Combined Recommended Language for Invitations to Bid (ITB)
Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned (Veteran Initiative) and
Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) Program

This procurement has been designated as suitable for Louisiana certified small entrepreneurship participation.

The State of Louisiana Veteran and Hudson Initiatives small entrepreneurship programs are designed
to provide additional opportunities for Louisiana-based small entrepreneurship (sometimes referred to
as LaVet’s and SE’s respectively) to participate in contracting and procurement with the state. A
certified Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned small entrepreneurship
(LaVet) and a Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) are businesses that
have been certified by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development. All eligible vendors are
encouraged to become certified. Qualification requirements and online certification are available at
https://smallbiz.louisianaforward.com/index_2.asp.

Bidders that are not eligible for certification are encouraged to use Veteran-Owned and Service-
Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship where sub-
contracting opportunities exist. To be responsive to this solicitation, the bidder shall be either a
Veteran-Owned or Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned or Hudson Initiative small
trepreneurship or have put forth a good-faith effort to use certified Veteran-Owned or Service-
Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship as sub-
contractors(s). By signing and submitting this bid, the bidder certifies compliance with this
requirement.

For a good faith effort, written notification is the preferred method to inform Louisiana certified
Veteran Initiative and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship of potential subcontracting
opportunities. A current list of certified Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-
Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship may be obtained from the Louisiana Economic
Development Certification System at https://smallbiz.louisianaforward.com/index_2.asp. Additionally,
a current list of Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship, which have been certified by the Louisiana
Department of Economic Development and have opted to enroll in the State of Louisiana Procurement
and Contract (LaPAC) Network, may be accessed from
http://wwwprd1.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/lapac/Vendor/srchven.cfm. You may then determine the search
criteria (i.e. alphabetized list of all certified vendors, by commodities, etc.), and select “SmallE”.

Copies of notification to at least three (or more) certified Veteran Initiative and Hudson Initiative small
entrepreneurships will satisfy the notification requirements. Notification must be provided to the
certified entrepreneurship by the bidder in writing no less than five working days prior to the date of
bid opening. Notification must include the scope of work, location to review plans and specifications
(if applicable), information about required qualifications and specifications, any bonding and insurance
information and/or requirements (if applicable), and the name of a person to contact. If a certified
Veteran-Owned or Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned or Hudson Initiative small
entrepreneurship was not selected, the bidder must certify and maintain written justification of the
selection process. The state reserves the right to request confirmation of this information at any time.
In the event questions arise after an award is made relative to the bidder’s good faith efforts, the bidder will be required to provide supporting documentation to demonstrate its good faith subcontracting plan was actually followed. If it is at any time determined that the contractor did not in fact perform its good faith subcontracting plan, the contract award or the existing contract may be terminated.

Contractors will be required to report Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran- Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship subcontractor or distributor participation and the dollar amount of each. (Agencies should indicate their specific requirement, i.e. where to send information and when - with bid, after clear lien, etc.)


The State requires competitive pricing, qualifications, and demonstrated competencies in the selection of contractors.

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