

COUNTY OF COLE – MISSOURI



REQUEST FOR BID 2020-33: INDIRECT COST STUDY

SUBMISSIONS SHALL BE ACCEPTED THROUGH
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020 AT 3:00 P.M. CENTRAL

AND RECEIVED AT:

**COLE COUNTY COMMISSION
311 EAST HIGH STREET, ROOM 200
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101**

Company Name

Direct Contact Name (Typed/Printed)

Mailing Address

Title

City/State/Zip

Email

Office Telephone Number

Direct Line or Extension

I hereby certify that I am submitting the following information on behalf of the above-listed company and understand that by virtue of executing and returning with this response this REQUIRED RESPONSE FORM, I further certify full, complete and unconditional acceptance of the terms and conditions set forth herein, all attachments and the contents of any addendum or amendment released hereto. (Submission must be signed by an officer or employee having authority to legally bind the respondent.)

Authorized Signature

Authorized Name (Typed/Printed)

Title

Date

REQUEST FOR BID

Sealed offers will be accepted by the Cole County Commission for consideration in provision of the following:

2020-33 INDIRECT COST STUDY

Submissions will be received at the office of the Cole County Commission, 311 East High Street, Room 200, Jefferson City, Missouri until 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 17, at which time they will be publicly opened and taken under advisement. Bidders should be aware that submissions are public record under state law. Specifications are available at www.colecounty.org or by contacting Jessica Bryant at (573) 634-9168 or jbryant@colecounty.org.

NEWS TRIBUNE: November 22, 29 & Dec 6
Legal Notices
Cole County Commission
311 East High Street
Jefferson City MO 65101

COLE COUNTY COMMISSION
PURCHASING
311 EAST HIGH STREET, ROOM 200
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65101

REQUEST FOR BID

1.0 OVERVIEW

- 1.1* **NOTIFICATION.** This document constitutes a request for competitive, sealed offers per the Terms and Conditions of bidding and any special conditions set forth herein for the provision of an indirect cost study for Cole County.

Respondents are responsible for being thoroughly familiar with all specifications and requirements of this solicitation. Failure to examine any relevant document or provision thereof will not relieve the successful respondent from any obligation under this bid. Qualified organizations are invited to prepare an offer in response to this document and in doing so, concur with all terms, conditions, specifications and addenda to this bid unless specifically noted otherwise in a separate section within their response titled "EXCEPTIONS".

- 1.2* **QUESTIONS, REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION OR INTERPRETATION.** Respondents are advised that all questions concerning the meaning or intent of these specifications must be submitted **IN WRITING** and received at least five (5) business days prior to the date scheduled for bid opening. All inquiries shall be directed to:

Jessica Bryant, Purchasing Agent
jbryant@colecounty.org

As of the issuance date of this solicitation and continuing until the final date for acceptance of submissions, all respondents are specifically directed not to discuss, hold meetings, conferences, or technical discussions with any County employee for the purpose of responding to this solicitation except as otherwise permitted by this bid document. Respondents should not otherwise ask any County officials or employees questions about the bid or related issues, either orally or by written communication. Respondents directly contacting other County employees risk elimination from further consideration.

- 1.3* **ISSUANCE OF ADDENDA.** Every attempt shall be made to ensure that all written questions receive an adequate and prompt response. However, in order to maintain a fair and equitable bid process, all respondents will be advised of any questions submitted, the County's response, and any other pertinent information related to this solicitation via the issuance of addenda, which will be posted at www.colecounty.org. All issued addenda are incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein. An addendum may contain information that could affect bid responses. Respondents are cautioned that the only official position of Cole County is that which is issued by Cole County in these specifications or by addendum thereto; no other means of communication, whether written or oral, shall be construed as a formal or official response or statement. It shall be the responsibility of the respondent to verify whether or not any addenda have been issued prior to submitting a bid response to Cole County.

The County assumes no liability if a respondent fails to incorporate addenda into their bid. Failure to have requested an addendum covering any questions affecting the interpretation of these specifications shall not relieve the awarded party from delivering the completed project, product and/or service in accordance with the intent of these specifications.

1.4 **SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS.** A fully executed response, including the specification pages comprising this invitation and any related illustrative documentation and/or issued addenda shall:

- Be submitted in a sealed envelope identified by bid number, bid title, and bid opening date/time;
- Be complete and signed by an official authorized to obligate company submitting the bid;
- Include (1) complete original bid and two (2) exact duplicates.

It is the responsibility of each respondent to deliver its submission to the office of the Cole County Commission, 311 East High Street, Room 200, Jefferson City, Missouri on or before the date and exact time indicated for public bid opening. Fax and email submissions will not be accepted or considered. Responses will be time and date stamped; those received late will be determined non-responsive without exception. Late bids may be returned unopened to the respondent upon request within ten (10) business days after the bid opening. All returns will be made at the respondent's expense.

1.5 **BID OPENING.** Submissions will be publicly opened in the Cole County Commission Chambers on Thursday, December 17 at 3:00 p.m. Central. Respondents and the public are invited but not required to attend the formal bid opening. All documents will be made available for public inspection, but no decision relating to the award of the contract or agreement will be made at the bid opening.

1.6 **ADVICE OF AWARD.** Upon bid award by the Cole County Commission, award notification letters, including a bid tabulation summarizing responses received, will be sent via email to all parties submitting a response.

2.0 TERMS AND CONDITIONS

2.1 **INCURRING COSTS.** Cole County shall not pay for any information requested herein nor be obligated or liable for any cost incurred by any respondent in submitting a response.

2.2 **RESERVATIONS.** The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all submissions for any reason, in part or in whole, received in response to this solicitation; to waive or not waive informalities or irregularities in any response or the bidding procedures; to request supplementary information from respondents as determined necessary to effectively evaluate responses; to cancel this solicitation, advertise for new and/or purchase off of cooperative purchasing contracts; and to accept, request clarification or further negotiate the terms, conditions and/or methodology of any response if, in Cole County's sole judgment, the best interests of Cole County will be so served.

2.3 **MODIFICATION/WITHDRAWAL.** Receipt of written notice or an in-person request from a properly identified individual prior to the official date and time set for bid opening must occur in order to modify or withdraw a submission which has been delivered to the office of the Cole County Commission.

2.4 **VALIDITY.** Respondents agree that submissions will remain valid for consideration by Cole County for a minimum period of ninety (90) calendar days after the date specified for bid opening.

2.5 **RESPONSE MATERIAL OWNERSHIP.** All material submitted in response to this solicitation becomes the property of Cole County and may be disclosed upon proper Sunshine Law request per 610.021(12) RSMo.

2.6 **EXCEPTIONS.** The wording of this solicitation may not be changed or altered in any manner by a respondent. Changes, additions or limiting provisions made on the invitation will render the bid informal and may cause its rejection. Taking exception to any clause in part or in whole does not necessarily disqualify a respondent; any such exception shall be clearly identified and described in full

detail in the respondent's submission on a separate page clearly titled "EXCEPTIONS." Any exception will be evaluated and accepted or rejected by Cole County, whose decision shall be final and conclusive. In the absence of such declaration(s), the response shall be accepted as in strict compliance with all terms, conditions, and specifications and the awarded party shall be held responsible for providing the product or service accordingly.

- 2.7 **RESTRICTIVE LANGUAGE.** It shall be the responsibility of potential respondents to ask questions, request changes or clarification, or otherwise advise Cole County if any language, specification or requirement of this solicitation appear to be ambiguous, contradictory, and/or arbitrary, or appear to inadvertently restrict or limit responses to a single source. Such notification must be directed to the Purchasing Agent and received at least five (5) business days prior to the date set for bid opening.
- 2.8 **INTERPRETATION.** If a respondent has any questions which arise concerning the true meaning or intent of these bid documents, plans or any part thereof which affect the cost, quality, quantity, or character of the project or service, respondent shall request in writing that an interpretation be made and an addendum be issued which shall then be posted at www.colecounty.org. Failure to have requested an addendum covering any questions affecting the interpretations of the bid documents shall not relieve the successful respondent from delivering the product, service or completed project in accordance with the intent of the bid documents. Should any differences arise as to the meaning or intent of these specifications, Cole County's interpretation shall be final and conclusive.
- 2.9 **EQUIVALENT MATERIAL/EQUIPMENT.** Any listed manufacturer/model number(s) or a definite reference to a particular item or piece of equipment is intended to establish a minimally acceptable design, type, quality, functional capacity, and/or desired performance level. It is to be understood that any equivalent alternate which will perform adequately the duties imposed by the general design may be proposed and bid so long as sufficient details necessary to establish equivalency are included in the submission. Acceptance is subject to approval of the County which may request further information, sample(s) and/or a demonstration prior to bid award. Cole County shall be the sole judge of equivalency.
- 2.10 **LIKE OR SIMILAR PRODUCT.** Cole County reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to obtain like or similar product to that which has been specified herein when use of such product is deemed in the best interest of the County.
- 2.11 **QUALIFICATIONS OF RESPONDENTS.** Cole County may make such investigations as deemed necessary to determine the ability of any respondent to provide the product and/or service described herein. Respondent shall furnish to the County all such information and data for this purpose that the County may request. The County reserves the right to reject any submission if the evidence submitted by the respondent or investigation of such respondent fails to satisfy the County that such respondent is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and/or to complete the work contemplated herein.
- 2.12 **EVALUATION & BASIS OF AWARD.** The County's sole purpose in the evaluation process is to determine from among the responses received which one is best suited to meet the County's needs at the lowest possible cost. Any final analysis or weighted point score does not imply that one bidder is superior to another, but simply that in our judgment the contractor selected appears to offer the best overall solution for our current and anticipated needs at the lowest possible cost. Award shall be made to the lowest responsible bidder(s) whose offer best responds to the quality, capacity, and service requirements of Cole County, as determined by the County. Award may be made on an item-by-item basis to the lowest and best bids or award may be made to the lowest and best bid overall, whichever the County determines is in its best interest.

- 2.13 **PRICES.** Prices must be stated in units of quantity specified and must be firm. Price submitted for each item shall include all cost, of whatever nature, that is involved in achieving the good or service per the bid documents. Bids qualified by escalator clauses may not be considered.
- 2.14 **TAX EXEMPTION.** Cole County is funded by public monies and as such has been approved by the State of Missouri for sales/use tax-exempt status. The Missouri tax identification number and certificate is available to the awarded party upon request.
- 2.15 **DELIVERY.** If requested, the delivery date or when work will start shall be stated in definite terms as they may be taken into consideration when making award. Cole County reserves the right to cancel all or any part of an order or project if delivery is not made or work not started as guaranteed.
- 2.16 **DEFAULT.** In case of default by the bidder or contractor, Cole County may procure the articles or services from other source(s) and hold the successful respondent responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby.
- 2.17 **ACCEPTANCE.** No equipment, supplies, materials and/or services received by Cole County pursuant to this solicitation shall be deemed accepted until the County has had reasonable opportunity to inspect. Cole County reserves the right to reject anything that does not comply with reasonable expectations based on the specifications outlined herein.
- 2.18 **SHIPMENTS.** All shipments and deliveries shall be F.O.B. destination, freight prepaid to Jefferson City, Missouri.
- 2.19 **APPLICABLE LAW.** In submitting a bid, the respondent warrants that it has complied with all applicable laws, rules and ordinances of the United States, Missouri or any other governmental authority or agency in providing the product(s) or service(s) specified herein. Any contract resulting from this solicitation is to be interpreted by the laws of Missouri. The parties agree that the proper forum for litigation arising out of the contract resulting from this solicitation is Cole County, Missouri.
- 2.20 **AS NEEDED, IF NEEDED.** The contractor shall provide product or service on an “as needed, if needed” basis for Cole County in accordance with the provisions and requirements stated herein. The resulting award or contract does not guarantee that all purchases of this nature will go to the successful respondent(s), but rather establishes primary vendor(s). Any usage quantities included in this request are based on estimated need; Cole County reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities to meet actual need and maintain the quoted pricing.
- 2.21 **ASSIGNMENT.** The awarded party shall not assign the contract, subcontract, or sublet it as a whole without the prior written consent of Cole County. Assignment, subcontracting, or subletting without such consent will in no way relieve the awarded party of any of its obligations under this Contract unless specified, in writing, by Cole County.
- 2.22 **PREFERENCE.** In making bid awards, Cole County shall give preference to all firms, corporations, or individuals that maintain office or places of business within the County of COLE when the quality of the commodity or performance promised is equal or better and the price quoted is the same or less.
- 2.23 **APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS.** Financial obligations of Cole County payable after the first fiscal year the system is in place are contingent upon funds for that purpose being appropriated, budgeted, and otherwise made available. In the event funds are not appropriated, any resulting Contract will become null and void, without penalty to Cole County.

2.24 **COOPERATIVE PROCUREMENT.** Various State Agencies, City and County Offices, and/or any other government entity may or may not request an unknown quantity of goods or services under this bid during the effective period or resulting agreement period at the same prices, terms and conditions.

If the awarded party agrees to cooperative procurement, it is agreed and understood that each participating political subdivision will make its own separate contract with the awarded party; that each participating political subdivision shall only be liable to the awarded party for service, materials or supplies for which it has directly contracted without any liability for purchases contracted for by any other participating political subdivision; and each awarded party shall be required to bill each participating political subdivision separately and directly for the service, materials or supplies it has purchased.

In the event of any dispute between a political subdivision and a awarded party arising after a contract of purchase has been executed, such dispute shall be handled by and between the particular political subdivision affected and the awarded party.

2.25 **DOMESTIC PRODUCT PROCUREMENT ACT.** The respondent represents that the goods provided comply with Sections 34.350 to 34.359, RSMo, known as the Domestic Product Procurement Act. The act encourages the purchase of products manufactured or produced in the United States.

2.26 **CONTRACT TERMINATION.**

2.26.1 **TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT.** If, through any cause, the awarded party shall fail to fulfill, in a timely and proper manner, its obligations under the contract resulting from this solicitation, or if the awarded party shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of said contract, Cole County shall thereupon have the right to terminate this contract for cause by giving written notice to the awarded party of its intent to terminate and at least ten (10) calendar days to cure the default or show cause why termination is otherwise not appropriate. In the event of termination, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, survey, drawings, maps, models, photographs, and reports or other material prepared by the awarded party under this contract shall, at the option of Cole County, become its property, and the awarded party shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any services and supplies delivered and accepted. The awarded party shall be obligated to return any payment advanced under the provisions of this contract.

Notwithstanding, the awarded party shall not be relieved of liability to Cole County any damages sustained by the County by virtue of any breach of the contract by the awarded party, and the County may withhold any payment to the awarded party for the purpose of mitigating its damages until such time as the exact amount of damages due the County from the awarded party is determined.

If after such termination it is determined, for any reason, that the awarded party was not in default, or that the awarded party's action/inaction was excusable, such termination shall be treated as a termination for convenience.

2.26.2 **TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE.** The performance of work under the contract resulting from this solicitation may be terminated by Cole County in whole or in part at such time that the Cole County Commission determines that such termination is in the best interest of Cole County. Any such termination will be affected by delivery to the awarded party of a letter of termination specifying the extent to which performance of work under the contract is terminated and the date upon which such termination is effective.

After receipt of a termination letter the awarded party will:

- Stop work on the contract on the date and to the extent specified in the letter.
- Place no further orders for materials, services or facilities except as may be necessary to complete any portions of the work under contract not terminated.
- Complete on schedule such part of the work as will not be terminated.

3.0 SCOPE OF WORK

3.1 **OVERVIEW.** The County requires a central services indirect cost allocation plan (CAP) and a Child Support Enforcement Program indirect cost rate proposal based on FY 2020 actual cost. The cost allocation plan shall distribute central services general fund costs to other County Departments and funds. Importantly, this CAP is to document the full overhead cost associated with administration of the County's Child Support Enforcement. The CAP shall provide cost data necessary to complete the next step, which is an indirect cost rate proposal for the Prosecuting Attorney and Circuit Clerk's Title IVD (Child Support Enforcement) programs. Using the CAP, the contractor will be responsible for preparing the indirect rates as necessary and requested. The final cost allocation plan and indirect rate proposal is to be submitted to the County in a format ready for submission to the State for review of the rates. The successful respondent shall support the County during this review process by answering questions and making revisions as necessary.

3.2 **WORK PLAN.** The successful respondent will be expected to perform and carry out in a good and professional manner the following services:

3.2.1 **CENTRAL SERVICES ALLOCATION PLAN (CAP).** The first phase shall involve development of central services cost allocation plan that identifies the general fund indirect costs incurred by the County to support and administer direct County departments. The Plan is to contain a determination of the allowable costs of providing each support service, such as county administration and purchasing, mail delivery, etc. The Plan will be based on the actual costs for the year ended December 31, 2020. The steps involved in completion of the Plan include, but are not limited to, the tasks as described below:

- **Task 1:** Determine available financial information. This task involves identifying the sources of financial information to be used. The County will provide the annual year-end expenditure reports for the affected central services departments, a County organizational chart and chart of accounts as well as other requested items and as necessary if available. Centrally budgeted indirect costs for County and employee insurance and other centrally paid general costs shall be reviewed for possible inclusion in the central services cost allocation plan. Building use charges and appropriate equipment use charges are to be calculated in accordance with federal (OMB Circular A-87) requirements and included in the pool of costs to be allocated.
- **Task 2:** Classify all Department units and other costs. After reviewing the County-provided organizational charts, all cost centers/organizational units are to be reviewed to insure their proper classification as direct or indirect. This task is required to insure that only allowable activities are allocated and that all units or programs are properly recognized in the allocation procedures.
- **Task 3:** Document administrative departments, functions and costs. The task shall focus on identifying those units with responsibility for providing services to other units within the Department, including but not limited to performing such services as accounting, auditing, personnel and purchasing, information systems support, etc. The Contractor is to determine

the best means for identifying the cost of central services activities and costs. Building use charges shall be allocated based on actual square footage occupied.

- **Task 4:** Prepare cost allocation schedules. For all administrative indirect units, a schedule shall be prepared showing the expenditures of the central indirect departments during the 2020 fiscal year. Any disallowed expenditures under OMB Circular A-87 guidelines are to be eliminated and equipment use charges to be added. A summary schedule shall be prepared that identifies a matrix of indirect costs allocated to all direct County departments.
- **Task 5:** Review of the completed cost allocation plan. As requested and necessary, the Contractor shall review the cost allocation plan with the representatives of the County.

3.2.2 **INDIRECT COST RATE PROPOSAL FOR THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS AND OTHER RATES IF REQUESTED.** The second phase shall involve preparation of the Indirect Cost Rate Proposal and submission of material for State review. The Contractor shall finalize cost indirect rate proposal for presentation to the County and to the State of Missouri Department of Social Services (CSE). The proposal is to be finalized in the format required for presentation to the State.

The required documents for the Family Support Program indirect rates include:

- Required A-87 Certification
- Description of services provided and method of allocation
- Summary of directly claimed CSE costs in the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney and the Circuit Clerk CSE component.
- Summary of indirect costs for each of the two offices (from the cost allocation plan)
- Summary of the direct wage “base” in the Prosecuting Attorney’s office used in the calculation of the indirect rate
- Proposed indirect rate for the Prosecuting Attorney’s CSE Program. The rate will be proposed as a final rate for FY 2020 and a provisional rate for periods after FY 2021
- Calculation of the final allocated indirect amount specifically for the Circuit Clerk CSE program. Unlike the PA program, the Circuit Court reimbursement methodology does not actually use an indirect rate

3.3 **REVIEW AND NEGOTIATION OF PLAN AND PROPOSAL.** The Contractor must be prepared to negotiate the indirect cost rate proposal with the State Office of Child Support Enforcement and assist the County in all aspects of the negotiation process including responding to questions and requests for additional information from the State. The County is to be kept informed during this process and the Contractor shall seek to secure the fairest possible agreement. Assistance in monitoring claims to the State for recover of funds due the County shall be included in the scope of work.

3.4 **TIMELINE.** The State-imposed deadline for submission of an indirect rate proposal for the Child Support Enforcement program is June 30, 2021. The Contractor shall meet the required timeframe and devote the necessary staff to this end.

4.0 SUBMISSION FORMAT AND CONTENT

Respondents should prepare their responses in a concise but thorough manner and must submit their bid packet in a format that corresponds with the following sections:

Section 1: **Fully Executed Cover Page** (page 1 of this document)

- Section 2: **Respondent Qualifications.** A sufficient description of the experience and knowledge base of the respondent to include, but not necessarily be limited to, the respondent's background in providing services of similar size and scope to those being requested including years in service, available staff and a list of at least five (5) clients and projects of similar size and scope whom the County may contact to verify quality of work (and respective contact information)
- Section 3: **Understanding of the Nature and Scope of the Project.** Cole County reserves the right to interview or require an oral presentation from any respondent for clarification of information set forth in any response. The interview or oral presentation, if utilized, is intended to provide an opportunity for the respondent(s) to clarify or elaborate on its understanding of the project, qualifications or approach.
- Section 4: **Proposed Schedule** (with the assumption that the County will fulfill its commitments under this schedule) including anticipated date of completion for the Cost Plan and Child Support Enforcement program rates. The final Cost Plan and proposed rates must be made available to the County for submission to the State of Missouri by June 30, 2021.
- Section 5: **Expectations/Responsibilities of County Staff** and willingness of respondent to assist in gathering required data.
- Section 6: **Cost and Fees.** Fixed, all-inclusive fee for the services described herein to include, but not be limited to, all professional staff effort, travel cost, clerical effort, and all other miscellaneous project expenses.
- Section 7: **Anti-Collusion Statement** (Attachment 1)

ANTI-COLLUSION STATEMENT

STATE OF _____)

COUNTY OF _____)

_____ being first

duly sworn, deposes and says that he is _____
(title of person signing)

of _____

(Name of Bidder)

that all statements made and facts set out in the proposal for the attached bid are true and correct; and that the bidder (The person, firm, association, or corporation making said bid) has not, either directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with such bid of any contract which result from its acceptance. Affiant further certifies that bidder is not financially interested in, or financially affiliated with, any other bidder for the attached bid.

(BY) _____

(BY) _____

Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20 ____

Notary Public

My Commission expires: _____
