# MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

# **Request for Proposal # 1595**

# **For: Custom Printing Services**

| Event  | Date      | Time    |
|--|-----------|---------|
| Request For Proposal Issuance  | 4/4/2024  | N/A     |
| Site Visit/Pre-Bid Meeting<br>(Refer to RFP Section 1.0 for more information.)     | N/A       | N/A     |
| Questions Due  | 4/12/2024 | 4:00 PM |
| Answers Posted (approximate date and time)   | 4/18/2024 | 4:00 PM |
| <b>Bid Submission Due Date</b><br>(Refer to RFP Section 4.0 for more information.) | 5/1/2024  | 1:00 PM |

Dates are subject to change. All changes will be reflected in Addendum issued. All times contained in the RFP refer to Eastern Time.

| Small Business                     | Status                | Category |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Set-Aside                          | ☑ Not Applicable      |          |
| (Refer to <u>RFP Section 4</u> for | □ Entire Contract     |          |
| more information.)                 | □ Partial Contract    |          |
|                                    | □ Subcontracting Only |          |

#### RFP Issued By

Office of Procurement Services Montclair State University Overlook Corporate Center 150 Clove Road, Third Floor Little Falls, New Jersey 07424

Assigned Procurement Services Buyer: Natalie Mensah Telephone # 973-655 7468 E-mail: <u>MensahN@montclair.edu</u>

| SIGNATURE PAGE: REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #1595  |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| FOR: RETURN E   | BID PROPOSAL TO:                                |  |  |
| OFF   | FICE OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES                    |  |  |
| МО  | NTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY                        |  |  |
| 150   | Clove Road, Third Floor                         |  |  |
| Littl   | e Falls, NJ 07424                               |  |  |
| PROCUREMENT SERVICES BUYER: Natalie Mensah, MensahN@Montclair.edu   |   |  |  |
| 1. BID PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED AT OR BEFORE THE PUBLIC OPENING TIME OF 1:00 PM ON MAY 1, 2024 AT         |   |  |  |
| THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS (NOTE: TELEPHONE, TELEFACSIMILE, EMAIL, OR TELEGRAPH PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED): |   |  |  |
| OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES  |   |  |  |
| MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY  |   |  |  |
| 150 CLOVE RD, 3 <sup>RD</sup> FLOOR   |   |  |  |
| LITTLE FALLS, NJ 07424  |   |  |  |
| 2. THE BIDDER MUST SIGN THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) SIGNATURE PAGE IN ADDITION TO THE ITEMS             |   |  |  |
| LISTED AS "APPLICABLE" IN APPENDIX #1 OF THIS REQUEST. HYPERLINKS TO EACH FORM HAVE BEEN PROVIDED           |   |  |  |
| WITHIN THE APPENDIX.<br>3. THE BID PROPOSAL MUST INCLUDE ALL PRICE INFORMAT                                 | TON DEODOGAL DEICES CHALL INCLUDE DEI WEDV OF   |  |  |
| ALL ITEMS. F.O.B. DESTINATION OR AS OTHERWISE PROVID  |   |  |  |
| ISSUANCE OF CONTRACT.   | ED. I KOI OSAL I KICES MOST DE FIRM HIKOUOH     |  |  |
| 4. ALL PROPOSAL PRICES MUST BE TYPED OR WRITTEN IN II   | NK.   |  |  |
| 5. THE BIDDER IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE  | E PRE-BID CONFERENCE(S) AND SITE VISIT(S). NO   |  |  |
| SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR THOSE NOT A   | ATTENDING. INFORMATION ON PRE-BID CONFERENCE(S) |  |  |
| AND SITE VISIT(S) CAN BE FOUND IN THE SCHEDULE OF EVI   | ENTS SECTION OF THIS REQUEST.                   |  |  |
| 6. PROPOSALS SHALL REMAIN OPEN FOR ACCEPTANCE AND   | MAY NOT BE CHANGED OR WITHDRAWN FOR A           |  |  |
| PERIOD OF SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE.   |   |  |  |
| TO BE COMPLETED BY BIDDER   |   |  |  |
| BIDDER NAME:  |   |  |  |
| ADDRESS:  |   |  |  |
|   |   |  |  |
| BIDDER TEL#:  | FEDERAL TAX IDENTIFICATION                      |  |  |
| EXT:  | #   |  |  |
| BIDDER FAX#:  | BIDDER E-MAIL:                                  |  |  |
| SIGNATURE OF THE BIDDER ATTESTS THAT THE BIDDER HA  | S READ, UNDERSTANDS, AND AGREES TO ALL TERMS,   |  |  |
| CONDITIONS, AND SPECIFICATIONS SET FORTH IN THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL INCLUDING ALL ADDENDA,                 |   |  |  |
| FURTHERMORE, SIGNATURE BY THE BIDDER SIGNIFIES THAT ADDENDA ISSUED, THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL,               |   |  |  |
| THE UNIVERSITY'S STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS (APPENDIX 1) AND THE RESPONSIVE BID PROPOSAL                 |   |  |  |
| CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT UPON THE UNIVERSITY'S OPTION TO ISSUE A WRITTEN NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE TO               |   |  |  |
| BIDDER FOR ANY OR ALL OF THE ITEMS BID, AND FOR THE LENGTH OF TIME INDICATED IN THE REQUEST FOR             |   |  |  |
| PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO ACCEPT THE CONTRACT WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD INDICATED IN THE REQUEST FOR                |   |  |  |
| PROPOSAL, OR FAILURE TO HOLD PRICES OR TO MEET ANY OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS DEFINED IN                 |   |  |  |
| EITHER ADDENDA OR THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DURING THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT SHALL CONSTITUTE A               |   |  |  |
| BREACH AND MAY RESULT IN DEFAULT BY THE CONTRACTOR AND/OR CONTRACT TERMINATION.                             |   |  |  |
| ORIGINAL SIGNATURE OF BIDDER  | DATE  |  |  |
|   |   |  |  |
| PRINT/TYPE NAME   | TITLE   |  |  |

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## **1.0 FORMATION FOR BIDDERS**

#### 1.1 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

| Event  | Date      | Time    |
|--|-----------|---------|
| Request For Proposal Issuance  | 4/4/2024  | N/A     |
| Site Visit/Pre-Bid Meeting<br>(Refer to RFP Section 1.1.2 for more information.)                   | N/A       | N/A     |
| Questions Due  | 4/12/2024 | 4:00 PM |
| Answers Posted (approximate date and time)   | 4/18/2024 | 4:00 PM |
| <b>Bid Submission Due / Public Bid Opening</b><br>(Refer to RFP Section 4.0 for more information.) | 5/1/2024  | 1:00 PM |

#### 1.1.1 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Bidders are requested to provide their proposals in accordance with the terms and conditions provided within this solicitation. A Proposal that is submitted with revisions or additions to the terms and conditions for this Request for Proposal (RFP) may be deemed non-responsive.

#### 1.1.2 SITE VISIT / PRE-BID MEETINGS

Not applicable for this RFP

## 1.1.3 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Procurement Services will accept questions and inquiries from all potential Bidders via e-mail <u>MensahN@montclair.edu</u>. Bidders are not to contact the University user department directly, in person, by telephone or by email, concerning this RFP. All questions submitted by the above due date and time will be provided and answered via Addendum to this RFP on or around the date provided in RFP Section 1.1.

#### 1.1.4 ADDENDUM

In the event that it becomes necessary to clarify or revise this RFP, such clarification or revision will be by Addendum. Any Addendum to this RFP will become part of this RFP and part of any Contract awarded as a result of this RFP.

# ADDENDUM ISSUED WILL BE POSTED ON THE PROCUREMENT SERVICES WEBPAGE.

There are no designated dates for release of Addendum. Notice of Addendum issued may be emailed by the assigned Procurement Services buyer to the invited Bidders in advance of the bid opening date however interested Bidders should check the Procurement Services' webpage on a daily basis from the time of RFP issuance through Proposal submission. It is the sole responsibility of the Bidder to be knowledgeable of Addendum issued relating to this RFP.

#### 1.1.5 QUOTES / PROPOSALS / BIDS DUE DATE

Bidders must submit all information requested herein no later than the above referenced date and time in order to be considered for award. Incomplete proposals may be rejected. Bidder submissions must be in accordance with the instructions found in Section 4 of this solicitation.

**NOTE:** Bidders are not to contact the University department directly, in person, by telephone or by email, concerning this RFP.

#### **1.2 PURPOSE AND INTENT**

This RFP is issued by the Office of Procurement Services (Procurement Services), Montclair State University (University). The purpose of this RFP is to fulfill a variety of custom print services for Montclair State University's Communications and Marketing Department. Qualified Suppliers will be placed on a curated ("Preferred Custom Printing Services List") from which The University, may request print services on an as needed basis. The intent of this RFP is to award a Contract(s) to that responsible Bidder(s) whose Proposal(s) conforming to this RFP is most advantageous to the University, price and other factors considered. The University reserves the right to award Contracts(s) as a result of this RFP to more than one Bidder. The University may award any and all price lines. However, the University reserves the right to separately procure individual requirements that are the subject of the awarded Contract during the Contract term, when deemed by the University's Vice President for Finance and Treasurer to be in the University's best interest.

The University's Standard Contract Terms and Conditions (Appendix 1, Item 2.3), are part of the awarded Contract. The University's Standard Contract Terms and Conditions are in addition to the terms and conditions set forth in this RFP and should be read in conjunction with them.

## **1.3 BACKGROUND**

<u>General</u>: Montclair State University is a research doctoral institution ranked in the top tier of national universities. Building on a distinguished history dating back to 1908, the University today has 13 colleges and schools that serve approximately 22,500 undergraduate and graduate students with more than 300 doctorial, masters and baccalaureate programs. Situated on a beautiful, 252-acre suburban campus in Passaic and Essex Counties just 14 miles from New York City, Montclair State delivers the instructional and research resources of a large public university in a supportive, sophisticated and diverse academic environment. Effective July 1, 2023, Bloomfield College has officially become part of Montclair and will be known as "Bloomfield College of Montclair State University".

## 1.4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

# 1.4.1 BIDDER RESPONSIBILITY

The Bidder assumes sole responsibility for the complete effort required in submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP. No special consideration will be given after Proposals are opened because of a Bidder's failure to be knowledgeable as to all of the requirements of this RFP.

# 1.4.2 COST LIABILITY

The University assumes no responsibility and bears no liability for costs incurred by a Bidder in the preparation and submittal of a Proposal in response to this RFP.

# 1.4.3 JOINT VENTURE

If a joint venture is submitting a Proposal, the agreement between the parties relating to such joint venture should be submitted with the joint venture's bid proposal. Authorized signatories from each party comprising the joint venture must sign the RFP Signature Page. All items on Appendix 1 must be completed by each party to the joint venture. Proposals should not include a structure that requires the University to create a joint venture with the Bidder(s).

# 1.4.4 BID ERRORS

A Bidder may withdraw its Proposal prior to bid opening. Such request must be made, in writing, to the Director of Procurement Services. The Bidder may submit a revised Proposal as long as the Proposal is received prior to the announced date and time for Proposal submission.

If, after the opening of Proposal but before Contract award, a Bidder discovers an error in its bid proposal, the Bidder may make written request to the Director of Procurement Services for authorization to withdraw its bid proposal from consideration for award. Evidence of the Bidder's good faith in making this request shall be used in making the determination. The factors that will be considered are that the mistake is so significant that to enforce the Contract resulting from the Proposal would be unconscionable; that the mistake relates to a material feature of the contract; that the mistake occurred notwithstanding the Bidder's exercise of reasonable care; and that the University will not be significantly prejudiced by granting the withdrawal of the Proposal.

If, during the evaluation of Proposal received, an obvious pricing error made by a potential Contract awardee is found, the Director of Procurement Services shall issue written notice to the Bidder. The Bidder will have five (5) days after receipt of the notice to confirm its pricing. If the Bidder fails to respond, its Proposal shall be considered withdrawn, and no further consideration shall be given it.

If it is discovered that there is an arithmetic disparity between the unit of measure and the total percentage of net tuition, the unit measure shall prevail. If there is any other ambiguity in the pricing other than a disparity between the unit of measure and net percentage and the Bidder's intention is not readily discernible from other parts of the Proposal, the assigned Procurement Services buyer may seek clarification from the Bidder to ascertain the true intent of the Proposal.

# 1.4.5 CONTENT OF PROPOSALS

Subsequent to bid opening, all information submitted by a Bidder in the Proposal is considered public information, except as may be exempted from public disclosure by the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., and/or other applicable law.

A Bidder may designate specific information in its Proposal as confidential and proprietary if the Bidder has a good faith legal/factual basis for such assertion. The University reserves the right to make the determination and will advise the Bidder accordingly. Confidential and proprietary information shall be clearly and prominently identified in the Proposal and in a cover letter. The University will disregard any attempt by a Bidder either to designate its entire Proposal as confidential, proprietary and/or subject to copyright protection.

By signing the RFP Signature Page, the Bidder waives any claims of copyright protection set forth within its proposal and any third-party manufacturer's price list and/or catalogs. Price lists and/or catalogs cannot be kept confidential and must be accessible to University user departments.

The Bidder is advised to thoroughly read and follow all instructions contained in this RFP.

Note: Proposal shall not contain URLs (Uniform Resource Locators, i.e., the global address of documents and other resources on the World Wide Web) or web addresses. Inasmuch as the web contains dynamically changing content, inclusion of a URL or web address in a Proposal response is indicative of potentially changing information. Inclusion of a URL or web address in a Proposal response implies that the Proposal's content changes as the referenced web pages change.

#### **2.0 DEFINITIONS**

#### 2.1 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

The following definitions will be part of the contract awarded as a result of this RFP:

Addendum - Written clarification or revision to this RFP issued by Procurement Services.

<u>All-Inclusive Pricing</u> - A price that is all-inclusive of all direct and indirect costs, including, but not limited to, third party fees, delivery, direct labor costs, overhead, fee or profit, equipment, materials, supplies, managerial support, documents, forms, travel, delivery, reproductions thereof and any other costs. No additional fees or costs shall be paid by the University unless there is a change in the scope of work.

<u>Amendment</u> - A change in the scope of work to be performed by the Contractor after Contract award. An Amendment is not effective until signed by the University's Vice President for Finance and Treasurer.

<u>Best and Final Offer (BAFO)</u> – Pricing timely submitted by a Bidder upon invitation by the Procurement Department after Proposal opening.

Bidder – An entity submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP.

<u>Contract</u> - The Contract consists of any Addendum to this RFP, this RFP, the University's Standard Terms and Conditions (Appendix 1, Item 2.3), the awarded Bidder's Proposal as accepted by the University and any subsequent written document memorializing the agreement, any modifications to any of these documents approved by the University, or post-award documents including Amendments agreed to by the University and the Contractor, in writing.

<u>Contractor</u> - The Contractor is the Bidder awarded a Contract.

<u>Director</u> – Director of Procurement Services.

<u>Joint Venture</u> – A business undertaking by two or more entities to share risk and responsibility for a specific project.

May - Denotes that which is permissible, but not mandatory.

Preferred Custom Printing Services List- a list of qualified suppliers the University will

<u>Proposal</u> – Bidder's timely response to the RFP including, but not limited to, technical Proposal, price Proposal including Best and Final Offer, any licenses, forms, certifications, clarifications, and/or other documentation required by the RFP.

<u>Request for Proposal (RFP)</u> - This document, which establishes the bidding and Contract requirements and solicits bid proposals to meet the purchase needs of the University.

<u>Shall or Must</u> - Denotes that which is a mandatory requirement.

<u>Should</u> - Denotes that which is recommended, but not mandatory.

#### 2.2 CONTRACT SPECIFIC DEFINITIONS

<u>Preferred Custom Printing Services List</u>-curated list of qualified suppliers the University will appoint to fulfill full service custom print requests.

# 3.0 COMMODITY DESCRIPTION/SCOPE OF WORK

The Contractor shall provide full service print production of: invitations, envelopes, postcards, brochures, newsletters, flyers, pocket folders, and commencement booklets. This contract will exclude print requests for business cards, letterhead, photocopying, and signage. No awards shall be made to print broker(s). All machinery used by the Contractor must be well-maintained and in optimal working condition. The Contractor shall provide the following print categories:

- 4-color Offset Printing
- 5+color Custom Offset Printing

# 3.1 METHOD OF OPERATION:

Print jobs over the University threshold for requiring 3 quotes (in 2024, this threshold is <u>\$22,180</u>): All Contractors will be given the opportunity to quote on these jobs. The Contractor who provides the best quote (price, turnaround time and other factors considered) will receive the job.

All quotes must contain both the unit cost and the extended price.

# 3.2 PRINTING SERVICES:

The Contractor must be able to provide all of the following in Full Color Custom Offset Printing services, at the request of the University:

- 1. Brochures Self Mailers (must have ability to wafer-seal on premises)
- 2. Posters Large Format 4-color offset Folded only, no mounting
- 3. Booklets
- 4. Flyers
- 5. Newsletters
- 6. Postcards
- 7. NCR Forms
- 8. Invitations
- 9. Announcement cards and envelopes

10. Custom envelopes

#### 3.3 FINISHING SERVICES:

The Contractor must be able to provide all of the following services at the request of the University:

- 1. Folding (single to quad-fold: custom folding (i.e. Gate Fold)
- 2. Custom Die-Cutting (often in collaboration with Folding)
- 3. Custom Foil / Emboss
- 4. Saddle Stitching
- 5. Wire-O Binding
- 6. Polybag
- 7. Insertion
- 8. USPS pre-sort and Mailing Services
- 9. List Management
- 10. Addressing / Labeling
- 11. Bulk Delivery to Montclair State and Newark Central Post Office
- 12. Desktop delivery

#### **3.4 TURNAROUND TIMELINES:**

The Contractor is required to fulfill projects within the specified timelines outlined below commencing from the date of final proof approval through to the delivery.

- 1. Flat-only printing, single or double-sided (Flyers/posters) 4 business days
- Standard Brochure (single or double fold + saddle stitching) 6 business days, based on quantity
- 3. Custom folding (i.e. Gate fold) 7 business days
- 4. Insertions / Collation / Prep / Mail & Address additional 5 business days over base time for initial project

- 5. Standard Envelopes (9 x 12 booklet) **5 business days**
- 6. Custom Envelopes (i.e. 9 x 9, special cello window) 11 business days
- 7. Custom Foil / Emboss 10 business days
- 8. Die-Cut **10 business days**

There are no implied or guaranteed quantities to be purchased by the University. The University reserves the right to seek bids for printing services on the open market when deemed to be in the best interest of the University.

# <u>No print services or jobs will be performed by a Contractor without prior approval from</u> <u>the Production Manager or a designated representative.</u>

Each Contractor must hold their prices for a firm minimum of 180 days after submission of project quote(s).

## 3.5 **REPRESENTATION**:

Upon award of a contract, the Contractor must have an assigned customer service representative available to the University. The assigned representative must have a thorough understanding of the printing industry and provide assistance and advisement to the University in all aspects of print and bindery. The representative should be available to the University Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The representative will also be required to arrange for delivery of copy proofs, samples and any other material as required to complete orders under this contract.

#### 3.6 COST ESTIMATES:

The Customer Service Representative will provide cost estimates as required by the Production Manager. The requested pricing must be submitted to the Production Manager within 48 hours of the request. If the Contractor is unable to respond in the allotted time or cannot fulfill a specific request, the University will forward the job request to another Contractor. These estimates shall not be considered as an order. No work shall begin until the customer provides both a signed "authorization" to begin work and an authorized Purchase Order.

## 3.7 **PRICING**

Prices are to remain firm for the duration of the contract, as quoted in Attachment # 1, Price Schedule.

#### 3.8 **PROOFS**:

A minimum of one high-resolution inkjet proof to review color will be required for all jobs. The Contractor is responsible for providing proofs to the using department and the Production Manager. The Contractor must obtain written approval of the proofs by the Production Manager or designated individual before printing.

## 3.9 **PICKUP AND DELIVERY**:

The Contractor must have the ability to make deliveries to Central Receiving or the Production Manager. There will be no separate charges for pickup or delivery of copy, proofs, paper or any other material required to produce an order. All orders are to be delivered to Central Receiving or the Production Manager as designated by the Production Manager. All shipments must reference the purchase order number. Any freight claims will be the responsibility of the awarded bidder(s).

# 3.10 DAMAGED AND INFERIOR MATERIAL:

Any merchandise received and deemed damaged, incomplete, or of inferior quality by the Production Manager is subject to rejection. The University reserves the right to reject such materials and may request either replacement or credit for any materials paid for or furnished by the University. The University will not incur any additional charges for the pickup or delivery of the aforementioned items.

# 3.11 INVOICING AND PAYMENT:

The University shall issue payment upon completion of an order. All invoices must be emailed to the address as specified on the purchase order and must reference the following:

- Purchase Order
- Ship to Address that states Montclair State University, Building Name, Department, Requestor's Name
- Quantity and Description of each item purchased
- Prices as stipulated by contract

Failure by the Contractor(s) to provide correct invoices can delay payment and may be reason for termination of the contract.

## 4.0 PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

## 4.1 GENERAL

The Bidder is advised to thoroughly read and follow all instructions contained in this RFP, including the instructions on the RFP's Cover sheet, in preparing and submitting its Proposal. Failure to submit information as indicated below may result in your Proposal being deemed non-responsive.

## 4.2 BID PROPOSAL DELIVERY AND IDENTIFICATION

In order to be considered, a Proposal must arrive at Procurement Services in accordance with the instructions on the RFP Signature Page.

Bidders are cautioned to allow adequate delivery time to ensure timely delivery of bid proposals. Late bid proposals are ineligible for consideration.

THE EXTERIOR OF ALL PROPOSAL PACKAGES ARE TO BE LABELED WITH THE RFP NUMBER AND TITLE AND THE BIDDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS.

## 4.3 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

In order to be considered for award, the Proposal must be received by Procurement Services at the location and by the required date and time identified in this RFP in a sealed envelope marked with the Proposal title and number.

If your proposal is being submitted by **US Mail**, it must be addressed to:

Montclair State University Office of Procurement Services 1 Normal Avenue Montclair, New Jersey 07042

If your proposal is being submitted **BY HAND OR OVERNIGHT DELIVERY** (FedEx, UPS, etc.), please address it to:

Montclair State University Office of Procurement Services, 150 Clove Road, 3rd Floor, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424.

# ANY PROPOSAL NOT RECEIVED BY THE DATE, TIME AND AT THE LOCATION NOTED IN THIS RFP WILL BE REJECTED.

Note: Bidders using US Regular or Express mail services should allow adequate time to ensure that Proposal are received at Procurement Services on the date and time indicated on the cover sheet.

# 4.4 NUMBER OF PROPOSAL COPIES

The Bidder must submit one (1) complete ORIGINAL Proposal, clearly marked as the "ORIGINAL" Proposal. <u>The Bidder should submit one (1) exact copy on a flash drive.</u> [If needed can add "The Bidder should also submit Number (#) full, complete, and exact copies of the original"]. The copies requested are necessary in the evaluation of the Proposal. It is suggested that the Bidder make and retain a copy of its Proposal.

# 4.5 PROPOSAL CONTENT

Bidders are instructed to submit its Proposal in the following sections with the content of each section as indicated below:

- 1. <u>Section 1</u> Required Supporting Bid Documents (Appendix # 1)
- 2. <u>Section 2</u> Price Sheet (Section 4.6 and Attachment # 1)
- 3. <u>Section 3</u> Technical Proposal / Statement of Qualifications (Section 4.7)
- 4. Section 4 Any other documents to be included by the Bidder

# 4.6 PRICING

The Bidder must submit its pricing using the format set forth in the price sheet(s) attached to this RFP (Attachment #1). Failure to submit all information required will result in the Proposal being considered non-responsive unless the University determines the information is not material and may be waived. Each Bidder is required to hold its prices firm through issuance of the Contract.

# 4.6.1 PRICE ALTERATION

Bid prices must be typed or written in ink. Any price change (including "white-outs") must be initialed. Failure to initial price changes may preclude a Contract award from being made to the Bidder.

# 4.7 TECHNICAL PROPOSAL / STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

The Bidder must provide the Statement of Qualifications listed below and should be presented in the same order as listed. Statements of Qualifications should be presented in the same order as listed below. Please restate the question as written and respond to each item completely and clearly. Attachments that amplify responses or provide relevant illustrations are welcome.

- 1. Provide an overview of the company and document a minimum of five years of experience in the custom printing business.
- 2. Provide an equipment list (manufacturer, type, age) that is relevant to your company's ability to fulfill the requirements of the RFP. All equipment must be well-maintained and in optimal working condition.
- 3. Document in writing your ability to meet the turnaround timelines as specified in the Scope of Services.
- 4. List your company's Quality Control Procedures that are in place to ensure exacting, precise standards for Pre-Flight, Pre-Press, and Printing. Specific names and titles of individuals

involved in the quality control process should be clearly listed, in sequence. A flowchart may be used to illustrate your process.

- 5. Indicate the primary customer service representative(s) who will support the University's account and provide a resume.
- 6. <u>Summary Information Sheet</u> (Attachment # 2) Bidders must complete and provide with its Proposal (This includes providing references from three current clients of similar size and scope)

Provide at least seven (7) total samples from different print jobs of recently completed work for each category below and label each category as designated:

| Category | Description                     | Number of Samples |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1        | 4-Color Offset Printing         | 5                 |
| 2        | 5+-color Custom Offset Printing | 2                 |
|          | Total                           | 7                 |

#### **4.8 REQUIRED SUPPORTING BID DOCUMENTS**

The Bidder must submit Required Supporting Bid Documents (Appendix # 1) at the time of Proposal submission or prior to the issuance of the Contract, as outlined in Appendix # 1.

Note: The first section of Appendix # 1 references RFP specific submittals that are to be provided separately from the other items listed. Refer to RFP Section 4.5 for additional information regarding how Bidders are instructed to submit its Proposal.

## 4.8.1 BID SECURITY

"Not applicable for this RFP."

## 4.8.2 FINANCIAL CAPABILITY OF THE BIDDER

"Not applicable for this RFP.".

**4.8.3 PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION** Not applicable for this RFP.

#### **5.0 PROPOSAL EVALUATION**

The University reserves the right to waive minor irregularities or omissions in a Proposal. The University also reserves the right to waive a requirement provided that the requirement does not materially affect the procurement or the University's interests associated with the procurement.

#### **5.1 EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Proposals will be evaluated on Price and other factors in accordance with <u>the University's</u> <u>Procurement Policies</u>. Additionally, the following criteria will be used to evaluate all bid proposals that meet the requirements of this RFP. The criteria are not necessarily listed in order of importance:

## 5.1.1 TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used to evaluate all Proposal that meet the requirements of this RFP. The criteria are not necessarily listed in order of importance:

- 1. <u>Experience of Firm</u>: The Bidder's documented experience in successfully completing contracts of a similar size and scope in relation to the work required by this RFP.
- 2. Equipment list
- 3. Print Samples (7 total including 5 samples for 4-color and 2 for 5-color plus)
- 4. <u>Ability of firm to complete the Scope of Work based on its Technical Proposal:</u> The overall ability of the Bidder to undertake and successfully complete the technical requirements of the Contract in a timely and effective manner

## **5.1.2 PRICE EVALUATION**

For evaluation purposes, Bidders will be ranked from lowest to highest according to the total Proposal price calculated from the pricing located on Attachment # 1 -Price Sheet accompanying this RFP.

# 5.2 ORAL PRESENTATION AND/OR CLARIFICATION OF BID PROPOSAL

After Proposals are reviewed, the University may request one (1), some or all Bidders to give an oral presentation to the University concerning its Proposal. Bidders may not attend presentations made by their competitors.

The University may also require the clarification of certain aspects of its Proposal. A request for clarification may be made in order to resolve minor ambiguities, irregularities, informalities or clerical errors. Clarifications cannot correct any deficiencies, material omissions, or used to revise or modify a Proposal.

It is within the University's discretion whether to require the Bidder to give an oral presentation, or require the Bidders to submit written responses to questions regarding its Proposal. Action by the University in this regard should not be construed to imply acceptance or rejection of a Proposal. Procurement Services is the sole point of contact regarding any request for an oral presentation or clarification.

#### **5.3 BEST AND FINAL OFFER (BAFO)**

The University may invite one (1) Bidder or multiple Bidders to submit a Best and Final Offer (BAFO). Said invitation will establish the time and place for submission of the BAFO. Any BAFO that does not result in more advantageous pricing to the University will not be considered, and the University will evaluate the Bidder's most advantageous previously submitted pricing.

BAFOs will be conducted only in those circumstances where it is deemed by the Director to be in the University's best interests and to maximize the University's ability to get the best value. Therefore, the Bidder is advised to submit its best technical and price proposal in response to this RFP since the University may, after evaluation, make a Contract award based on the content of the initial submission. The University may conduct more than one (1) round of BAFO in order to attain the best value for the University.

If the University contemplates BAFOs, prices will not be publicly read at the bid opening. Only the name and address of each Bidder will be publicly announced at the bid opening.

#### **5.4 PROPOSAL DISCREPANCIES**

In evaluating Proposal, discrepancies between words and figures will be resolved in favor of words. Discrepancies between unit of measure and totals of unit prices will be resolved in favor of unit prices. Discrepancies in the multiplication of units of measure and unit prices will be resolved in favor of the unit prices. Discrepancies between the indicated total of multiplied unit prices and units of measure and the actual total will be resolved in favor of the actual total. Discrepancies between the indicated sum of any column of figures and the correct sum thereof will be resolved in favor of the corrected sum of the column of figures.

#### 6.0 CONTRACT AWARD

#### 6.1 AWARD

The Contract award shall be made with reasonable promptness by written notice to that responsible Bidder, whose Proposal, conforming to this RFP, is most advantageous to the University, price, and other factors considered. The University reserves the right to reject all bids, to reject those bids that are non-responsive, or to award in whole or in part, if deemed to be in the best interest of the University to do so. Furthermore, the University reserves the right to waive any minor informality where such waiver is permitted by law.

# 6.2 BIDDERS RIGHT TO PROTEST AWARD OF CONTRACT

A Bidder who submits a proposal in response to an RFP may submit a written protest to the Director of Procurement of the University setting forth in detail the specific grounds for challenging the award. The protest shall be filed within ten (10) business days following the Bidder's receipt of written notification, sent either by certified mail or facsimile transmission, that its Proposal was not accepted or of notice of the decision to award the Contract. Any protest filed after the 10-day period may be disregarded. If the Contract award is protested, the University may proceed to award the Contract if the failure to award will result in substantial cost to the University or if public exigency so requires. All contract awards will be posted on the Procurement Services website: https://www.montclair.edu/procurement/awarded-contracts/.

# 7.0 SPECIAL CONTRACTUAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

# 7.1 PRECEDENCE OF SPECIAL CONTRACTUAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Contract awarded as a result of this RFP shall consist of Addendum to this RFP, this RFP (including the University's Standard Contract Terms and Conditions (Appendix 1, Item 2.3), the Contractor's Proposal and the University's Agreement incorporating these documents and signed by the Contractor and the University's Vice President for Finance and Treasurer.

In the event of a conflict between provisions within the Contract documents, the Contract documents shall have the following order of priority: Contract, RFP Addendum in the order of the most recent issuance date, the RFP, the University's Standard Contract Terms and Conditions and the Contractor's Proposal.

## 7.2 CONTRACT TERM AND EXTENSION OPTION

The term of the Contract shall be for a period of 3 years. The anticipated "Contract Effective Date" is provided on the Signature Page of this Request for Proposal. If delays in the procurement process result in a change to the anticipated Contract Effective Date, the Bidder agrees to accept a Contract for the full term of the contract. The Contract may be extended for all or part of two (2), (1) one-year periods, by the mutual written consent of the contractor and the University's Vice President of Finance and Treasurer.

## 7.3 CONTRACT TRANSITION

In the event that a new Contract has not been awarded prior to the Contract expiration date, as may be extended herein, it shall be incumbent upon the Contractor to continue the Contract under the same terms and conditions until a new Contract can be completely operational. At no time shall this transition period extend more than ninety (90) days beyond the expiration date of the Contract.

## 7.4 CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Any changes or modifications to the terms of the Contract shall be valid only when they have been reduced to writing and signed by the Contractor and the University's Vice President for Finance and Treasurer.

#### 7.5 CONTRACTOR'S WARRANTY

The Contractor is responsible for the quality, technical accuracy, timely completion and delivery of all deliverables and other services to be furnished by the Contractor under the Contract. The Contractor agrees to perform in a good, skillful and timely manner all services set forth in the Contract.

The Contractor shall, without additional compensation, correct or revise any errors, omissions, or other deficiencies in its services and deliverables furnished under the Contract. The approval of interim deliverables furnished under the Contract shall not in any way relieve the Contractor of fulfilling all of its obligations under the Contract. The acceptance or payment for any of the services rendered under the Contract shall not be construed as a waiver by the University, of any rights under the agreement or of any cause of action arising out of the Contractor's performance of the Contract.

The acceptance of, approval of or payment for any of the services performed by the Contractor under the Contract shall not constitute a release or waiver of any claim the University has or may have for latent defects or errors or other breaches of warranty or negligence.

## 7.6 ITEMS ORDERED AND DELIVERED

The Contractor is authorized to ship only those items covered by the contract resulting from this RFP. If a review of orders placed by University user departments reveals that material other than that covered by the contract has been ordered and delivered, such delivery shall be a violation of the terms of the contract and may be considered by the University's Vice President for Finance and Treasurer as a basis to terminate the contract and/or as a basis not to award the contractor a subsequent contract. The University's Vice President for Finance and Treasurer may take such steps as are necessary to have the items returned to the contractor, regardless of the time between the date of delivery and discovery of the violation. In such event, the contractor shall reimburse the University the full purchase price.

The Contract involves items which are necessary for the continuation of ongoing critical University services. Any delay in delivery of these items would disrupt University services and would force the University to immediately seek alternative sources of supply on an emergency basis. Timely delivery is critical to meeting the University's ongoing needs.

# 7.7 REMEDIES FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH MATERIAL CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

In the event that the Contractor fails to comply with any material Contract requirements, the University's Vice President for Finance and Treasurer may take steps to terminate the Contract in accordance with the provisions herein and/or authorize the delivery of Contract items by any available means, with the difference between the price paid and the defaulting contractor's price either being deducted from any monies due the defaulting Contractor or being an obligation owed the University by the defaulting Contractor.

#### 7.8 SUBSTITUTION OF STAFF

If it becomes necessary for the Contractor to substitute any management, supervisory or key personnel, the Contractor shall identify the substitute personnel and the work to be performed. The Contractor must provide detailed justification documenting the necessity for the substitution. Resumes must be submitted evidencing that the individual(s) proposed as substitute(s) have qualifications and experience equal to or better than the individual(s) originally proposed or currently assigned.

The Contractor shall forward a request to substitute staff to the University for consideration and approval. No substitute personnel are authorized to begin work until the Contractor has received written approval to proceed from the University.

#### 7.9 ADDITIONAL WORK AND/OR SPECIAL PROJECTS

The Contractor shall not begin performing any additional work or special projects related to this RFP without first obtaining the University's written approval.

In the event of additional work and/or special projects, the Contractor must present a written Quote to perform the additional work to the University. The Quote should provide justification for the necessity of the additional work. The Contractor's written Quote must provide a detailed description of the work to be performed broken down by task and subtask. The written Quote must detail the cost necessary to complete the additional work in a manner consistent with this Contract. The written price schedule must be based upon the hourly rates, unit costs or other cost elements submitted by the Contractor in the Contractor's original Proposal submitted in response to this RFP. Whenever possible, the price schedule should be a firm, fixed all-inclusive price to perform the required work. A payment schedule, tied to successful completion of tasks and subtasks, must be included.

In the event the Contractor proceeds with additional work and/or special projects without the University's written approval, it shall be at the Contractor's sole risk. The University shall be under no obligation to pay for work performed without the University's written approval.

# **APPENDIX #1 - REQUIRED SUPPORTING BID DOCUMENTS (CHECKLIST)**

NOTE: The documents listed below are required by State Law and University Policy. All documents are required to be completed. Procurement Services Forms can be found at: <u>https://www.montclair.edu/procurement/forms/</u>.

| 1. RF | P SPECIFIC SUBMITTALS THAT MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE BIDDER <u>WITH T</u>  | THE PROPOSAL.        |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| #     | Document Title  | Applicable?          |
| 1     | <b>PRICE SHEET</b> – Refer to Section 4.6 and Attachment 1 for information.   | Yes                  |
| 2     | TECHNICAL PROPOSAL / STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS – Refer to Section 4.7 for<br>information.   | Yes                  |
| 2. S  | TANDARD SUBMITTALS THAT MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE BIDDER WITH TH   | <u>IE PROPOSAL</u> . |
| #     | Document Title Applicat   |                      |
| 1     | SIGNATURE PAGE – Refer to Page 2 of this RFP.   | Yes                  |
| 2     | <b>OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE FORM</b> - Refer to Ownership Disclosure Form (PDF)   | Yes                  |
| 3     | MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY STANDARD CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS - Refer<br>to Montclair State University Standard Terms and Conditions (PDF)                          | Yes                  |
| 4     | AGREEMENT OF SURETY/BID BOND - Refer to RFP Section 4.8.1   | No                   |
| 5     | <b>FINANCIAL CAPABILITY OF THE BIDDER</b> – Refer to RFP Section 4.8.2  | No                   |
| 6     | PUBLIC WORKS REGISTRATION – Refer to RFP Section 4.8.3  | No                   |
| 3. ST | ANDARD SUBMITTALS THAT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY THE VENDOR WITH T<br>THESE FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF CONTI   |                      |
| #     | Document Title  | Applicable?          |
| 1     | BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE - Refer to New Jersey Business Registration<br>Certificate (BRC) Instructions & Sample (PDF)  | Yes                  |
| 2     | POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE (CHAPTER 51) - Refer to Chapter 51 / EO 117<br>Vendor Certification and Disclosure of Political Contributions (PDF)                   | Yes                  |
| 3     | MANDATORY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LANGUAGE - Refer to AA-302<br>Employee Information Report for Good and Services (PDF)  | Yes                  |
| 4     | EXCESS LIABILITY INSURANCE - PROVIDED IN STANDARD CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS)  | No                   |
| 5     | <b>EUGDPR DATA PROTECTION ADDENDUM</b> (Only required if Bidder will be providing Services in European Union) - <i>Refer to Data Protection Addendum – EUGDPR (PDF)</i> | No                   |
|       | CHINA DATA PROTECTION ADDENDUM (Only required if Bidder will be providing Services  |                      |

# ATTACHMENT #1 PRICE SHEET(S)

# ATTACHMENT # 2 - SUMMARY INFORMATION SHEET

| FIRM NAME:   |   |
|--|---|
| 1. NUMBER OF YEARS FIRM HAS BEEN IN OPERATION:   |   |
| 2. CONTACT/LOCATION OF THE RESPONDENT'S OFFICE CONTRACT:   | THAT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THIS  |
| NAME:  |   |
|  |   |
| ADDRESS:   |   |
|  |   |
| PHONE:   |   |
| CELL PHONE:  | _ EMAIL:                                    |
| 3. NAME(S) AND TELEPHONE NUMBER(S) OF MANAGI<br>OR   | EMENT PERSONNEL TO BE CONTACTED IF PROBLEMS |
| EMERGENCIES OCCUR:   |   |
|  |   |
|  |   |
| CURRENT CC   | ONTRACTS                                    |
| 4. PLEASE LIST THE NEW JERSEY AGENCIES, US GOVERN<br>COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES NOW UNDER CONTRACT V  |   |
| 5. PLEASE LIST REFERENCES WHERE SIMILAR TYPE SEF<br>AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF AN INDIVIDUAL AT EACH R<br>INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSER'S PERF | EFERENCE SITE WHO CAN PROVIDE AN            |
| COMPANY NAME:  |   |
| NAME/TITLE:  |   |
|  |   |
| EMAIL #:   | TEL.#:                                      |
| EMAIL #: COMPANY NAME:   | TEL.#:                                      |
|  | TEL.#:                                      |
| COMPANY NAME:  | TEL.#:                                      |
| COMPANY NAME:<br>NAME/TITLE:   | TEL.#:                                      |
| COMPANY NAME:<br>NAME/TITLE:<br>EMAIL #:   | TEL.#:                                      |

6. PLEASE LIST CONTRACTS THE RESPONDENT HAS HAD TERMINATED DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS WITH THE REASON THE CONTRACT WAS TERMINATED FOR EACH JOB. IF NONE, INDICATE SO:

TERMINATED CONTRACT: \_\_\_\_\_

TERMINATED CONTRACT: \_\_\_\_\_\_

TERMINATED CONTRACT: \_\_\_\_\_