NEW MEXICO STATE INVESTMENT COUNCIL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Website Design and Management Services



RFP# 25-337-0002

RFP Release Date: September 12, 2025

Proposal Due Date: September 24, 2025

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The purpose of the Request for Proposals (RFP) is to solicit sealed proposals to establish a contract through competitive negotiations for the procurement of website design and management services.

B. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The New Mexico State Investment Council (NMSIC) is a non-cabinet level agency charged with investing New Mexico's Permanent Endowment Trust Funds ("Funds"). The NMSIC seeks to enhance public awareness, trust and understanding of the State Investment Office's investments and its impact upon and management of New Mexico's sovereign wealth funds, aligned with the office's goals of transparency, accountability, and community engagement.

C. SCOPE OF PROCUREMENT

The NMSIC seeks Website Design and Management Services for an all-new, state-of-the-art NMSIC website, tailored to optimize the NMSIC's online presence in a manner that highlights the NMSIC's vision, accomplishments and strategies. The launch date of the website will be April 1, 2026, unless an extension is approved, in writing, by the State Investment Officer (SIO). The term of a resulting contract would be for one year, with up to three possible one-year renewals for the provision of certain services.

Duties include the design and construction of a new website, in consultation with designated NMSIC staff, targeted to highlight the NMSIC's vision, accomplishments and strategies, and that can be trusted as a user-friendly and high-functioning resource for the general public, the media, and the NMSIC's stakeholders, including, but not limited to the NMSIC's beneficiaries, clients and partners. The website shall be designed in a manner that includes compelling and responsive layouts, integrated and interactive graphs and dashboards, employs user experience best practices and complies with accessibility laws and guidelines, including, but not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213 and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Version 2.1, Level AA. The website development must also include cross-browser and cross-platform functionality along with an accessible mobile version.

Duties will additionally include the buildout of a custom content management system (CMS), allowing the NMSIC staff to oversee website management and ongoing maintenance, search engine optimization, and general website performance. Moreover, the selected Contractor will be required to set up website hosting, domains and applicable certificates and to implement analytics tracking, including capability to generate reports on website traffic user behavior or other indicators identified by NMSIC staff designated by the SIO.

In fulfilling required duties, the selected Contractor shall coordinate with NMSIC staff or NMSIC contractors, developers or designers designated by NMSIC staff. The Contractor shall additionally manage timelines and deliverables for website design and management-related projects. The

Contractor shall research, recommend and implement new tools, features and technologies for website improvement during the contract term and perform other website design and management projects, as assigned by the SIO or designed NMSIC staff.

This RFP will be a single award.

This procurement will result in a contractual agreement between two parties; the procurement may ONLY be used by those two parties exclusively.

D. PROCUREMENT MANAGER

The NMSIC has assigned a Procurement Manager who is responsible for the conduct of this procurement whose name, address, telephone number and e-mail address are listed below:

Name: Francesca Moradi, Procurement Manager

Telephone: (505) 476-9516

Email: SIC-website-rfp@state.nm.us

- 1. **Any inquiries or requests** regarding this procurement should be submitted, in writing, to the Procurement Manager. Offerors may contact **ONLY** the Procurement Manager regarding this procurement.
- 2. Important: Protests of the solicitation or award must be submitted in writing to the Protest Manager identified in Section II.B.12 (not to the Procurement Manager designated above). As a Protest Manager has been named in this Request for Proposals, pursuant to §13-1-172, NMSA 1978 and 1.4.1.82 NMAC, ONLY protests delivered directly to the Protest Manager in writing and in a timely fashion will be considered to have been submitted properly and in accordance with statute, rule and this Request for Proposals. Protests submitted or delivered to the Procurement Manager will NOT be considered properly submitted.

E. PROPOSAL DELIVERY

All deliveries of proposals must be made via express carrier, courier or hand delivery, and must be addressed and submitted as follows:

Name: Francesca Moradi, Procurement Manager Reference RFP Name: Website Design and Management Services

RFP No. 25-337-002

Address: New Mexico State Investment Council

41 Plaza La Prensa Santa Fe, NM 87507

F. DEFINITION OF TERMINOLOGY

This section contains definitions of terms used throughout this procurement document, including appropriate abbreviations:

- 1. "Agency" means the New Mexico State Investment Council.
- 2. "Award" means the final execution of the contract document.
- 3. "Business Hours" means weekdays (Monday Friday) 8:00 AM thru 5:00 PM MST/MDT, whichever is in effect on the date given.
- 4. "Close of Business" means weekdays (Monday Friday) 5:00 PM MST/MDT, whichever is in effect on the date given.
- 5. "Confidential" means confidential financial information concerning Offeror's organization and data that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with the Uniform Trade Secrets Act §§57-3-A-1 through 57-3A-7, NMSA 1978. See also NMAC 1.4.1.45. The following items may <u>not</u> be labeled as confidential: Offeror's submitted Cost response, Staff/Personnel Resumes/Bios (excluding personal information such as personal telephone numbers and/or home addresses), and other submitted data that is <u>not</u> confidential financial information or that qualifies under the Uniform Trade Secrets Act.
- 6. "Contract" means any agreement for the procurement of items of tangible personal property, services or construction.
- 7. "Contractor" means any business having a contract with a state agency or local public body.
- 8. "**Determination**" means the written documentation of a decision of a procurement officer including findings of fact required to support a decision. A determination becomes part of the procurement file to which it pertains.
- 9. "**Desirable**" the terms "may," "can," "should," "preferably," or "prefers" identify a desirable or discretionary item or factor.
- 10. "Electronic Version/Copy" means a digital form consisting of text, images or both readable on computers or other electronic devices that includes all content that the Original and Hard Copy proposals contain. The digital form may be submitted using a USB flash drive. The electronic version/copy can NOT be emailed.
- 11. "Evaluation Committee" means a body appointed to perform the evaluation of Offerors' proposals.

- 12. "Evaluation Committee Report" means a report prepared by the Procurement Manager and the Evaluation Committee to support the Committee's recommendation for contract award. It will contain scores and written evaluations of all responsive Offeror proposals.
- 13. "Final Award" means, in the context of this Request for Proposals and all its attendant documents, that point at which the final required signature on the contract(s) resulting from the procurement has been affixed to the contract(s) thus making it fully executed.
- 14. "**Finalist**" means an Offeror who meets all the mandatory specifications of this Request for Proposals and whose score on evaluation factors is sufficiently high to merit further consideration by the Evaluation Committee, as explained in Section II.B.8.
- 15. "Hourly Rate" means the proposed fully loaded maximum hourly rates that include travel, per diem, fringe benefits and any overhead costs for contractor personnel.
- 16. "IT" means Information Technology.
- 17. "Mandatory" the terms "must," "shall" "will," "is required," or "are required," identify a mandatory item or factor. Failure to meet a mandatory item or factor may result in the rejection of the Offeror's proposal.
- 18. "Minor Irregularities" means anything in the proposal that does not affect the price, quality and/or quantity, or any other mandatory requirement.
- 19. "Offeror" is any person, corporation, or partnership who chooses to submit a proposal.
- 20. "**Price Agreement**" means a definite quantity contract or indefinite quantity contract which requires the contractor to furnish items of tangible personal property, services or construction to a state agency or a local public body which issues a purchase order, if the purchase order is within the quantity limitations of the contract, if any.
- 21. "**Procurement Manager**" means any person or designee authorized by a state agency or local public body with the responsibility, authority, and resources to conduct the RFP procurement, make written determinations regarding the RFP procurement, and/or enter into or administer contracts as a result of the RFP procurement.
- 22. "Procuring Agency" means all State of New Mexico agencies, commissions, institutions, political subdivisions and local public bodies allowed by law to procure items of tangible personal property, services or construction from the agreement(s) awarded as a result of this RFP.
- 23. "**Project**" means a temporary process undertaken to solve a well-defined goal or objective with clearly defined start and end times, a set of clearly defined tasks, and a budget. The project terminates once the project scope is achieved and project acceptance is given by the project executive sponsor.

- 24. "**Redacted**" means a version/copy of the Offeror's proposal with the information considered proprietary or confidential (as defined by §§57-3A-1 to 57-3A-7 NMSA 1978 and NMAC 1.4.1.45 and summarized herein and outlined in Section II.C.8 of this RFP) blacked-out <u>BUT NOT</u> omitted or removed.
- 25. "Request for Proposals (RFP)" means all documents, including those attached or incorporated by reference, used for soliciting proposals.
- 26. "Responsible Offeror" means an Offeror who submits a responsive proposal and who has furnished, when required, information and data to prove that his financial resources, production or service facilities, personnel, service reputation and experience are adequate to make satisfactory delivery of the services, or items of tangible personal property described in the proposal.
- 27. "Responsive Offer" or means an offer which conforms in all material respects to the requirements set forth in the request for proposals. Material respects of a request for proposals include, but are not limited to price, quality, quantity or delivery requirements.
- 28. "Sealed" means, in terms of a non-electronic submission, that the proposal is enclosed in a package which is completely fastened in such a way that nothing can be added or removed. Open packages submitted will not be accepted except for packages that may have been damaged by the delivery service itself. The State reserves the right, however, to accept or reject packages where there may have been damage done by the delivery service itself. Whether a package has been damaged by the delivery service or left unfastened and should or should not be accepted is a determination to be made by the Procurement Manager. By submitting a proposal, the Offeror agrees to and concurs with this process and accepts the determination of the Procurement Manager in such cases.
- 29. "Single Source Award" means an award of contract for items of tangible personal property, services or construction to only one Offeror.
- 30. "SPD" means State Purchasing Division of the New Mexico State General Services Department.
- 31. "Staff" means any individual who is a full-time, part-time, or an independently contracted employee with the Offerors' company.
- 32. "State (the State)" means the State of New Mexico.
- 33. "State Agency" means any department, commission, council, board, committee, institution, legislative body, agency, government corporation, educational institution or official of the executive, legislative or judicial branch of the government of this state. "State agency" includes the Purchasing Division of the General Services Department and the State Purchasing Agent but does not include local public bodies.

- 34. "State Purchasing Agent" means the Director of the Purchasing Division of the General Services Department.
- 35. "Statement of Concurrence" means an affirmative statement from the Offeror indicating its response to a required Section IV specification agreeing to comply and concur with the stated requirement(s). This statement shall be included in Offerors proposal, pursuant to Section III.C.1. (E.g. "We concur," "Understands and Complies," "Comply," "Will Comply if Applicable," etc.)
- 36. "Unredacted" means a version/copy of the proposal containing all complete information; including any that the Offeror would otherwise consider confidential, such copy for use only for the purposes of evaluation.
- 37. "Written" means typewritten on standard 8 ½ x 11-inch paper. Larger paper is permissible for charts, spreadsheets, etc.

G. PROCUREMENT LIBRARY

A procurement library has been established. Offerors are encouraged to review the material contained in the Procurement Library by selecting the link provided in this document through your own internet connection. The library contains information listed below:

RFP, Questions & Answers, RFP Amendments, etc. https://www.sic.state.nm.us/publications-reports/request-for-proposal/

II. CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE PROCUREMENT

This section of the RFP contains the schedule of events, the descriptions of each event, and the conditions governing this procurement.

A. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The Procurement Manager will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule:

Action	Responsible Party	Due Dates
1. Issue RFP	Agency	September 12, 2025
2. Acknowledgement of	Potential Offerors	September 18, 2025
Receipt Form		
3. Deadline to submit	Potential Offerors	September 19, 2025
Written Questions		
4. Response to Written	Procurement Manager	September 22, 2025
Questions		
5. Submission of Proposal	Potential Offerors	September 24, 2025
6.* Proposal Evaluation	Evaluation Committee	September 25 through 26,
		2025
7.* Selection of Finalists	Evaluation Committee	September 29, 2025

8. * Oral Presentation(s)	Finalist Offerors	October 6, 2025
9.* Best and Final Offers	Finalist Offerors	October 7, 2025
10.* Finalize Contractual	Agency/Selected	October 8 through 21, 2025
Agreement	Offeror	
11.* Contract Awards	Agency/ Selected	October 22, 2025
	Offerors	
12.* Protest Deadline	Agency	15 days following contract
		award

^{*}Dates indicated in Events 7 through 12 are estimates only, and may be subject to change without necessitating an amendment to the RFP.

B. EXPLANATION OF EVENTS

The following paragraphs describe the activities listed in the Sequence of Events shown in Section II.A., above.

1. Issue RFP

This RFP is being issued on behalf of the New Mexico State Investment Council on September 12, 2025.

2. Acknowledgement of Receipt Form

Potential Offerors may e-mail the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form (APPENDIX A), to the Procurement Manager, <u>SIC-website-rfp@state.nm.us</u>, to have their organization placed on the procurement distribution list. The form must be returned to the Procurement Manager by 3:00 p.m. MDT on September 18, 2025.

The procurement distribution list will be used for the distribution of written responses to questions, and/or any amendments to the RFP. Failure to return the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form does not prohibit potential Offerors from submitting a response to this RFP. However, by not returning the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form, the potential Offeror's representative shall not be included on the distribution list, and will be solely responsible for obtaining from the Procurement Library (Section I.G.) responses to written questions and any amendments to the RFP.

3. Deadline to Submit Written Questions

Potential Offerors may submit written questions by email to the Procurement Manager (at <u>SIC-website-rfp@state.nm.us</u>) as to the intent or clarity of this RFP until 3:00 p.m. MDT on the date indicated in Section II.A, Sequence of Events. All written questions must be addressed to the Procurement Manager as declared in Section I.D. Questions shall be clearly labeled and shall cite the Section(s) in the RFP or other document which form the basis of the question.

4. Response to Written Questions

Written responses to the written questions will be provided via e-mail, on or before the date indicated in Section II.A, Sequence of Events, to all potential Offerors who timely submitted an Acknowledgement of Receipt Form (Section II.B.2 and APPENDIX A).

The Questions and Answers will be posted to: https://www.sic.state.nm.us/publications-reports/request-for-proposal/

5. Submission of Proposal

It is the Offeror's responsibility to ensure all documents are received by the Procurement Manager by the deadline set forth in this RFP (3:00 p.m. MDT on September 24, 2025). A submission that is not both: (1) fully complete; and (2) received by the Procurement Manager via express carrier, courier or hand delivery will be deemed late. <u>Do not</u> submit email copies in lieu of or in addition to hard copies.

A log will be kept of the names of all Offeror organizations that submitted proposals. Pursuant to §13-1-116 NMSA 1978, the contents of proposals shall not be disclosed to competing potential Offerors during the negotiation process. The negotiation process is deemed to be in effect until the contract is awarded pursuant to this Request for Proposals. Awarded, in this context, means the final required state agency signature on the contract(s) resulting from the procurement has been obtained.

6. Proposal Evaluation

An Evaluation Committee will perform the evaluation of proposals. This process will take place as indicated in Section II.A, Sequence of Events, depending upon the number of proposals received. During this time, the Procurement Manager may initiate discussions with Offerors who submit responsive or potentially responsive proposals for the purpose of clarifying aspects of the proposals. However, proposals may be accepted and evaluated without such discussion. Discussions SHALL NOT be initiated by the Offerors.

7. Selection of Finalists

The Evaluation Committee will select and the Procurement Manager will notify the finalist Offerors as per schedule Section II.A, Sequence of Events or as soon as possible thereafter. A schedule for Oral Presentation, if any, will be determined at this time. Finalists will be comprised of up to three (3) Offerors receiving the highest cumulative evaluation points available, excluding points later available for oral presentations, but including any additional points available for applicable valid resident business, Native American resident business, resident veteran business or Native American resident business certificates submitted by the respective Offerors.

8. Oral Presentations

Finalist Offerors, as selected per Section II.B.7 above, may be required to conduct an oral presentation at a venue to be determined as per schedule Section II.A., Sequence of Events, or as soon as possible thereafter. If Oral Presentations are held, Finalist Offerors may be required to make their presentations through electronic means (Microsoft Teams, Zoom, etc.). The Agency will provide Finalist Offerors with an agenda and applicable details; including an invitation to the event. Whether or not Oral Presentations will be held is at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

9. Best and Final Offers

Finalist Offerors may be asked to submit revisions to their proposals for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers by as per schedule Section II. A., Sequence of Events or as soon as possible. Best and final offers may also be clarified and amended at finalist Offeror's Oral Presentation.

10. Finalize Contractual Agreements

After approval of the Evaluation Committee Report, any contractual agreement(s) resulting from this RFP will be finalized with the most advantageous Offeror(s), taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in this RFP, as per Section II.A., Sequence of Events, or as soon as possible thereafter. The most advantageous proposal may or may not have received the most points. In the event mutually agreeable terms cannot be reached with the apparent most advantageous Offeror in the timeframe specified, the State reserves the right to finalize a contractual agreement with the next most advantageous Offeror(s) without undertaking a new procurement process.

11. Contract Awards

Upon receipt of the signed contractual agreement, the Agency Procurement office will award as per Section II.A., Sequence of Events, or as soon as possible thereafter. The award is subject to appropriate Department and State approval.

12. Protest Deadline

Any protest by an Offeror must be submitted timely and in conformance with §13-1-172 NMSA 1978 and applicable procurement regulations. As a Protest Manager has been named in this Request for Proposals, pursuant to §13-1-172 NMSA 1978 and 1.4.1.82 NMAC, ONLY protests delivered directly to the Protest Manager in writing and in a timely fashion will be considered to have been submitted properly and in accordance with statute, rule and this Request for Proposals. The 15 calendar day protest period shall begin on the day following the notice of award of contract(s) and will end at 5:00 pm MDT on the 15th day. Protests must be written and must include the name and address of the protestor and the request for proposal number. It must also contain a statement of the grounds for protest including appropriate supporting exhibits and it must specify the ruling requested from the party listed below. The protest must be directed to:

Rita Scheett, Protest Manager Rita.Scheett@sic.nm.gov

<u>Protests received after the deadline</u> will not be accepted.

C. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Acceptance of Conditions Governing the Procurement

Offerors must indicate their acceptance to be bound by the Conditions Governing the Procurement, Section II, and Evaluation, Section V, by completing and signing the Letter

of Transmittal form, pursuant to the requirements in Section II.C.30, located in APPENDIX E.

2. Incurring Cost

Any cost incurred by the potential Offeror in preparation, transmittal, and/or presentation of any proposal or material submitted in response to this RFP shall be borne solely by the Offeror. Any cost incurred by the Offeror for set up and demonstration of the proposed equipment and/or system shall be borne solely by the Offeror.

3. Prime Contractor Responsibility

Any contractual agreement that may result from this RFP shall specify that the prime contractor is solely responsible for fulfillment of all requirements of the contractual agreement with the State Agency which may derive from this RFP. The State Agency entering into a contractual agreement with a vendor will make payments to only the prime contractor.

4. Subcontractors

The use of subcontractors is not allowed.

5. Amended Proposals

An Offeror may submit an amended proposal before the deadline for receipt of proposals. Such amended proposal must be a complete replacement for a previously submitted proposal and must be clearly identified as such in the transmittal letter. <u>Agency personnel</u> will not merge, collate, or assemble proposal materials.

6. Offeror's Rights to Withdraw Proposal

Offerors will be allowed to withdraw their proposals at any time <u>prior to</u> the deadline for receipt of proposals. The Offeror must submit a written withdrawal request addressed to the Procurement Manager and signed by the Offeror's duly authorized representative.

The approval or denial of withdrawal requests received after the deadline for receipt of the proposals is governed by the applicable procurement regulations, 1.4.1.35 & 1.4.1.36 NMAC.

7. Proposal Offer Firm

Responses to this RFP, including proposal prices for services, will be considered firm for one-hundred twenty (120) days after the due date for receipt of proposals or ninety (90) days after the due date for the receipt of a best and final offer, if the Offeror is invited or required to submit one.

8. Disclosure of Proposal Contents

The contents of all submitted proposals will be kept confidential until the final award has been completed by the Agency. At that time, all proposals and documents pertaining to the proposals will be available for public inspection, *except* for proprietary or confidential material as follows:

a. Proprietary and Confidential information is restricted to:

- 1. confidential financial information concerning the Offeror's organization; and
- 2. information that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, §§57-3A-1 through 57-3A-7 NMSA 1978.
- b. An additional but separate redacted version of Offeror's proposal, as outlined and identified in Section III.B.1.a, shall be submitted containing the blacked-out proprietary or confidential information, in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of the non-confidential version of Offeror's proposal.

<u>IMPORTANT</u>: The price of products offered or the cost of services proposed <u>shall not</u> be designated as proprietary or confidential information.

If a request is received for disclosure of proprietary or confidential materials, the Agency shall examine the request and make a written determination that specifies which portions of the proposal should be disclosed. Unless the Offeror takes legal action to prevent the disclosure, the proposal will be so disclosed. The proposal shall be open to public inspection subject to any continuing prohibition on the disclosure of proprietary or confidential information.

9. No Obligation

This RFP in no manner obligates the State of New Mexico or any of its Agencies to the use of any Offeror's services until a valid written contract is awarded and approved by appropriate authorities.

10. Termination

This RFP may be canceled at any time and any and all proposals may be rejected in whole or in part when the Agency determines such action to be in the best interest of the State of New Mexico.

11. Sufficient Appropriation

Any contract awarded as a result of this RFP process may be terminated if sufficient appropriations or authorizations do not exist. Such terminations will be accomplished by sending written notice to the contractor. The Agency's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations and authorizations are available will be accepted by the contractor as final.

12. Legal Review

The Agency requires that all Offerors agree to be bound by the General Requirements contained in this RFP. Any Offeror's concerns must be promptly submitted in writing to the attention of the Procurement Manager.

13. Governing Law

This RFP and any agreement with an Offeror which may result from this procurement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Mexico.

14. Basis for Proposal

Only information supplied in writing by the Procurement Manager or contained in this RFP shall be used as the basis for the preparation of Offeror proposals.

15. Contract Terms and Conditions

The contract between the Agency and a contractor will follow the format specified by the Agency and contain the terms and conditions set forth in the Draft Contract Appendix C. However, the Agency reserves the right to negotiate provisions in addition to those contained in this RFP (Draft Contract) with any Offeror. The contents of this RFP, as revised and/or supplemented, and the successful Offeror's proposal will be incorporated into and become part of any resultant contract.

The Agency discourages exceptions from the contract terms and conditions as set forth in the RFP Draft Contract. Such exceptions may cause a proposal to be rejected as nonresponsive when, in the sole judgment of the Agency (and its evaluation team), the proposal appears to be conditioned on the exception, or correction of what is deemed to be a deficiency, or an unacceptable exception is proposed which would require a substantial proposal rewrite to correct.

Should an Offeror object to any of the terms and conditions as set forth in the RFP Draft Contract (APPENDIX C) strongly enough to propose alternate terms and conditions in spite of the above, the Offeror must propose **specific** alternative language. The Agency may or may not accept the alternative language. General references to the Offeror's terms and conditions or attempts at complete substitutions of the Draft Contract are not acceptable to the Agency and will result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal.

Offerors must provide a brief discussion of the purpose and impact, if any, of each proposed change followed by the specific proposed alternate wording.

If an Offeror fails to propose any alternate terms and conditions during the procurement process (the RFP process prior to selection as successful Offeror), no proposed alternate terms and conditions will be considered later during the negotiation process. Failure to propose alternate terms and conditions during the procurement process (the RFP process prior to selection as successful Offeror) is an **explicit agreement** by the Offeror that the contractual terms and conditions contained herein are **accepted** by the Offeror.

16. Offeror's Terms and Conditions

Offerors must submit with the proposal a complete set of any additional terms and conditions they expect to have included in a contract negotiated with the Agency. See Section II.C.15 for requirements.

17. Contract Deviations

Any additional terms and conditions, which may be the subject of negotiation (such terms and conditions having been proposed during the procurement process, that is, the RFP process prior to selection as successful Offeror), will be discussed only between the

Agency and the Offeror selected and shall not be deemed an opportunity to amend the Offeror's proposal.

18. Offeror Qualifications

The Evaluation Committee may make such investigations as necessary to determine the ability of the potential Offeror to adhere to the requirements specified within this RFP. The Evaluation Committee will reject the proposal of any potential Offeror who is not a Responsible Offeror or fails to submit a Responsive Offer as defined in §13-1-83 and §13-1-85, NMSA 1978.

19. Right to Waive Minor Irregularities

The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to waive minor irregularities, as defined in Section I.F.18. The Evaluation Committee also reserves the right to waive mandatory requirements, provided that <u>all</u> of the otherwise responsive proposals failed to meet the same mandatory requirements and the failure to do so does not otherwise materially affect the procurement. This right is at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

20. Change in Contractor Representatives

The Agency reserves the right to require a change in contractor representatives if the assigned representative(s) is (are) not, in the opinion of the Agency, adequately meeting the needs of the Agency.

21. Notice of Penalties

The Procurement Code, §§13-1-28 through 13-1-199, NMSA 1978, imposes civil, and misdemeanor and felony criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

22. Agency Rights

The Agency in agreement with the Evaluation Committee reserves the right to accept all or a portion of a potential Offeror's proposal.

23. Right to Publish

Throughout the duration of this procurement process and contract term, Offerors and contractors must secure from the agency written approval prior to the release of any information that pertains to the potential work or activities covered by this procurement and/or agency contracts deriving from this procurement. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal or removal from the contract.

24. Ownership of Proposals

All documents submitted in response to the RFP shall become property of the State of New Mexico. If the RFP is cancelled, all responses received shall be destroyed by the Agency unless the Offeror either picks up, or arranges for pick-up, the materials within three (3) business days of notification of the cancellation. Offeror is responsible for all costs involved in return mailing/shipping of proposals.

25. Confidentiality

Any confidential information provided to, or developed by, the contractor in the performance of the contract resulting from this RFP shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the contractor without the prior written approval of the Agency.

The Contractor(s) agrees to protect the confidentiality of all confidential information and not to publish or disclose such information to any third party without the procuring Agency's written permission.

26. Electronic mail address required

A large part of the communication regarding this procurement will be conducted by electronic mail (e-mail). Offeror must have a valid e-mail address to receive this correspondence. (See also Section II.B.4, Response to Written Questions).

27. Use of Electronic Versions of this RFP

This RFP is being made available by electronic means. In the event of conflict between a version of the RFP in the Offeror's possession and the version maintained by the agency, the Offeror acknowledges that the version maintained by the agency shall govern.

28. New Mexico Employees Health Coverage

- A. If the Offeror has, or grows to, six (6) or more New Mexico-based employees who work, or who are expected to work, an average of at least 20 hours per week over a six (6) month period during the term of the contract, Offeror must agree to have in place, and agree to maintain for the term of the contract, health insurance for those employees if the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed \$250,000 dollars.
- B. Offeror must agree to maintain a record of the number of New Mexico-based employees who have (a) accepted health insurance; (b) decline health insurance due to other health insurance coverage already in place; or (c) decline health insurance for other reasons. These records are subject to review and audit by a representative of the state.
- C. Offeror must agree to advise all New Mexico-based employees of the availability of State publicly financed health care coverage programs by providing each employee with, as a minimum, the following web site link to additional information https://bewellnm.com.

29. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

Offeror must complete, sign, and return the Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form (APPENDIX B) as a part of their proposal. This requirement applies regardless whether a covered contribution was made or not made for the identified officials. Failure to complete and return the signed, unaltered form will result in Offeror's disqualification.

30. Letter of Transmittal

Offeror's proposal must be accompanied by a Letter of Transmittal Form (APPENDIX E), which must be **signed** by the individual authorized to contractually obligate the company, identified in #2 below.

Provide the following information:

- 1. Identify the submitting business entity; Name, Mailing Address, Phone Number, Federal Tax ID Number (TIN), and New Mexico Business Tax ID Number (BTIN, formerly CRS);
- 2. Identify the Name, Title, Telephone, and E-mail address of the person authorized by the Offeror's organization to (A) contractually obligate the business entity providing the Offer, (B) negotiate a contract on behalf of the organization; and/or (C) provide clarifications or answer questions regarding the Offeror's proposal content (A response to B and/or C is only necessary if the responses differs from the individual identified in A);
- 3. Identify any other entity/-ies (such as State Agency, reseller, etc., that is not a sub-contractor*) that may be used in the performance of this awarded contract; and
- 4. The individual identified in #2 above, must sign and date the form, attesting to the veracity of the information provided, and acknowledging (a) the organization's acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement stated in Section II.C.1, (b) the organization's acceptance of the Section V Evaluation Factors, and (c) receipt of any and all amendments to the RFP.

<u>Failure to submit a signed Letter of Transmittal Form (Appendix E) will result in Offeror's disqualification.</u>

31. Disclosure Regarding Responsibility

- A. Any prospective Contractor and any of its Principals who enter into a contract greater than sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) with any state agency or local public body for professional services, tangible personal property, services or construction agrees to disclose whether the Contractor, or any principal of the Contractor's company:
 - 1. is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for award of contract by any federal entity, state agency or local public body;
 - 2. has within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted in a criminal matter or had a civil judgment rendered against them for:
 - a. the 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;

^{*}Subcontractors are not permitted pursuant to this Procurement.

- b. violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes related to the submission of offers; or
- c. the commission in any federal or state jurisdiction of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, violation of Federal criminal tax law, or receiving stolen property;
- 3. is presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by any (federal state or local) government entity with the commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph A of this disclosure; or
- 4. has, preceding this offer, been notified of any delinquent Federal or state taxes in an amount that exceeds \$3,000.00 of which the liability remains unsatisfied. Taxes are considered delinquent if the following criteria apply:
 - a. The tax liability is finally determined. The liability is finally determined if it has been assessed. A liability is not finally determined if there is a pending administrative or judicial challenge. In the case of a judicial challenge of the liability, the liability is not finally determined until all judicial appeal rights have been exhausted.
 - b. The taxpayer is delinquent in making payment. A taxpayer is delinquent if the taxpayer has failed to pay the tax liability when full payment was due and required. A taxpayer is not delinquent in cases where enforced collection action is precluded.
 - c. Have within a three-year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any federal or state agency or local public body.)
- B. Principal, for the purpose of this disclosure, means an officer, director, owner, partner, or a person having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity or related entities.
- C. The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the State Purchasing Agent or other party to this Agreement if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor learns that the Contractor's disclosure was at any time erroneous or became erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- D. A disclosure that any of the items in this requirement exist will not necessarily result in termination of this Agreement. However, the disclosure will be considered in the determination of the Contractor's responsibility and ability to perform under this Agreement. Failure of the Contractor to furnish a disclosure or provide additional information as requested will render the Offeror nonresponsive.
- E. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the disclosure required by this

document. The knowledge and information of a Contractor is not required to exceed that which is the normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

F. The disclosure requirement provided is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making an award and is a continuing material representation of the facts during the term of this Agreement. If during the performance of the contract, the Contractor is indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by any government entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any offenses named in this document the Contractor must provide immediate written notice to the State Purchasing Agent or other party to this Agreement. If it is later determined that the Contractor knowingly rendered an erroneous disclosure, in addition to other remedies available to the Government, the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer may terminate the involved contract for cause. Still further, the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer may suspend or debar the Contractor from eligibility for future solicitations until such time as the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer.

32. New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences

To ensure adequate consideration and application of §13-1-21 NMSA 1978 (as amended), Offeror <u>must</u> submit a copy of its valid New Mexico/Native American Resident Preference Certificate or its valid New Mexico/Native American Resident Veteran Preference with its proposal. Certificates for preferences must be obtained through the New Mexico Department of Taxation & Revenue http://www.tax.newmexico.gov/Businesses/in-state-veteran-preference-certification.aspx.

In accordance with §13-1-21(H) NMSA 1978, an agency shall not award any combination of New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences.

III. RESPONSE FORMAT AND ORGANIZATION

A. NUMBER OF RESPONSES

Offerors shall submit only one proposal in response to this RFP. One original copy and three (3) identical hard copies *and* one electronic copy (on USB drive only) of the response must be provided.

B. NUMBER OF COPIES

1. Hard Copy Responses & USB Copies

Offeror's proposals must be clearly labeled and numbered and indexed as outlined in **Section III.C. Proposal Format**. Proposals must be submitted in the manner outlined below, and sealed according to the definition provided in Section I.F.28. Each ORIGINAL binder (Technical and Cost) shall be clearly marked as "ORIGINAL" on the front of the binder. The additional three (3)

HARD COPIES must each be submitted in separate binders, and must be clearly identified as "COPY" on the front cover.

Technical and Cost portions of Offerors proposal <u>must</u> be submitted in separate binders as indicated below in this section, and <u>must</u> be prominently identified as "Technical Binder," or "Cost Binder," on each front cover. Envelopes, packages or boxes containing the original and the copies must be clearly labeled and submitted in a sealed envelope, package or box according to the information provided in Section I.E. It is not necessary to segregate Technical Binders from Cost Binders, if they are submitted within the same sealed envelope, package or box, as long as the Technical Binders and Cost Binders are each submitted in separate binders. <u>DO NOT submit</u> <u>ANY cost in the Technical Binder</u>.

Offerors **must** deliver:

- a) Technical Proposals One (1) ORIGINAL, three (3) HARD COPIES and one (1) ELECTRONIC copy of the proposal containing <u>ONLY</u> the Technical Proposal; ORIGINAL and all HARD COPIES of the Technical Proposal shall be in separate labeled binders. The electronic copy MUST be submitted as a USB and <u>cannot</u> be emailed. The Technical Proposals <u>SHALL NOT</u> contain any cost information.
 - i. <u>Confidential Information</u>: If Offeror's proposal contains confidential information, as defined in Section I.F.5 and detailed in Section II.C.8, Offeror <u>must</u> submit:
 - all of the requisite proposals identified in Section III.B.1.a above as <u>unredacted</u> (def. Section 1.F.36) versions for evaluation purposes; <u>AND</u>
 - ONE (1) additional **redacted** (def. Section 1.F.24) HARD COPY version and ONE (1) additional **redacted** electronic version for the public file, in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of the non-confidential version of Offeror's proposal. Redacted versions **must** be clearly marked as "REDACTED" or "CONFIDENTIAL" on the front cover of the hard-copy binder and on the first page of the electronic file.;
- b) Cost Proposals One (1) ORIGINAL, three (3) HARD COPIES, and one (1) ELECTRONIC copy of the proposal containing ONLY the Cost Proposal; ORIGINAL and all HARD COPIES of the Cost Proposal shall be in separate labeled binders from the Technical Proposals. *The electronic copy MUST be submitted as a USB and CANNOT be emailed.*

The electronic version/copy of the proposal <u>must</u> mirror the physical binders submitted (i.e. One (1) unredacted USB, one (1) redacted USB. The electronic version <u>cannot</u> be emailed.

The ORIGINAL, HARD COPIES and ELECTRONIC copy information <u>must</u> be identical. In the event of a conflict between versions of the submitted proposal, the ORIGINAL shall govern.

Any proposal that does not adhere to the requirements of this Section and Section III.C.1 **Proposal Content and Organization**, may be deemed non-responsive and rejected on that basis.

C. PROPOSAL FORMAT

All proposals must be submitted in hard copy format, with identical USB copies, as follows:

Hard copies must be typewritten on standard 8.5 x 11 inch paper (larger paper is permissible for charts, spreadsheets, etc.) and placed within binders with tabs delineating each section.

Organization of folders/envelopes for hard copy proposals and electronic copy proposals:

1. Proposal Content and Organization

All proposals must be submitted as follows:

Direct reference to pre-prepared or promotional material may be used if referenced and clearly marked. Promotional material must be minimal. Within each section of the proposal, Offerors must organize and address the RFP requirements in the order indicated below. All forms provided in this RFP must be thoroughly completed and included in the appropriate section of Offeror's proposal. Any and all discussion of proposed costs, rates or expenses must occur ONLY in the Cost Proposal.

Technical Proposal – <u>DO NOT INCLUDE ANY COST INFORMATION IN THE</u> TECHNICAL PROPOSAL.

- i. Signed Letter of Transmittal
- ii. Signed Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form
- iii. Table of Contents
- iv. Response to Contract Terms and Conditions (from Section II.C.15)
- v. Offeror's Additional Terms and Conditions (from Section II.C.16)
- vi. Response to Specifications (except Cost information which shall be included ONLY in Cost Proposal)
 - a. Organizational Experience
 - b. Organizational References
 - c. Mandatory Specifications
 - i. Approach
 - ii. Previous Work Examples
 - iii. Accessibility
 - d. Desirable Specifications
 - i. Complex Data Sets Experience
 - ii. Custom CMS Build Experience
 - e. New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences (if applicable)
 - f. Other Supporting Material (if applicable)

Cost Proposal:

1. Completed Cost Response Form (APPENDIX D)

IV. SPECIFICATIONS

A. DETAILED SCOPE OF WORK

- 1. The Contractor shall provide website design and management services for the design, development, implementation, management and maintenance of an all-new, state-of-the-art New Mexico State Investment Council (NMSIC) website targeted to optimize the NMSIC's online presence in a manner that highlights the NMSIC's vision, accomplishments and strategies. In fulfilling required duties, the selected Contractor shall coordinate with NMSIC staff and NMSIC contractors, developers or designers as designated by the State Investment Officer (SIO). The Contractor shall:
 - a. by April 1, 2026, or such later date as approved, in writing, by the SIO, complete the comprehensive design and launch of a new, state-of-the-art, user friendly and high-functioning website for the NMSIC, that will replace the NMSIC's current website and that:
 - i. is targeted to optimize the NMSIC's online presence in a manner that highlights the NMSIC's vision, accomplishments and strategies, incorporating a cohesive visual style and color palette;
 - ii. is designed in a manner that includes compelling and responsive layouts, including integrated and interactive graphs and dashboards;
 - iii. employs best practices with respect to similarly situated institutional investing organizations;
 - iv. complies with accessibility laws and guidelines, including, but not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213 and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Version 2.1 Level AA;
 - v. is a depository for required public document storage and accessibility; and
 - vi. includes a meeting calendar for public meetings that is editable by NMSIC staff;
 - b. by April 1, 2026, or such later date as approved, in writing by the SIO, develop website management tools that allow NMSIC staff to oversee and maintain the new website, including, at a minimum:
 - i. building out a custom content management system (CMS), in consultation with NMSIC staff;
 - ii. optimizing pages for search engine optimization and site performance (i.e., speed, usability, search rankings);

- iii. ensuring cross-platform and cross-device compatibility;
- iv. developing a high-functioning, mobile-friendly version of the website;
- v. establishing tools and resources for NMSIC staff to oversee and maintain website hosting, domains and applicable certificates; and
- vi. establishing analytics tracking, including capability for generating reports on website traffic, user behavior or other indicators identified by the SIO or other designated NMSIC staff;
- c. as requested by the SIO or designated NMSIC staff, research, recommend and implement new tools, features and technologies foregoing website improvement; and
- d. perform other website design and management projects, as assigned by the SIO or designated NMSIC staff.
- 2. In completing the duties provided in IV.A.1(a) and (b), the Contractor shall meet milestones and deadlines as agreed upon by the Contractor and the NMSIC. The services specified in Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this Paragraph shall be completed by April 1, 2026, unless an extension is approved, in writing, by the SIO.

B. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

1. Organizational Experience

Offeror must:

- a) provide a detailed description of relevant experience with finance/investment sector
 entities relative to website design and development and provision of website
 management tools. The narrative must thoroughly describe how the Offeror has
 supplied expertise for similar contracts and must include the extent of Offeror's
 experience, expertise and knowledge as a provider of website design and management
 services;
- b) provide a detailed resume for all key personnel Offeror proposes to use in performance of the resulting contract, should Offeror be selected, and a description of role(s) such key personnel would have in providing the services. Offeror must include key personnel education, work experience, and relevant/applicable certifications/licenses; and
- c) describe at least two project successes and two project failures of a website design and management engagement. Include how each experience improved the Offeror's services.

2. Organizational References

Offeror must provide a list of up to three (3) external references from similar projects/programs performed for private, state or local government clients within the last five (5) years.

Offeror shall include the following Business Reference information as part of its proposals:

- a) Client name;
- b) Project description;
- c) Project dates (starting and ending);
- d) Staff assigned to reference engagement that will be designated for work per this RFP; and
- e) Client project manager name, telephone number and e-mail address.

Offeror is required to submit APPENDIX F, Organizational Reference Questionnaire ("Questionnaire"), to the business references it lists. The business references must submit the Questionnaire directly to the designee identified in APPENDIX F. The business references must <u>not</u> return the completed Questionnaire to the Offeror. It is the Offeror's responsibility to ensure the completed forms are submitted on or before the date indicated in Section II.A, Sequence of Events, for inclusion in the evaluation process.

Organizational References that are not received or are not complete, may adversely affect the Offeror's score in the evaluation process. Offerors are encouraged to specifically request that their Organizational References provide detailed comments.

3. Mandatory Specifications

- A. <u>Approach</u>. Discuss, in detail, the Offeror's anticipated approach in designing and launching the new NMSIC website, including, but not limited to, a description of proposed milestones and timelines/deadlines and proposed use of website design and implementation methodologies.
- B. <u>Previous Work Examples.</u> Provide three examples of websites designed and managed by the Offeror, including relevant website addresses and/or printouts. The examples must be accompanied by a description of how the website layout is targeted to meet user needs and/or client requests.
- C. <u>Accessibility</u>. Describe Offeror's plan to meet initial and ongoing accessibility requirements and guidelines, including but not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Version 2.1, Level AA.

4. Desirable Specifications

A. <u>Complex Data Sets Experience</u>. Describe Offeror's experience in implementing financial graphs and dashboards on websites.

B. <u>Custom CMS Build Experience</u>. Describe Offeror's experience in building custom content management systems for multi-user teams of website editors, which would include, but not be limited to an editable document storage system for record-keeping purposes and a calendar/event system for public meeting information.

C. BUSINESS SPECIFICATIONS

1. Letter of Transmittal Form

The Offeror's proposal **must** be accompanied by the Letter of Transmittal Form located in APPENDIX E. The form **must** be completed and must be signed by the person authorized to obligate the company. **Failure to submit a signed form will result in Offeror's disqualification.**

2. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

The Offeror must complete an unaltered Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form and submit a signed copy with the Offeror's proposal. This must be accomplished whether or not an applicable contribution has been made. (See APPENDIX B). <u>Failure to complete</u> and return the signed, unaltered form will result in Offeror's disqualification.

3. Oral Presentation

If oral presentations are held, finalist Offeror(s) may be required to explain, demonstrate, detail, and/or clarify any aspect of its submitted proposal, to which the Evaluation Committee may ask questions and/or seek clarifications. Pursuant to Section II.B.8, Oral Presentations may held at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

4. Cost

Offerors must complete the Cost Response Form in APPENDIX D. The following must be reported separately on the form: (1) the total Flat Fee Amount for Comprehensive Website Design and Launch by April 1, 2026 (unless an extension is approved, in writing by the SIO), inclusive of any costs and expenses, including, but not limited to any administrative costs, materials costs, etc.); (2) an hourly rate for post-website launch services for website design and management, as necessary, and requested by the SIO; and (3) any New Mexico gross receipts tax expected to be passed on to the Agency. Offerors shall report the amount specified in (1) with the understanding that the NMSIC may elect to divide that total Fee amount into four equal installments paid over the course of completion of the Scope of Work.

5. Resident Business or Resident Veterans Preference

To ensure application of § 13-1-21 NMSA 1978 (as amended), an Offeror <u>MUST</u> submit a copy, in this section, of its valid New Mexico/Native Resident Preference Certificate or its valid New Mexico/Native American Resident Veteran Preference Certificate, as issued by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department.

V. EVALUATION

A. EVALUATION POINT SUMMARY

The following is a summary of evaluation factors with point values assigned to each. These weighted factors will be used in the evaluation of individual potential Offeror proposals by sub-category.

Evaluation Factors (Correspond to Sections IV.B and IV.C)	Points Available	
A. Technical Specifications (650 Total Points)	11, 41, 41, 41, 41, 41, 41, 41, 41, 41,	
1. Organizational Experience	100	
2. Organizational References	50	
3. Mandatory Specifications		
a. Approach	220	
b. Previous Work Examples	180	
c. Accessible Plan	50	
4. Desirable Specifications		
a. Complex Data Set Experience	25	
b. Custom CMS Build Experience	25	
B. Business Specifications (350 Total Points)		
1. Letter Of Transmittal	Pass/Fail	
2. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form	Pass/Fail	
3. Oral Presentations	50	
4. Cost	300	
TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE	1,000	
5. New Mexico / Native American Resident	80	
Preference		
6. New Mexico / Native American Resident	100	
Veteran Preference		

Table 1: Evaluation Point Summary

B. EVALUATION FACTORS

1. Organizational Experience

(See Table 1 (Item A.1).) Points will be awarded based on the thoroughness and clarity of Offeror's response in this Section. The Evaluation Committee will also weigh the relevancy and extent of Offeror's experience, expertise and knowledge; and of personnel education, experience and certifications/licenses. In addition, points will be awarded based on Offeror's candid and well-thought-out response to successes and failures, as well as the ability of the Offeror to learn from its failures and grow from its successes.

2. Organizational References

(See Table 1 (Item A.2.).) A total of fifty (50) points may be awarded under this category. Five (5) points will be awarded for submission of a complete list of organizational references. The remaining forty-five (45) points will be awarded based upon an evaluation of the responses to a series of questions on the Organizational Reference Questionnaire (Appendix F). Offeror will be evaluated on references that show positive service history, successful execution of services and evidence of satisfaction by each reference. References indicating significantly similar services/scopes of work and comments provided by a submitted reference will add weight and value to a recommendation during the evaluation process. Up to fifteen (15) points will be awarded for each individual response. Zero (0) out of fifteen (15) points will be awarded for each questionnaire not received.

The Evaluation Committee may contact any or all business references for validation of information submitted. If this step is taken, the Procurement Manager and the Evaluation Committee must all be together on a conference call with the submitted reference so that the Procurement Manager and all members of the Evaluation Committee receive the same information. Additionally, the Agency reserves the right to consider any and all information available to it (outside of the Organizational Reference information required herein), in its evaluation of Offeror responsibility per Section II.C.18.

3. Mandatory Specifications

(See Table 1 (Item A.3).)

- a. <u>Approach.</u> Points will be awarded based upon thoroughness, clarity and practicality of the Contractor's approach to designing, launching and managing a new NMSIC website, including, but not limited to a description of anticipated milestones and timelines/deadlines and Contractor's proposed use of design and implementation methodologies.
- b. <u>Previous Work Examples.</u> Points will be awarded based upon the quality of website examples provided and the Offeror's example-based description of user benefits provided by website design layouts. Each of the examples will be assigned an amount of up to 60 possible points. If fewer than three examples are provided, 0 out of 60 points will be awarded for each example not submitted.
- c. <u>Accessibility.</u> Points will be awarded based upon the thoroughness and clarity of the Contractor's approach to meet initial and ongoing accessibility requirements and guidelines, including, but not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Version 2.1, Level AA.

4. Desirable Specifications

(See Table 1 (Item A.4).)

- a. <u>Complex Data Set Experience.</u> Points will be awarded based upon the demonstrated depth of the Offeror's experience in implementing financial graphs and dashboards on websites.
- b. <u>Custom CMS Build Experience.</u> Points will be awarded based upon the demonstrated depth of the Offeror's experience in building custom content management systems for multi-user teams of website editors, which would include, but not be limited to an editable document storage system for record-keeping purposes and a calendar/event system for public meeting information.

5. Letter of Transmittal

(See Table 1 (Item B.1).) Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

6. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

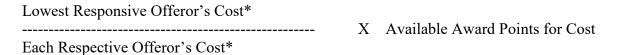
(See Table 1 (Item B.2).) Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

7. Oral Presentation

(See Table 1 (Item B.3).) Points will be awarded based on the quality, organization and effectiveness of communication of the information presented, as well as the professionalism of the presenters and technical knowledge of the proposed staff. Prior to Oral Presentation, Agency will provide the Offeror a presentation agenda. (If no Oral Presentations are held all Offerors will receive the maximum amount of total points for this Evaluation Factor).

8. Cost

(See Table 1 (Item B.4).) The evaluation of each Offeror's cost proposal will be conducted using the following formula:



^{*}Cost is Measured by Total Estimated Fees, Compensation and Costs for One-Year Term, plus hourly rates applicable after website launch (which will be estimated to apply for an estimated 200 hours for an initial one-year term). The sum will be measured exclusive of any applicable NM gross receipts tax. (See Appendix D.)

9. New Mexico Preferences

Percentages will be determined based upon the point-based system outlined in § 13-1-21 NMSA 1978 (as amended).

A. New Mexico Resident Business Preference / Native American Resident

Preference

(See Table 1 (Item B.5).) If an Offeror has provided a copy of its New Mexico Resident Preference Certificate or Native American Resident Preference Certificate, the points awarded will be calculated as 8% of the total points available in this RFP.

B. New Mexico/Native American Resident Veteran Preference

(See Table 1 (Item B.6).) If an Offeror has provided a copy of its New Mexico Resident Veteran Preference Certificate or Native American Resident Veteran Preference Certificate the points awarded will be calculated as 10% of the total points available in this RFP.

C. EVALUATION PROCESS

- 1. All Offeror proposals will be reviewed for compliance with the requirements and specifications stated within the RFP. Proposals deemed non-responsive will be eliminated from further consideration.
- 2. The Procurement Manager may contact the Offeror for clarification of the response as specified in Section II. B.6.
- 3. Responsive proposals will be evaluated on the evaluation factors that have been assigned a point value in Section V. The responsible Offerors with the highest scores may be selected as finalist Offerors, based upon the proposals submitted. In accordance with §13-1-117 NMSA 1978, the responsible Offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the Agency taking into consideration the Evaluation Factors in Section V will be recommended for award (as specified in Section II.B.11). Please note, however, that a serious deficiency in the response to any one factor may be grounds for rejection regardless of overall score.

APPENDIX A-ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT FORM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

New Mexico State Investment Council Website Design and Management Services RFP # 25-337-0002

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT FORM

This optional Acknowledgement of Receipt Form establishes a distribution list to be used for the distribution of written responses to questions, and/or any amendments to the RFP. Failure to return the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form does not prohibit potential Offerors from submitting a response to this RFP. However, by not returning the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form, the potential Offeror's representative shall not be included on the distribution list, and will be solely responsible for obtaining from the Procurement Library (Section I.G.) responses to written questions and any amendments to the RFP.

The information below will be used for all correspondence related to the Request for Proposal. Only one contact per Offeror is permitted.

ORGANIZATION:		
CONTACT NAME:		
TITLE:	PHONE 1	NO.:
E-MAIL:		
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP CODE:

Submit Acknowledgement of Receipt Form to:

To: Francesca Moradi, Procurement Manager E-mail: SIC-website-rfp@state.nm.us Subject Line: RFP # 25-337-0002

APPENDIX B-CAMPAIGN CONRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM

Pursuant to the Procurement Code, Sections 13-1-28, et seq., NMSA 1978 and NMSA 1978, § 13-1-191.1 (2006), as amended by Laws of 2007, Chapter 234, a prospective contractor subject to this section shall disclose all campaign contributions given by the prospective contractor or a family member or representative of the prospective contractor to an applicable public official of the state or a local public body during the two years prior to the date on which a proposal is submitted or, in the case of a sole source or small purchase contract, the two years prior to the date on which the contractor signs the contract, if the aggregate total of contributions given by the prospective contractor or a family member or representative of the prospective contractor to the public official exceeds two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) over the two-year period. A prospective contractor submitting a disclosure statement pursuant to this section who has not contributed to an applicable public official or whose representatives have not contributed to an applicable public official shall make a statement that no contribution was made.

A prospective contractor or a family member or representative of the prospective contractor shall not give a campaign contribution or other thing of value to an applicable public official or the applicable public official's employees during the pendency of the procurement process or during the pendency of negotiations for a sole source or small purchase contract.

Furthermore, a solicitation or proposed award for a proposed contract may be canceled pursuant to Section 13-1-181 NMSA 1978 or a contract that is executed may be ratified or terminated pursuant to Section 13-1-182 NMSA 1978 if a prospective contractor fails to submit a fully completed disclosure statement pursuant to this section; or a prospective contractor or family member or representative of the prospective contractor gives a campaign contribution or other thing of value to an applicable public official or the applicable public official's employees during the pendency of the procurement process.

The state agency or local public body that procures the services or items of tangible personal property shall indicate on the form the name or names of every applicable public official, if any, for which disclosure is required by a prospective contractor.

THIS FORM MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND MUST BE FILED BY ANY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR WHETHER OR NOT THEY, THEIR FAMILY MEMBER, OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE HAS MADE ANY CONTRIBUTIONS SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE.

The following definitions apply:

"Applicable public official" means a person elected to an office or a person appointed to complete a term of an elected office, who has the authority to award or influence the award of the contract for which the prospective contractor is submitting a competitive sealed proposal or who has the authority to negotiate a sole source or small purchase contract that may be awarded without submission of a sealed competitive proposal.

"Campaign Contribution" means a gift, subscription, loan, advance or deposit of money or other thing of value, including the estimated value of an in-kind contribution, that is made to or received by an applicable public official or any person authorized to raise, collect or expend contributions on that official's behalf for the purpose of electing the official to statewide or local office. "Campaign Contribution" includes the payment of a debt incurred in an election campaign, but does not include the value of services provided without compensation or unreimbursed travel or other personal expenses of individuals who volunteer a portion or all of their time on behalf of a candidate or political committee, nor does it include the administrative or solicitation expenses of a political committee that are paid by an organization that sponsors the committee.

"Family member" means a spouse, father, mother, child, father-in-law, mother-in-law, daughter-in-law or son-in-law of (a) a prospective contractor, if the prospective contractor is a natural person; or (b) an owner of a prospective contractor;

"Pendency of the procurement process" means the time period commencing with the public notice of the request for proposals and ending with the award of the contract or the cancellation of the request for proposals.

"Prospective contractor" means a person or business that is subject to the competitive sealed proposal process set forth in the Procurement Code [Sections <u>13-1-28</u> through <u>13-1-199</u> NMSA 1978] or is not required to submit a competitive sealed proposal because that person or business qualifies for a sole source or small purchase contract.

"Representative of a prospective contractor" means an officer or director of a corporation, a member or manager of a limited liability corporation, a partner of a partnership or a trustee of a trust of the prospective contractor.

(ame(s) of Applicable Public Official(s) if any:
Iew Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham Iew Mexico State Treasurer Laura Montoya Iew Mexico State Land Commissioner Stephanie Garcia Richard
DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR:
Contribution Made By:
telation to Prospective Contractor:
Date Contribution(s) Made:
amount(s) of Contribution(s)
Vature of Contribution(s)

Purpose of Contribution(s)			
(Attach extra pages if necessary)			
Signature	Date		
Title (position)			
	OR—		
NO CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OVER TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250) WERE MADE to an applicable public official by me, a family member or representative.			
Signature	Date		
Title (Position)			

APPENDIX C-DRAFT CONTRACT

The Agreement included in this Appendix C represents the contract/price agreement the Agency intends to use to make an award/awards. The State of New Mexico and the Agency reserve the right to modify the Agreement prior to, or during, the award process, as necessary.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

NEW MEXICO STATE INVESTMENT COUNCIL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT # XX-XXX-XXXX

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between the State of New Mexico, New Mexico State Investment Council, hereinafter referred to as the "Agency" or "NMSIC" and [NAME OF CONTRACTOR], hereinafter referred to as the "Contractor," and is effective as of the date set forth below upon which it is executed by the General Services Department/State Purchasing Division (GSD/SPD Contracts Review Bureau).

IT IS AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES:

1. Scope of Work.

The Contractor shall provide website design and management services for the design, development, implementation, management and maintenance of an all-new, state-of-the-art New Mexico State Investment Council (NMSIC) website targeted to optimize the NMSIC's online presence in a manner that highlights the NMSIC's vision, accomplishments and strategies. In fulfilling required duties, the selected Contractor shall coordinate with NMSIC staff and NMSIC contractors, developers or designers as designated by the State Investment Officer (SIO). The Contractor shall:

A. by April 1, 2026 or such later date as approved, in writing, by the SIO, complete the comprehensive design and launch of a new, state-of-the-art, user friendly and high-functioning website for the NMSIC, that will replace the NMSIC's current website and that:

- i. is targeted to optimize the NMSIC's online presence in a manner that highlights the NMSIC's vision, accomplishments and strategies, incorporating a cohesive visual style and color palette;
- ii. is designed in a manner that includes compelling and responsive layouts, including integrated and interactive graphs and dashboards;
- iii. employs best practices with respect to similarly situated institutional investing organizations;
- iv. complies with accessibility laws and guidelines, including, but not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213 and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Version 2.1 Level AA;

- v. is a depository for required public document storage and accessibility; and
- vi. includes a meeting calendar for public meetings that is editable by NMSIC staff;
- B. by April 1, 2026, or such later date as approved, in writing, by the SIO, develop website management tools that allow NMSIC staff to oversee and maintain the new website, including, at a minimum:
 - i. building out a custom content management system (CMS), in consultation with NMSIC staff;
 - ii. optimizing pages for search engine optimization and site performance (i.e., speed, usability, search rankings);
 - iii. ensuring cross-platform and cross-device compatibility;
 - iv. developing a high-functioning, mobile-friendly version of the website;
 - v. establishing tools and resources for NMSIC staff to oversee and maintain website hosting, domains and applicable certificates; and
 - vi. establishing analytics tracking, including capability for generating reports on site traffic, user behavior or other indicators identified by the SIO or other designated NMSIC staff;
- C. as requested by the SIO or designated NMSIC staff, research, recommend and implement new tools, features and technologies pertinent to website design and management; and
- D. perform other website design and management projects, as assigned by the SIO or designated NMSIC staff.

2. Compensation.

A. The Agency shall pay to the Contractor in full payment for services satisfactorily performed: a fixed amount of _______ dollars (\$_______) payable in four equal installments pursuant to the payment schedule provided in Appendix A (see FNI) for services rendered pursuant to Subsections A and B of Section 1 of this Agreement and additional compensation at a rate of (\$______) per hour for services described in Subsections C and D of Section 1 of this Agreement, such combined compensation not to exceed (AMOUNT), excluding gross receipts tax. The New Mexico gross receipts tax levied on the amounts payable under this Agreement totaling (AMOUNT) shall be paid by the Agency to the Contractor. The total amount payable to the Contractor under this Agreement, including gross receipts tax and expenses, shall not exceed (AMOUNT). This amount is a maximum and not a guarantee that the work assigned to be

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¹ Contractor may be paid in four equal installments according to deliverables/milestones schedule, if elected by the NMSIC and to be agreed upon by the Parties.

performed by Contractor under this Agreement shall equal the amount stated herein. The parties do not intend for the Contractor to continue to provide services without compensation when the total compensation amount is reached. Contractor is responsible for notifying the Agency when the services provided under this Agreement reach the total compensation amount. In no event will the Contractor be paid for services provided in excess of the total compensation amount without this Agreement being amended in writing prior to those services in excess of the total compensation amount being provided.

- B. Payment is subject to availability of funds pursuant to Section 5 (Appropriations) herein and to any negotiations between the parties from year to year pursuant to Section 1 (Scope of Work) herein. All invoices MUST BE received by the Agency no later than fifteen (15) days after the termination of the Fiscal Year in which the services were delivered. Invoices received after such date WILL NOT BE PAID.
- C. Contractor must submit a detailed statement accounting for all services performed and expenses incurred. If the Agency finds that the services are not acceptable, within thirty days after the date of receipt of written notice from the Contractor that payment is requested, it shall provide the Contractor a letter of exception explaining the defect or objection to the services, and outlining steps the Contractor may take to provide remedial action. Upon certification by the Agency that the services have been received and accepted, payment shall be tendered to the Contractor within thirty days after the date of acceptance. If payment is made by mail, the payment shall be deemed tendered on the date it is postmarked. However, the agency shall not incur late charges, interest, or penalties for failure to make payment within the time specified herein.

3. <u>Term.</u>

This Agreement is effective upon signature by both Parties and approval by the GSD/SPD Contracts Review Bureau. This Agreement shall terminate on the date occurring one year after the effective date of the Agreement, unless terminated pursuant to Section 4 (Termination), Section 5 (Appropriations), Section 14 (Conflict of Interest; Governmental Conduct Act) or Paragraph 16 (Fraud, Corruption and Questionable Conduct) herein. This Agreement may be renewed for up to three additional one-year terms. In accordance with NMSA 1978, § 13-1-150, no contract term for a professional services contract, including extensions and renewals, shall exceed four years, except as set forth in NMSA 1978, § 13-1-150. Any renewal will be limited in scope to the items specified in Subsections C and D of Section 1 and to payment of the hourly rates specified in Section 2 of this Agreement. In no event will any hourly rate imposed exceed the amounts provided in this Agreement.

4. <u>Termination</u>.

- A. <u>Grounds</u>. The Agency may terminate this Agreement for convenience or cause. The Contractor may only terminate this Agreement based upon the Agency's uncured, material breach of this Agreement.
 - B. Notice; Agency Opportunity to Cure.

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in Section (4)(B)(3), the Agency shall give Contractor written notice of termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of termination.
- 2. Contractor shall give Agency written notice of termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of termination, which notice shall (i) identify all the Agency's material breaches of this Agreement upon which the termination is based and (ii) state what the Agency must do to cure such material breaches. Contractor's notice of termination shall only be effective (i) if the Agency does not cure all material breaches within the thirty (30) day notice period or (ii) in the case of material breaches that cannot be cured within thirty (30) days, the Agency does not, within the thirty (30) day notice period, notify the Contractor of its intent to cure and begin with due diligence to cure the material breach.
- 3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement may be terminated immediately upon written notice to the Contractor (i) if the Contractor becomes unable to perform the services contracted for, as determined by the Agency; (ii) if, during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor is suspended or debarred by the State Purchasing Agent; or (iii) the Agreement is terminated pursuant to Section 5,(Appropriations), Section 14 (Conflict of Interest; Governmental Conduct Act) or Section 16 (Fraud, Corruption and Questionable Conduct) herein.
- C. <u>Liability</u>. Except as otherwise expressly allowed or provided under this Agreement, the Agency's sole liability upon termination shall be to pay for acceptable work performed prior to the Contractor's receipt or issuance of a notice of termination; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that a notice of termination shall not nullify or otherwise affect either party's liability for pre-termination defaults under or breaches of this Agreement. The Contractor shall submit an invoice for such work within thirty (30) days of receiving or sending the notice of termination. <u>THIS PROVISION IS NOT EXCLUSIVE AND DOES NOT WAIVE THE AGENCY'S OTHER LEGAL RIGHTS AND REMEDIES CAUSED BY THE CONTRACTOR'S DEFAULT/BREACH OF THIS AGREEMENT.</u>
- D. <u>Termination Management</u>. Immediately upon receipt by either the Agency or the Contractor of notice of termination of this Agreement, the Contractor shall: 1) not incur any further obligations for salaries, services or any other expenditure of funds under this Agreement without written approval of the Agency; 2) comply with all directives issued by the Agency in the notice of termination as to the performance of work under this Agreement; and 3) take such action as the Agency shall direct for the protection, preservation, retention or transfer of all property titled to the Agency and records generated under this Agreement. Any non-expendable personal property or equipment provided to or purchased by the Contractor with contract funds shall become property of the Agency upon termination and shall be submitted to the agency as soon as practicable.

5. Appropriations.

The terms of this Agreement are contingent upon sufficient appropriations and authorization being made by the Legislature of New Mexico for the performance of this Agreement. If sufficient appropriations and authorization are not made by the Legislature, this Agreement shall terminate immediately upon written notice being given by the Agency to the Contractor. The Agency's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations are available shall be accepted by the Contractor and shall be final. If the Agency proposes an amendment to the Agreement to unilaterally reduce funding,

the Contractor shall have the option to terminate the Agreement or to agree to the reduced funding, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed amendment.

6. <u>Disclosure and Inquiries.</u>

The State, the Agency, the SIO and the Agency staff will have no liability for making any disclosure believed in good faith reliance on New Mexico or federal law it is allowed to make under applicable law. If the Agency receives an inquiry from regulators, overseers or the media concerning any work performed by the Contractor, and if the Agency contacts the Contractor seeking information to respond to such inquiry, the Contractor promptly shall respond to the Agency with such information as may be reasonably necessary to respond to the inquiry.

7. Public Records and Disclosures.

The Contractor acknowledges that the Agency is a public agency subject to state laws, including, without limitation, the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, which provides generally that all records relating to a public agency's business are open to public inspection and copying unless exempted under the Inspection of Public Records Act, and the Open Meetings Act, which provides generally for open meetings of public deliberative bodies. The Contractor additionally acknowledges that the Agency may provide such public information to members of the State Investment Council, members of the Legislature and other relevant state agencies, including but not limited to the Office of the State Auditor.

The Contractor agrees not to make any claim against the State, the Agency, the SIO or any of the Agency staff if any of them or any other third party makes available to the public any report, notice or other information received from the Contractor or any related entity which was permitted to be made public by the State pursuant to the Inspection of Public Records Act or the Open Meetings Act or as otherwise provided pursuant to this section. The Contractor agrees to fully release, waive and hold the State, the Agency, the SIO and the Agency staff harmless from any purported liability to the Contractor associated with the release of any information in accordance with this section or New Mexico law.

8. <u>Status of Contractor.</u>

The Contractor and its agents and employees are independent contractors performing professional services for the Agency and are not employees of the State of New Mexico. The Contractor and its agents and employees shall not accrue leave, retirement, insurance, bonding, use of state vehicles, or any other benefits afforded to employees of the State of New Mexico as a result of this Agreement. The Contractor acknowledges that all sums received hereunder are reportable by the Contractor for tax purposes, including without limitation, self-employment and business income tax. The Contractor agrees not to purport to bind the State of New Mexico unless the Contractor has express written authority to do so, and then only within the strict limits of that authority.

9. Assignment.

The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement or assign any claims for money due or to become due under this Agreement without the prior written approval of the Agency.

10. Subcontracting.

The Contractor shall not subcontract any portion of the services to be performed under this Agreement.

11. Release.

Final payment of the amounts due under this Agreement shall operate as a release of the Agency, its officers and employees, and the State of New Mexico from all liabilities, claims and obligations whatsoever arising from or under this Agreement.

12. Confidentiality.

Any confidential information provided to or developed by the Contractor in the performance of this Agreement shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the Contractor without the prior written approval of the Agency.

13. Product of Service -- Copyright.

All materials developed or acquired by the Contractor under this Agreement shall become the property of the State of New Mexico and shall be delivered to the Agency no later than the termination date of this Agreement. Nothing developed or produced, in whole or in part, by the Contractor under this Agreement shall be the subject of an application for copyright or other claim of ownership by or on behalf of the Contractor.

14. <u>Conflict of Interest; Governmental Conduct Act.</u>

- A. The Contractor represents and warrants that it presently has no interest and, during the term of this Agreement, shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance or services required under the Agreement.
- B. The Contractor further represents and warrants that it has complied with, and, during the term of this Agreement, will continue to comply with, and that this Agreement complies with all applicable provisions of the Governmental Conduct Act, Chapter 10, Article 16 NMSA 1978. Without in anyway limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Contractor specifically represents and warrants that:
 - 1) in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-4.3, the Contractor does not employ, has not employed, and will not employ during the term of this Agreement any Agency employee while such employee was or is employed by the Agency and participating directly or indirectly in the Agency's contracting process;
 - 2) this Agreement complies with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-7(A) because (i) the Contractor is not a public officer or employee of the State; (ii) the Contractor is not a member of the family of a public officer or employee or the family of a public officer or employee has a substantial interest; or (iv) if the Contractor is a public officer or employee of the State, a member of the family of a public officer or employee of the State, or a business in which a public officer or employee of the State or the family of a public officer or employee of the State has a substantial interest, public notice was given as required by NMSA 1978, § 10-16-7(A) and this Agreement was awarded pursuant to a competitive process;

- 3) in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-8(A), (i) the Contractor is not, and has not been represented by, a person who has been a public officer or employee of the State within the preceding year and whose official act directly resulted in this Agreement and (ii) the Contractor is not, and has not been assisted in any way regarding this transaction by, a former public officer or employee of the State whose official act, while in State employment, directly resulted in the Agency's making this Agreement;
- 4) this Agreement complies with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-9(A) because (i) the Contractor is not a legislator; (ii) the Contractor is not a member of a legislator's family; (iii) the Contractor is not a business in which a legislator or a legislator's family has a substantial interest; or (iv) if the Contractor is a legislator, a member of a legislator's family, or a business in which a legislator or a legislator's family has a substantial interest, disclosure has been made as required by NMSA 1978, § 10-16-7(A), this Agreement is not a sole source or small purchase contract, and this Agreement was awarded in accordance with the provisions of the Procurement Code;
- 5) in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-13, the Contractor has not directly participated in the preparation of specifications, qualifications or evaluation criteria for this Agreement or any procurement related to this Agreement; and
- 6) in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-3 and § 10-16-13.3, the Contractor has not contributed, and during the term of this Agreement shall not contribute, anything of value to a public officer or employee of the Agency.
- C. Contractor's representations and warranties in Subsections A and B of this Section 12 are material representations of fact upon which the Agency relied when this Agreement was entered into by the parties. Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the Agency if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, Contractor learns that Contractor's representations and warranties in this Section were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances. If it is later determined that Contractor's representations and warranties in this Section were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances, in addition to other remedies available to the Agency and notwithstanding anything in the Agreement to the contrary, the Agency may immediately terminate the Agreement.
- D. All terms defined in the Governmental Conduct Act have the same meaning in this Section.

16. Fraud, Corruption and Questionable Conduct.

- A. During the Term of this Agreement, the Contractor agrees to observe the highest standards and ethics. In adherence to this obligation, the parties to this Agreement define, for purpose of this provision, the terms set forth below:
 - 1. "corrupt practice" means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of

anything of value to influence the action of a public official, the NMSIC or the SIO, or threatening injury to person, property or reputation, in connection with the procurement process or in contract execution in order to obtain or retain business or other improper advantage in the conduct of business; and

- 2. "fraudulent practice" means a misrepresentation or omission of facts in order to influence a procurement process or the execution of a contract to the detriment of the State of New Mexico, the SIC or SIO, or SIC clients and/or beneficiaries and includes collusive, unfair or corrupt practices which deprive the benefits of fair, free or open competition, consideration or analysis.
- B. The Contractor understands and agrees that the NMSIC or SIO may, in addition to any other remedy available under law:
- 1. cancel this Agreement if the NMSIC or SIO at any time determines in its sole discretion that corrupt, questionable or fraudulent practices were engaged in by the Contractor or its affiliates during the procurement or execution of this Agreement; and
- 2. declare a Contractor or its affiliates ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, if the NMSIC or SIO at any time determines in its sole discretion that the Contractor or its affiliates have engaged in corrupt, questionable or fraudulent practices during the procurement process or during the execution of this Agreement.

17. Amendment.

- A. This Agreement shall not be altered, changed or amended except by instrument in writing executed by the parties hereto and all other required signatories.
- B. If the Agency proposes an amendment to the Agreement to unilaterally reduce funding due to budget or other considerations, the Contractor shall, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed Amendment, have the option to terminate the Agreement, pursuant to the termination provisions as set forth in Section 4 herein, or to agree to the reduced funding.

18. Entire Agreement.

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof. No prior Agreement or understanding, oral or otherwise, of the parties or their agents shall be valid or enforceable unless embodied in this Agreement.

19. Penalties for Violation of Law.

The Procurement Code, NMSA 1978 §§ 13-1-28 through 13-1-199, imposes civil and criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for illegal bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

20. Equal Opportunity Compliance.

The Contractor agrees to abide by all federal and state laws and rules and regulations, and executive orders of the Governor of the State of New Mexico, pertaining to equal employment opportunity. In accordance with all such laws of the State of New Mexico, the Contractor assures

that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental handicap, or serious medical condition, spousal affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity, be excluded from employment with or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity performed under this Agreement. If Contractor is found not to be in compliance with these requirements during the life of this Agreement, Contractor agrees to take appropriate steps to correct these deficiencies.

21. <u>Americans with Disabilities.</u> Contractor certifies compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government, and that programs, services and activities provided to the general public on behalf of the SIO under a contract resulting from this Agreement comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 28 C.F.R., Part 35, Subpart B 35.130.

22. Applicable Law.

The laws of the State of New Mexico shall govern this Agreement, without giving effect to its choice of law provisions. Venue shall be proper only in a New Mexico court of competent jurisdiction in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 38-3-1 (G). By execution of this Agreement, Contractor acknowledges and agrees to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of New Mexico over any and all lawsuits arising under or out of any term of this Agreement.

23. Workers Compensation.

The Contractor agrees to comply with state laws and rules applicable to workers compensation benefits for its employees. If the Contractor fails to comply with the Workers Compensation Act and applicable rules when required to do so, this Agreement may be terminated by the Agency.

24. Records and Financial Audit.

The Contractor shall maintain detailed records of the services completed under Subsections A and B of Section 1 of this Agreement and for which an installment payment is billed to the Agency. For services completed under Subsections C and D of Section 1 of this Agreement and to which an hourly rate is applied, the Contractor shall maintain detailed time and expenditure records that indicate the date, time, nature and cost of services rendered during the Agreement's term and effect and retain them for a period of three (3) years from the date of final payment under this Agreement. The records shall be subject to inspection by the Agency, the General Services Department/State Purchasing Division and the State Auditor. The Agency shall have the right to audit billings both before and after payment. Payment under this Agreement shall not foreclose the right of the Agency to recover excessive or illegal payments.

25. <u>Indemnification.</u>

The Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Agency and the State of New Mexico from all actions, proceeding, claims, demands, costs, damages, attorneys' fees and all other liabilities and expenses of any kind from any source which may arise out of the performance of this Agreement, caused by the negligent act or failure to act of the Contractor, its officers, employees, servants, subcontractors or agents, or if caused by the actions of any client of the Contractor resulting in injury or damage to persons or property during the time when the Contractor or any officer, agent,

employee, servant or subcontractor thereof has or is performing services pursuant to this Agreement. In the event that any action, suit or proceeding related to the services performed by the Contractor or any officer, agent, employee, servant or subcontractor under this Agreement is brought against the Contractor, the Contractor shall, as soon as practicable but no later than two (2) days after it receives notice thereof, notify the legal counsel of the Agency and the Risk Management Division of the New Mexico General Services Department by certified mail.

26. New Mexico Employees Health Coverage.

- A. If Contractor has, or grows to, six (6) or more New Mexico-based employees who work, or who are expected to work, an average of at least 20 hours per week over a six (6) month period during the term of the contract, Contractor certifies, by signing this agreement, to have in place, and agree to maintain for the term of the contract, health insurance for those employees and offer that health insurance to those employees if the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed \$250,000 dollars.
- B. Contractor agrees to maintain a record of the number of New Mexico-based employees who have (a) accepted health insurance; (b) declined health insurance due to other health insurance coverage already in place; or (c) declined health insurance for other reasons. These records are subject to review and audit by a representative of the state.
- C. Contractor agrees to advise all New Mexico-based employees of the availability of State publicly financed health care coverage.

27. Invalid Term or Condition.

If any term or condition of this Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected and shall be valid and enforceable.

28. Enforcement of Agreement.

A party's failure to require strict performance of any provision of this Agreement shall not waive or diminish that party's right thereafter to demand strict compliance with that or any other provision. No waiver by a party of any of its rights under this Agreement shall be effective unless express and in writing, and no effective waiver by a party of any of its rights shall be effective to waive any other rights.

29. Notices and Invoices.

A. Any notice required to be given to either party by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered in person, by courier service or by U.S. mail, either first class or certified, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, as follows:

To the Agency:

State Investment Council Attn: Francesca Moradi 41 Plaza La Prensa Santa Fe, NM 87507 To the Contractor:

[insert name, address and email].

NEW MEXICO STATE INVESTMENT COUNCIL

B. Notwithstanding the foregoing, invoices shall be sent by email to NMSIC Accounts Payable (ap@nmsic.nm.gov); Brent Shipp, Chief Financial Officer (brent.shipp@nmsic.nm.gov) and Rita Scheett, Administrative Accountant (rita.scheett@nmsic.nm.gov).

30. Authority.

If Contractor is other than a natural person, the individual(s) signing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor represents and warrants that he or she has the power and authority to bind Contractor, and that no further action, resolution, or approval from Contractor is necessary to enter into a binding contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date of signature by the GSD/SPD Contracts Review Bureau below.

	Date:
Jon Clark, State Investment Officer	
	Date:
Amy Chavez-Romero, Deputy General Counsel – Certifying legal sufficiency	
	Date:
Brent H. Shipp, Chief Financial Officer -Certifying budget sufficiency	
NTRACTOR	
	Date:
Contractor	

compensating taxes.	1,7,5	1
ID Number:		
By:	Date:	
Taxation and Revenue Department		

The records of the Taxation and Revenue Department reflect that the Contractor is registered with the Taxation and Revenue Department of the State of New Mexico to pay gross receipts and

CONTRACT APPENDIX A (TBD)

APPENDIX D-COST RESPONSE FORM

(1) Total Flat Fee Amount for Comprehensive Website Design and Launch by April 1, 2026 (unless an extension is approved, in writing by the SIO), <i>inclusive</i> of any costs and expenses, including, but not limited to any administrative costs, materials costs, etc.*
(2) Hourly Rate for Post Website-Launch Design and Management Services performed at the request of the SIO
/hour**
(3) Gross Receipts Tax (specify GRT or other applicable tax amounts (including specification of applicable rates) that Contractor would pass on to the NMSIC. Please itemize GRT applied to the amounts in (1) and (2) separately.)

^{*} Offerors shall report the amount specified in (1) with the understanding that the NMSIC may elect to divide the total Flat Fee amount into four equal installments paid over the course of completion of the Scope of Work.

^{**}Please note if the contract is renewed beyond an initial one-year term, the same hourly rates provided in (2) will apply during any subsequent renewals. Flat amounts specified in (1) will not apply to any subsequent renewals.

APPENDIX E-LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL FORM

Please complete this form in its entirety. Failure to **sign and/or submit** this form will result in the disqualification of Offeror's proposal.

RFP#: 25-337-0002

ndividual(s) authorized by the r (C) clarify/respond to querie		
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vided on this form, and explice f of the submitting-organization	itly acknowledges the foll identified in item #1, abo	llowing: ve, I accept the Conditions
that submission of our proposal		
rledge receipt of any and all ame	endments to this RFP, if ar	ıy.
	С	Oate:
by the individual identified i	n item #2.A, above.)	
	perform the functions in Columns B and/or over entity/-ies (such as a State A formance of any resultant control of the submitting-organization of the submitting-organization of the submission of our proposal on V of this RFP; and	vledge receipt of any and all amendments to this RFP, if ar

APPENDIX F-ORGANIZATIONAL REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE

The State of New Mexico, as a part of the RFP process, requires Offerors to list a minimum of three (3) organizational references in their proposals. The purpose of these references is to document Offeror's experience relevant to the Section IV.A, Detailed Scope of Work in an effort to evaluate Offeror's ability to provide goods and/or services, performance under similar contracts, and ability to provide knowledgeable and experienced staffing.

Offeror is required to send the following Organizational Reference Questionnaire to each business reference listed in its proposal, as per Section IV.B.2. The business reference, if it chooses to respond, is required to submit its response to the Organizational Reference Questionnaire directly to: Francesca Moradi at SIC-website-rfp@state.nm.us by 3:00 P.M. MDT of September 24, 2025, for inclusion in the evaluation process. The Questionnaire and information provided will become a part of the submitted proposal. Businesses/Organizations providing references may be contacted for validation of content provided therein.

(See form beginning on next page.)

RFP # 25-337-0002 ORGANIZATIONAL REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE FORM:

(Name of Offeror)	

This form is being submitted to your company for completion as a reference for the organization listed above. Submit this Questionnaire to the State of New Mexico, State Investment Council via e-mail at:

Name: Francesca Moradi, Procurement Manager

Email: SIC-website-rfp@state.nm.us

Forms must be submitted no later than 3:00 p.m. MDT on September 24, 2025, and <u>must not</u> be returned to the person or organization requesting the reference. References are <u>strongly</u> <u>encouraged</u> to provide comments in response to organizational ratings. The comments you provide will help the State evaluate the above-referenced Offeror's service history, successful execution of services and evidence of customer/client satisfaction.

<u>For questions or concerns regarding this form</u>, please contact the <u>Procurement Manager</u> at (505) 476-9516 & <u>SIC-website-rfp@state.nm.us</u>. When contacting the Procurement Manager, include the Request for Proposal number provided at the top of this page.

QUESTIONS:

1.	In what capacity have you worked with this vendor in the past? COMMENTS:
2.	How would you rate this firm's knowledge and expertise? (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable) COMMENTS:
3.	How would you rate the vendor's flexibility relative to changes in the project scope and timelines? (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable) COMMENTS:
4.	What is your level of satisfaction with hard-copy materials produced by the vendor? (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable, N/A = Not applicable) COMMENTS:

5.	How would you rate the dynamics/interaction between vendor personnel and your sta	
	(3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 =	Unacceptable)
	COMMENTS:	
6.	Who are/were the vendor's principal representatives involved is would you rate them individually? Would you, please, comme behaviors or other factors on which you based the rating? (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 =	ent on the skills, knowledge
	Name:	Rating:
	COMMENTS:	
7.	How satisfied are/were you with the products developed by the	e vendor?
	(3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = applicable)	Unacceptable, N/A = Not
	COMMENTS:	
8.	With which aspect(s) of this vendor's services are/were you mo	ost satisfied?
	COMMENTS:	

9.	With which aspect(s) of this vendor's services are/were you least satisfied? COMMENTS:
10.	Would you recommend this vendor's services to your organization again? COMMENTS: