proposal that does not comply with all of the material and substantial terms, conditions, and performance requirements of the RFP.

Offerors may not qualify the proposal nor restrict the rights of the state. If an offeror does so, the procurement officer may determine the proposal to be a non-responsive counter-offer and the proposal may be rejected.

Minor informalities that:

- do not affect responsiveness;
- are merely a matter of form or format;
- do not change the relative standing or otherwise prejudice other offers;
- do not change the meaning or scope of the RFP;
- are trivial, negligible, or immaterial in nature;
- do not reflect a material change in the work; or
- do not constitute a substantial reservation against a requirement or provision;

may be waived by the procurement officer.

The state reserves the right to refrain from making an award if it determines that to be in its best interest.

A proposal from a debarred or suspended offeror shall be rejected.

SEC. 7.07 STATE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION COSTS

The state will not pay any cost associated with the preparation, submittal, presentation, or evaluation of any proposal.

SEC. 7.08 DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENTS

All proposals and other material submitted become the property of the State of Alaska and may be returned only at the state's option. AS 40.25.110 requires public records to be open to reasonable inspection. All proposal information, including detailed price and cost information, will be held in confidence during the evaluation process and prior to the time a Notice of Intent to Award is issued. Thereafter, proposals will become public information.

Trade secrets and other proprietary data contained in proposals may be held confidential if the offeror requests, in writing, that the procurement officer does so, and if the procurement officer agrees, in writing, to do so. The offeror's request must be included with the proposal, must clearly identify the information they wish to be held confidential, and include a statement that sets out the reasons for confidentiality. Unless the procurement officer agrees in writing to hold the requested information confidential, that information will also become public after the Notice of Intent to Award is issued.

SEC. 7.09 ASSIGNMENTS

Per 2 AAC 12.480, the contractor may not transfer or assign any portion of the contract without prior written approval from the procurement officer. Proposals that are conditioned upon the state's approval of an assignment will be rejected as non-responsive.

SEC. 7.10 DISPUTES

A contract resulting from this RFP is governed by the laws of the State of Alaska. If the contractor has a claim arising in connection with the agreement that it cannot resolve with the State by mutual agreement, it shall pursue the claim, if at all, in accordance with the provisions of AS 36.30.620 – AS 36.30.632. To the extent not otherwise governed by the preceding, the claim shall be brought only in the Superior Court of the State of Alaska and not elsewhere.

SEC. 7.11 SEVERABILITY

If any provision of the contract is found to be invalid or declared by a court to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and provisions will not be affected; and, the rights and obligations of the parties will be construed and enforced as if the contract did not contain the particular provision held to be invalid.

SEC. 7.12 SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Proposals must comply with **SEC. 7.06 RIGHT OF REJECTION**. However, if the state fails to identify or detect supplemental terms or conditions that conflict with those contained in this RFP or that diminish the state's rights under any contract resulting from the RFP, the term(s) or condition(s) will be considered null and void. After award of contract:

if conflict arises between a supplemental term or condition included in the proposal and a term or condition of the RFP, the term or condition of the RFP will prevail; and

if the state's rights would be diminished as a result of application of a supplemental term or condition included in the proposal, the supplemental term or condition will be considered null and void.

SEC. 7.13 SOLICITATION ADVERTISING

Public notice has been provided in accordance with 2 AAC 12.220.

SEC. 7.14 FEDERALLY IMPOSED TARIFFS

Changes in price (increase or decrease) resulting directly from a new or updated federal tariff, excise tax, or duty, imposed after contract award may be adjusted during the contract period or before delivery into the United States via contract amendment.

- **Notification of Changes:** The contractor must promptly notify the procurement officer in writing of any new, increased, or decreased Federal excise tax or duty that may result in either an increase or decrease in the contract price and shall take appropriate action as directed by the procurement officer.
- **After-imposed or Increased Taxes and Duties:** Any federal excise tax or duty for goods or services covered by this contract that was exempted or excluded on the contract award date but later imposed

on the contractor during the contract period, as the result of legislative, judicial, or administrative action may result in a price increase provided:

- a) The tax or duty takes effect after the contract award date and isn't otherwise addressed by the contract;
 - b) The contractor warrants, in writing, that no amount of the newly imposed federal excise tax or duty or rate increase was included in the contract price, as a contingency or otherwise.
- **After-relieved or Decreased Taxes and Duties:** The contract price shall be decreased by the amount of any decrease in federal excise tax or duty for goods or services under the contract, except social security or other employment [taxes](#), that the contractor is required to pay or bear, or does not obtain a refund of, through the contractor's fault, negligence, or failure to follow instructions of the procurement officer.
 - **State's Ability to Make Changes:** The state reserves the right to request verification of Federal excise tax or duty amounts on goods or services covered by this contract and increase or decrease the contract price accordingly.
 - **Price Change Threshold:** No adjustment shall be made in the contract price under this clause unless the amount of the adjustment exceeds \$250.