

Greenville Technical College

Request for Written Quotes

Solicitation Number: GTC-24-01-298RFQ Academic Credential Evaluation Services

Date Issued: 1/22/2024

Procurement Officer: Valentina Johnson

Phone: (864) 250-8180

E-Mail Address: valentina.johnson@gvltec.edu Mailing Address: PO Box 5616 Greenville, SC

DESCRIPTION: Academic Credential Evaluation Services

USING DEPARTMENT UNIT: South Carolina Department of Social Services

The Term "Offer" Means Your "Bid" or "Proposal". Solicitation Number must appear on your quote.

SUBMIT YOUR OFFER TO: <u>valentina.johnson@gvltec.edu</u>

SUBMIT BID BY (Opening Date/Time): 01/29/2024 @ 2:00 PM

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: One (1) copy to be e-mailed to valentina.johnson@qvltec.edu

BUSINESS NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION MUST BE INCLUDED ON THE QUOTE.

Written quotes must be received by January 29, 2024 at 2:00 pm EST. Offerors must submit a Supplier Classification Form (included in this document), a current W9 and a copy of their current Certificate of Insurance with their offer.

AWARD & AMENDMENTS

Award is scheduled to be posted on **02/05/2024** The award, this solicitation, any amendments, and any related notices will be posted at the following web address: https://www.gvltec.edu/purchasing/

By submitting a quote, you agree to be bound by the terms of the Solicitation. You agree to hold Your Offer open for a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days after the Opening Date.

NAME OF OFFEROR (full legal name of business submitting the offer)

Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, th single and distinct legal entity. Do not use the name of a branch office or entity, i.e., a separate corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, etc.			
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE (Person must be authorized to submit binding offer to contract on behalf of Offeror.)	DATE SIGNED		
TITLE (business title of person signing above)	STATE VENDOR NO. (Register to Obtain S.C. Vendor No. at www.procurement.sc.gov)		
PRINTED NAME (printed name of person signing above)	STATE OF INCORPORATION (If you are a corporation, identify the state of incorporation.)		
OFFEROR'S TYPE OF ENTITY: (Check one)	(See "Signing Your Offer" provision.)		
□ Sole Proprietorship □ Partnership □ Corporation (tax-evempt) □ Corporation (tax-evempt) □ Government) □ Government □ Go	□ Other		

Scope of Work

Greenville Technical College (GTC) is seeking quotes from qualified vendors to provide academic credential evaluation services for SC Endeavors, South Carolina Department of Social Services, Division of Early Care and Education. SC Endeavors is a state government agency that is responsible for facilitating pathways for professional knowledge and advancement within the early childhood workforce in South Carolina. One aspect of the organization is to acknowledge individuals' academic education on the state's early childhood career ladder. Applicants who receive foreign degrees must have an evaluation completed to ensure equivalency to US degrees.

Requirements:

Bidder Must:

- Be either a National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) member or an Association of International Credential Evaluators (AICE) member.
- Provide a SC Endeavors specific custom web address for users to apply so that they are not prompted to pay
 for the service and allows SC Endeavors staff to access and approve orders.
- Provide a dedicated company contact who emails SC Endeavors staff alerting to an applicant and requiring preapproval before processing, including type of evaluation and associated cost.
- Provide a secure online database where all evaluations are permanently stored and trackable in real time
- Have tools to supplement the international admissions process such as an international education database and international GPA calculator; as well as credential equivalencies and additional visual graphs.
- Process evaluations within 5-7 business days
- Send Evaluation reports to SC Endeavors as well as the individual requesting services.
- Provide customer service associates to help applicants with questions, process questions, etc.

Degree Equivalency: This evaluation must show the U.S. equivalent of all foreign degrees and a course-by-course evaluation showing semester hour college credits and the student's cumulative GPA.

- High School diplomas will require a general evaluation.
- College degrees will require a course-by-course evaluation.

Translation Services: When needed, Bidder shall provide translation services of required educational documentation (transcripts, degrees, etc.) to perform the evaluation.

Payment Terms:

- Services will be billed on a monthly basis with payment due within 30 days of the invoice date and receipt of service.
- Itemized invoicing showing a breakdown of all charges, including the date services were rendered and name of the person the service was provided for.
- Payment via check or Procurement credit card after services are rendered.

AWARD CRITERIA - BIDS (JAN 2006):

Award will be made to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. [06-6020-1]

AWARD TO ONE OFFEROR (JAN 2006)

Award will be made to one Offeror. [06-6040-1]

UNIT PRICE GOVERNS (JAN 2006)

In determining award, unit prices will govern over extended prices unless otherwise stated. [06-6075-1]

TERM OF CONTRACT – OPTION TO RENEW (FEB 2021): At the end of the initial term, and at the end of each renewal term, this contract shall automatically renew for a period of one **(1) year(s)**, 0-month(s), and 0-day(s), unless contractor receives notice that the state elects not to renew the contract at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of renewal. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the final statement of award. [07-7B245-3]

MAXIMUM CONTRACT PERIOD - ESTIMATED (JAN 2006):

Start Date: 2-5-24 End Date: 2-4-28. Dates provided are estimates only. Any resulting contract will begin on the date specified in the notice of award. See clause entitled "Term of Contract - Effective Date/Initial Contract Period." [01-1040-1]

TERMINATION DUE TO UNAVAILABILITY OF FUNDS (JAN 2006)

Payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal periods shall be subject to the availability and appropriation of funds therefore. When funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal period, the contract shall be canceled. In the event of a cancellation pursuant to this paragraph, contractor will be reimbursed the resulting unamortized, reasonably incurred, nonrecurring costs. Contractor will not be reimbursed any costs amortized beyond the initial contract term. [07-7A085-1]

TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE (JAN 2006)

- (1) Termination. The Procurement Officer may terminate this contract in whole or in part, for the convenience of the State. The Procurement Officer shall give written notice of the termination to the contractor specifying the part of the contract terminated and when termination becomes effective.
- (2) Contractor's Obligations. The contractor shall incur no further obligations in connection with the terminated work and on the date set in the notice of termination the contractor will stop work to the extent specified. The contractor shall also terminate outstanding orders and subcontracts as they relate to the terminated work. The contractor shall settle the liabilities and claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts and orders connected with the terminated work. The Procurement Officer may direct the contractor to assign the contractor's right, title, and interest under terminated orders or subcontracts to the State. The contractor must still complete the work not terminated by the notice of termination and may incur obligations as are necessary to do so.
- (3) Right to Supplies. The Procurement Officer may require the contractor to transfer title and deliver to the State in the manner and to the extent directed by the Procurement Officer: (a) any completed supplies; and (b) such partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, plans, drawings, information, and contract rights (hereinafter called "manufacturing material") as the contractor has specifically produced or specially acquired for the performance of the terminated part of this contract. The contractor shall, upon direction of the Procurement Officer, protect and preserve property in the possession of the contractor in which the State has an interest. If the Procurement Officer does not exercise this right, the contractor shall use best efforts to sell such supplies and manufacturing materials in a accordance with the standards of Uniform Commercial Code Section 2-706. Utilization of this Section in no way implies that the State has breached the contract by exercise of the Termination for Convenience Clause.
- (4) Compensation.
 - (a) The contractor shall submit a termination claim specifying the amounts due because of the termination for convenience together with cost or pricing data required by Section 11-35-1830 bearing on such claim. If the contractor fails to file a termination claim within one year from the effective date of termination, the Procurement Officer may pay the contractor, if at all, an amount set in accordance with Subparagraph (c) of this Paragraph.
 - (b) The Procurement Officer and the contractor may agree to a settlement and that the settlement does not exceed the total contract price plus settlement costs reduced by payments previously made by the State, the proceeds of any sales of supplies and manufacturing materials under Paragraph (3) of this clause, and the contract price of the work not terminated;
 - (c) Absent complete agreement under Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, the Procurement Officer shall pay the contractor the following amounts, provided payments agreed to under Subparagraph (b) shall not duplicate payments under this Subparagraph:
 - (i.) contract prices for supplies or services accepted under the contract;
 - (ii.) costs reasonably incurred in performing the terminated portion of the work less amounts paid or to be paid for accepted supplies or services;
 - (iii.) reasonable costs of settling and paying claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts or orders pursuant to Paragraph (2) of this clause. These costs must not include costs paid in accordance with Subparagraph (c)(ii) of this paragraph;
 - (iv.) any other reasonable costs that have resulted from the termination. The total sum to be paid the contractor under this Subparagraph shall not exceed the total contract price plus the reasonable settlement costs of the contractor reduced by the amount of payments otherwise made, the proceeds of any sales of supplies and manufacturing materials under Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, and the contract price of work not

terminated.

- (d) Contractor must demonstrate any costs claimed, agreed to, or established under Subparagraphs (b) and (c) of this Paragraph using its standard record keeping system, provided such system is consistent with any applicable Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.
- (5) Contractor's failure to include an appropriate termination for convenience clause in any subcontract shall not (i) affect the State's right to require the termination of a subcontract, or (ii) increase the obligation of the State beyond what it would have been if the subcontract had contained an appropriate clause.

 [07-7B265-1]

TERM OF CONTRACT -- TERMINATION BY CONTRACTOR (JAN 2006)

Contractor may terminate this contract at the end of the initial term, or any renewal term, by providing the Procurement Officer notice of its election to terminate under this clause at least 90 days prior to the expiration of the then current term. [07-7B250-1]

OPEN TRADE REPRESENTATION (JUN 2015): By submitting an Offer, Offeror represents that Offeror is not currently engaged in the boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction with whom South Carolina can enjoy open trade, as defined in SC Code Section 11-35-5300. [02-2A083-1]

DRUG FREE WORK PLACE CERTIFICATION (JAN 2004): By submitting an Offer, Contractor certifies that, if awarded a contract, Contractor will comply with all applicable provisions of The Drug-free Workplace Act, Title 44, Chapter 107 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended. [02-2A065-1]

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR UNFAIR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE (APR 2023) ("OCI FAQ for Contractors" is available at www.procurement.sc.gov) (a) You certify that, to the best of your knowledge and belief: (1) your offer identifies any services that relate to either this solicitation or the work and that have already been performed by you, a proposed subcontractor, or an affiliated business or consultant of either; and (2) there are no relevant facts or circumstances that may give rise to an actual or potential organizational conflict of interest, as defined in S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 19- 445.2127, or that your offer identifies and explains any unfair competitive advantage you may have in competing for the proposed contract and any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your participation in this competition or your receipt of an award. (b) If you, a proposed subcontractor, or an affiliated business or consultant of either, have an unfair competitive advantage or a significant actual or potential conflict of interest, the State may withhold award. Before withholding award on these grounds, the State will notify you of the concerns and provide a reasonable opportunity for you to respond. The State may consider efforts to avoid or mitigate such concerns, including restrictions on future activities. (c) The certification in paragraph (a) of this provision is a material representation of fact upon which the State will rely when considering your offer for award. [02-2A047- 3]

ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST (APR 2023) (a) The Contractor agrees to immediately advise the Procurement Officer if an actual or potential organizational conflict of interest is discovered after award, and to make a full written disclosure promptly thereafter to the Procurement Officer. This disclosure shall include a description of actions which the Contractor has taken or proposes to take, after consultation with the Procurement Officer, to avoid, mitigate, or neutralize the actual or potential conflict. (b) The State may terminate this contract for convenience, in whole or in part, if it deems such termination necessary to avoid an organizational conflict of interest. Contractor's failure to include an appropriate termination for convenience clause in any subcontract shall not increase the obligation of the State beyond what it would have been if the subcontract had contained such a clause. (c) The disclosure required by paragraph (a) of this provision is a material obligation of the contract. If the Contractor knew or should have known of an organizational conflict of interest prior to award, or discovers an actual or potential conflict after Organizational Conflicts of Interest PGI, page 32 award, and does not disclose, or misrepresents, relevant information to the Procurement Officer, the State may terminate the contract for default. [07-7A054-1]

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS (JAN 2004)

(a)(1) By submitting an Offer, Offeror certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that-

- (i) Offeror and/or any of its Principals-
 - (A) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any state or federal agency;

- (B) Have not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for: commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, state, or local) contract or subcontract; violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or receiving stolen property; and
- (C) Are not presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity with, commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this provision.
- (ii) Offeror has not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any public (Federal, state, or local) entity.
- (2) "Principals," for the purposes of this certification, means officers; directors; owners; partners; and, persons having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g., general manager; plant manager; head of a subsidiary, division, or business segment, and similar positions).
- (b) Offeror shall provide immediate written notice to the Procurement Officer if, at any time prior to contract award, Offeror learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- (c) If Offeror is unable to certify the representations stated in paragraphs (a)(1), Offer must submit a written explanation regarding its inability to make the certification. The certification will be considered in connection with a review of the Offeror's responsibility. Failure of the Offeror to furnish additional information as requested by the Procurement Officer may render the Offeror non-responsible.
- (d) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the certification required by paragraph (a) of this provision. The knowledge and information of an Offeror is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- (e) The certification in paragraph (a) of this provision is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making award. If it is later determined that the Offeror knowingly or in bad faith rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the State, the Procurement Officer may terminate the contract resulting from this solicitation for default.

 [02-2A035-1]

DUTY TO INQUIRE (modified)

Offeror, by submitting an Offer, represents that it has read and understands the Solicitation and that its Offer is made in compliance with the Solicitation. Offerors are expected to examine the Solicitation thoroughly and should request an explanation of any ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror's risk. All ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation shall be interpreted to require the better quality or greater quantity of work and/or materials, unless otherwise directed by amendment. Offeror assumes responsibility for any patent ambiguity in the Solicitation that Offeror does not bring to the State's attention.

ETHICS CERTIFICATE (MAY 2008)

By submitting an offer, the offeror certifies that the offeror has and will comply with, and has not, and will not, induce a person to violate Title 8, Chapter 13 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended (ethics act). The following statutes require special attention: Section 8-13-700, regarding use of official position for financial gain; Section 8-13-705, regarding gifts to influence action of public official; Section 8-13-720, regarding offering money for advice or assistance of public official; Sections 8-13-755 and 8-13-760, regarding restrictions on employment by former public official; Section 8-13-775, prohibiting public official with economic interests from acting on contracts; Section 8-13-790, regarding recovery of kickbacks; Section 8-13-1150, regarding statements to be filed by consultants; and Section 8-13-1342, regarding restrictions on contributions by contractor to candidate who participated in awarding of contract. The state may rescind any contract and recover all amounts expended as a result of any action taken in violation of this provision. If contractor participates, directly or indirectly, in the evaluation or award of public contracts, including without limitation, change orders or task orders regarding a public contract, contractor shall, if required by law to file such a statement, provide the statement required by Section 8-13-1150 to the procurement officer at the same time the law requires the statement to be filed. [02-2A075-2]

PROTESTS (MAY 2019)

If you are aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of the contract, you may be entitled to protest, but only as provided in Section 11-35-4210. To protest a solicitation, you must submit a protest within fifteen days of the date the applicable solicitation document is issued. To protest an award, you must (i) submit notice of your intent to protest within seven business days of the date the award notice is posted, and (ii) submit your actual protest within fifteen days of the date the award notice is posted. Days are calculated as provided in Section 11-35-310(13). Both protests and notices of intent to protest must be in writing and must be received by the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer within the time provided. See clause entitled "Protest-CPO". The grounds of the protest and the relief requested must be set forth with enough particularity to give notice of the issues to be decided. [02-2A085-2]

PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS AND DONATIONS (FEB 2015)

Violation of these restrictions may result in disqualification of your offer, suspension or debarment, and may constitute a violation of law.

- (a) During the period between publication of the solicitation and final award, you must not communicate, directly or indirectly, with the Using Governmental Unit or its employees, agents or officials regarding any aspect of this procurement activity, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Procurement Officer. All communications must be solely with the Procurement Officer. [R. 19-445.2010]
- (b) You are advised to familiarize yourself with Regulation 19-445.2165, which restricts donations to a governmental entity with whom you have or seek to have a contract. You represent that your offer discloses any gifts made, directly or through an intermediary, by you or your named subcontractors to or for the benefit of the Using Governmental Unit during the period beginning eighteen months prior to the Opening Date. [R. 19-445.2165] [02-2A087-1]

REJECTION/CANCELLATION (JAN 2004)

The State may cancel this solicitation in whole or in part. The State may reject any or all proposals in whole or in part. [SC Code Section 11-35-1710 & R.19-445.2065] [02-2A100-1]

PROTEST - CPO - MMO ADDRESS (Modified)

Any protest must be addressed to the Chief Procurement Officer, Materials Management Office, and submitted in writing

- (a) by email to protest-mmo@mmo.state.sc.us,
- (b) by post or delivery to 1201 Main Street, Suite 600, Columbia, SC 29201.

[02-2B122-1]

QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFEROR (MAR 2015)

- (1) To be eligible for award, you must have the capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance. We may also consider a documented commitment from a satisfactory source that will provide you with a capability. We may consider information from any source at any time prior to award. We may elect to consider (i) key personnel, any predecessor business, and any key personnel of any predecessor business, including any facts arising prior to the date a business was established, and/or (ii) any subcontractor you identify.
- (2) You must promptly furnish satisfactory evidence of responsibility upon request. Unreasonable failure to supply requested information is grounds for rejection.
- (3) Corporate subsidiaries are cautioned that the financial capability of an affiliated or parent company will not be considered in determining financial capability; however, we may elect to consider any security, e.g., letter of credit, performance bond, parent-company corporate guaranty, that you offer to provide Instructions and forms to help assure acceptability are posted on procurement.sc.gov, link to "Standard Clauses & Provisions." [05-5005-2]

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY (JAN 2006)

Contractor is referred to and shall comply with all applicable provisions, if any, of Title 41, Part 60 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including but not limited to Sections 60-1.4, 60-4.2, 60-4.3, 60-250.5(a), and 60-741.5(a), which are hereby incorporated by reference. [07-7A030-1]

NO INDEMNITY OR DEFENSE (FEB 2015)

Any term or condition is void to the extent it requires the State to indemnify, defend, or pay attorney's fees to anyone for any reason. [07-7A045-2]

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION (NOV. 2008)

(An overview is available at www.procurement.sc.gov) By signing your offer, you certify that you will comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and agree to provide to the State upon request any documentation required to establish either: (a) that Title 8, Chapter 14 is inapplicable to you and your subcontractors or sub-subcontractors are in compliance with Title 8, Chapter 14. Pursuant to Section 8-14-60, "A person who knowingly makes or files any false, fictitious, or fraudulent document, statement, or report pursuant to this chapter is guilty of a felony, and, upon conviction, must be fined within the discretion of the court or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both." You agree to include in any contracts with your subcontractors language requiring your subcontractors to (a) comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14, and (b) include in their contracts with the sub-subcontractors language requiring the sub-subcontractors to comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14. [07-78097-1]

LICENSES AND PERMITS (JAN 2006)

During the term of the contract, the Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining, and maintaining in good standing, all licenses (including professional licenses, if any), permits, inspections and related fees for each or any such licenses, permits and /or inspections required by the State, county, city or other government entity or unit to accomplish the work specified in this solicitation and the contract. [07-7B115-1]

PRICE SCHEDULE					
Type of Service	Unit Cost	Estimated Annual Quantity	Extended Cost		
High School Diploma Evaluation Report	\$	30	\$		
College Degree – Course by Course Evaluation	\$	50	\$		
Translation Services – Single Page (up to 250 words)	\$	100	\$		
	\$				

WEB ADDRESS/DATABASE FEES – IF ANY				
Service	Unit Cost	Frequency	Cost	
Web Address Development Fee	\$	Once	\$	
Web Address/Database	Ś	Annual	Ś	
Maintenance Fee	7	7 1111 13 13	Ψ	

OTHER FEES – IF ANY			
Description	Annual Cost		
	\$		
	\$		
	\$		

TOTAL BID COST \$

Note: Quantities noted are estimates and are intended for evaluation purposes only.

The actual quantities purchased under this bid may be more or may be less



SUPPLIER CLASSIFICATION FORM

Company Name:		Phone: ()	
Address:				
City:	State:	Zip Code:		
Contact Person:	Title:	Phone: ()	
Company Email Address:				
Principal Product/Service:		I am ☐ am not ☐ a	current supplier.	
Complete below to identify and certify your comp (Check on	pany qualifies as l ly those that apply):	arge, Small, Women or	Minority owned:	
Large Business Concern – A Major Co	orporation with mo	re than 500 employees.		
■ Small Business Concern — A business concern, including its affiliates, independently owned and operated which is not dominant in the field of operation and which meets Small Business Administration standards as to the number of its employees and/or dollar volume of its business. (Generally under 500 employees)				
Minority Business Concern – A business at least 51% of which is owned (or, in the case of publicly owned businesses, at least 51% of the stock of which is owned) by one or more minority individuals or other individuals found to the economically and social disadvantaged as established by the South Carolina's Division of Small and Minority Business Contracting and Certification (SMBCC) and whose management and daily operation are controlled by such individuals. Check all appropriate boxes below:				
African American		☐ Female		
Hispanic American				
☐ Asian-Pacific America				
Native American (American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut)				
■ Women Owned Business Concern – A business that is at least 51% owned by a non-minority woman who controls the daily management.				
Veteran Owned – A business at least 51% of which is owned (or, in the case of publicly owned businesses, at least 51% of the stock of which is owned) by one or more Veterans.				
CERTIFICATION STATUS:				
☐ My company is certified by an author	orized agency (atta	ach copy).		
Signature of Preparer	Printed Name of Prepar	er	Date	