

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**FOR**  
**FOOD SERVICES FOR THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**ISSUE DATE: October 22, 2021**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE  
411 STATE CAPITOL  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501  
(505) 986-4600

**NOTICE**

The Procurement Code imposes civil and criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for illegal bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

**A. Purpose.** The Legislative Council Service (LCS), on behalf of the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, is seeking proposals for a contractor to manage, operate and staff the State Capitol's ground floor cafeteria and first floor House of Representatives cafeteria during the 2022 regular legislative session.

**B. Background.** During each legislative session, the House of Representatives operates two cafeterias in the State Capitol, one located on the ground floor of the State Capitol that is open to the general public and staff and one located on the first floor of the State Capitol adjacent to the House lounge that serves members of the legislature. Traditionally, operation of the two cafeterias has been in-house. The contractor selected to operate the two cafeterias may use the existing kitchen facilities, equipment and cafeteria space as needed to prepare food or offer prepackaged food and beverages in the cafeteria spaces.

## **2. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS**

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
A. Release of Request for Proposals (RFP)	October 22, 2021
B. Pre-Proposal Conference and Site Visit	October 28-29, 2021
C. Submission of Proposals Deadline	November 19, 2021
D. Evaluation of Proposals and Selection	Week of November 22, 2021

The selection date is subject to extension at the discretion of the LCS. The effective date of the Contract is tentative; it is dependent on the selection date, the length of time required for Contract negotiation and the length of time for processing the Contract.

The events identified in the schedule above are briefly described below.

**A. Release of RFP.** This RFP will be advertised in two newspapers of general circulation pursuant to Section 13-1-104 NMSA 1978, and prospective Offerors may direct questions about the RFP to Lisa Ortiz McCutcheon, Room 100, State Capitol, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501; telephone: (505) 986-4751.

**B. Pre-Proposal Conference and Site Visit.** Offerors are encouraged to attend a pre-proposal conference and site visit scheduled for October 28-29, 2021 at the State Capitol. Offerors may contact Lisa Ortiz McCutcheon, telephone (505) 986-4751, to sign up for the conference and site visit.

**C. Submission of Proposals Deadline.** Two (2) copies of the proposal and supporting documentation shall be submitted to the LCS. Proposals must be in the format specified in Item 5 below and must be signed by the Offeror.

The deadline for receipt of proposals by the LCS is 4:00 p.m. MST, November 19, 2021. Proposals will be time-stamped upon receipt.

All proposals shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked "Proposal for Food Services".

All proposals must be addressed to:

Raúl E. Burciaga, Director  
Legislative Council Service  
411 State Capitol  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

### **SEALED PROPOSAL**

A proposal may be modified by an Offeror prior to the deadline for submission of proposals by delivery of a written modification to the above address. The sealed envelope shall be marked "Modification to Proposal for Food Services".

A proposal may be withdrawn prior to the deadline for submission of proposals by delivering notice in writing or by telephone to the person listed above.

Any proposal or modification received after the deadline for submission of proposals will be considered late. Unless a late proposal is the only one received, no late proposal or late modification will be considered unless it would have been timely but for the action or inaction of the LCS. Time limits will not otherwise be waived.

Proposals will not be opened publicly but will be opened in the presence of witnesses. Neither the register of proposals nor the proposals themselves will be open to public inspection until after award of the Contract. Offerors may request in writing nondisclosure of confidential data. Such data shall accompany the proposal and shall be readily separable from the proposal in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of all proposals.

D. Evaluation of Proposals. Proposals will be evaluated by the LCS using the criteria listed in Item 7 below. During the evaluation process, the LCS may seek clarification from Offerors but SHALL NOT negotiate with Offerors.

E. Selection of Offeror. The Offeror selected to perform the work and those not selected will be notified by the LCS. Selection DOES NOT constitute an obligation to contract with the successful Offeror.

### **3. AMENDMENTS TO RFP**

If there are any amendments to this RFP, they shall be in writing and shall be posted on the LCS website and emailed to any prospective Offerors who notify the LCS that they are interested in responding to this RFP. Requests for notice of amendments should be sent to [house@nmlegis.gov](mailto:house@nmlegis.gov). Amendments shall be distributed with sufficient time to allow Offerors to consider the amendments in preparing their proposals. If necessary, the deadline for submission of proposals may be extended by the amendment.

### **4. CANCELLATION OF RFP; REJECTION OF PROPOSALS**

The LCS reserves the right to cancel this RFP at any time and for any reason.

Any and all proposals may be rejected in whole or in part when it is in the interest of the LCS to do so. The LCS shall not be responsible for the payment of any costs incurred by the Offeror in the preparation or submission of a proposal.

The issuance of this RFP, the receipt of proposals or the selection of an Offeror in no manner obligates the LCS to the eventual purchase of services. This process is solely at the discretion of the LCS and may be terminated without penalty or obligation at any time prior to the signing of a written contract.

### **5. PROPOSAL FORMAT**

Offerors shall include the following information in their proposals:

#### **A. Letter of Transmittal.** Include at least the following information:

- (1) the name, address and telephone number of the Offeror;
- (2) the name and telephone number of primary contact for the Offeror;
- (3) the signature of the Offeror;
- (4) the date of the proposal;
- (5) a statement that the Offeror, if awarded the Contract, will comply with the Contract terms and conditions set forth in this RFP; and
- (6) a statement that the Offeror's proposal is valid for thirty (30) days after the deadline for submission of proposals.

B. Description of Services. Describe how the services will be provided or what tasks will be performed in response to the scope of work contained in Item 6 below. (The scope of work indicates "what" the Offeror is supposed to do; the description of services should show "how" the Offeror intends to perform the services.) Offerors should propose possible menu items with corresponding prices or price ranges, possible options on serving prepackaged items only, allowable payment methods for customers, etc.

C. Health Policies. The Offeror shall address its health policies regarding the current health emergency and how it will comply with any requirements on COVID-19 vaccinations and mask mandates.

D. Remuneration. The Offeror may retain all receipts from the sale of food and beverages. The Offeror is responsible for any gross receipts taxes due on the amount of compensation paid or receipts collected.

E. Related Experience and Qualifications. The Offeror shall discuss prior experience and qualifications related to accomplishing the scope of work contained in Item 6 below. This portion of the proposal should demonstrate the extent to which the Offeror is qualified to perform both the scope of work outlined in this RFP and the specific services contained in the description of services portion of the Offeror's proposal.

The Offeror's ability to meet the evaluation factors contained in Item 7 of this RFP shall be stated in this section of the proposal.

## **6. SCOPE OF WORK**

A. The Contractor shall staff and operate the two cafeterias in the State Capitol during the 2022 regular legislative session and may use existing kitchens and equipment. Hours of operation for the ground floor cafeteria are Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Hours of operation for the cafeteria adjacent to the House lounge are from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and, in addition, during the last two weekends of session, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays.

B. The Contractor shall provide the menu, food and beverages, serving ware, utensils and all staff necessary to operate the cafeterias during the legislative session. The 2022 legislative session begins on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, and ends at noon on Thursday, February 17, 2022.

C. The Contractor shall be responsible for managing all sales and receipts and methods of payment.

D. The Contractor shall obtain all licenses and permits necessary to carry out the services requested in the scope of work.

E. The Contractor shall be responsible for cleaning of the kitchen and food preparation areas.

F. Kitchen equipment, utilities and furniture will be provided by the LCS.

## **7. EVALUATION CRITERIA**

All proposals will be evaluated and rated in accordance with the following criteria and the indicated weighting of criteria:

(1) related experience and qualifications;	<u>25</u>
(2) menu, prices and description of services;	<u>55</u>
(3) references and recommendations; and	<u>10</u>
(4) cost	<u>10</u>
Total	100

## **8. CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The Contract between the LCS and the successful Offeror shall contain substantially the following terms and conditions. In the letter of transmittal, the Offeror shall include a statement agreeing to these terms and conditions and explaining any terms and conditions with which the Offeror does not agree.

A. Scope of Work. This portion of the Contract will be drafted following selection of an individual to perform the services. It will incorporate the scope of work in Item 6 above and the description of services from the Offeror's proposal.

B. Compensation. The total compensation will not exceed the limit specified in the Contract. The total amount shall include applicable New Mexico gross receipts taxes, which shall be paid by the Contractor.

C. Term. The Contract shall be effective from the date it is signed by the last of the parties, and its terms shall extend until the Contractor has delivered all work required under the Contract.

D. Termination. The Contract may be terminated by either of the parties thereto upon written notice delivered to the other party at least thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of termination. By such termination, neither party may nullify obligations or liabilities already incurred for performance or for failure to perform prior to the date of termination.

E. Status of Contractor. The Contractor and the Contractor's agents and employees are independent contractors performing professional services for the LCS and are not employees of the State of New Mexico. The Contractor and the Contractor's 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 by virtue of the Contract.

F. Assignment. The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in the Contract or assign any claims for money due or to become due under the Contract without the prior written approval of the LCS.

G. Subcontracting. The Contractor shall not subcontract any portion of the services to be performed under the Contract without the prior written approval of the LCS.

H. Records and Audit. The Contractor shall maintain detailed time records that indicate the date, time and nature of services rendered. These records shall be subject to inspection by the LCS and the State Auditor. The LCS shall have the right to audit billings both before and after payment. Payment under the Contract shall not foreclose the right of the LCS to recover excessive or illegal payments.

I. Release. The Contractor shall, upon final payment of the amount due under the Contract, release the LCS, its officers and employees and the State of New Mexico from all liabilities, claims and obligations whatsoever arising from or under the Contract. The Contractor agrees not to purport to bind the State of New Mexico to any obligation not assumed in the Contract by the State of New Mexico, unless the Contractor has express written authority from the LCS to do so, and then only within the strict limits of that authority.

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

K. Product of Service; Copyright. All work and rights to work produced, developed or acquired by the Contractor under the Contract, including ownership of any copyrights to work produced under the Contract, shall be transferred to and become the exclusive property of the State of New Mexico, and all materials developed or acquired under the Contract shall be delivered to the LCS not later than the termination date of the Contract. The Contractor and the LCS acknowledge that the compensation paid to the Contractor is due consideration for transfer of ownership of any copyrights for work produced under the Contract.

L. Conflict of Interest. The Contractor shall warrant that the Contractor has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, that would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required under the Contract.



M. Indemnity. The Contractor shall hold harmless and indemnify the State of New Mexico against any injury, loss or damage, including cost of defense, arising out of the negligent acts, errors or omissions of the Contractor.

N. Insurance. The Contractor shall purchase and maintain liability insurance for protection from claims that may arise out of the Contractor's operations under the Contract, including operations by the Contractor and subcontractors and anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them, or by anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable. A certificate of insurance shall be filed with the LCS prior to commencement of the work.

O. Amendment. The Contract shall not be altered, changed or amended except by an instrument in writing executed by the parties.

P. Merger. The Contract shall incorporate all of the agreements, covenants and understandings between the parties thereto concerning the subject matter thereof. No prior agreement or understanding, verbal or otherwise, of the parties or their agents shall be valid or enforceable unless embodied in the Contract.

Q. Applicable Law. The Contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Mexico.

R. Waiver. The Contract shall contain a provision that states that no waiver of any breach of the Contract or any of the terms or conditions thereof shall be held to be a waiver of any other or subsequent breach; nor shall any waiver be valid, alleged or binding unless the same shall be in writing and signed by the party alleged to have granted the waiver.

S. Appropriation. The terms of the Contract are contingent upon sufficient appropriations and authorization being made by the New Mexico Legislature or other funding agency. If sufficient appropriations and authorization are not made by the New Mexico Legislature or other funding agency, the Contract shall, notwithstanding the provisions of any other section of the Contract, terminate immediately upon the Contractor's receipt of written notice of termination from the LCS. The LCS's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations are available shall be accepted by the Contractor and shall be final.

T. Notice. The Procurement Code imposes civil and criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for illegal bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

U. Equal Opportunity Compliance. The Contractor shall agree to abide by all federal and state laws pertaining to equal employment opportunity. In accordance with all such laws, the Contractor shall agree to assure that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual preference, age or handicap, 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 the Contract. If the Contractor is found to be not in compliance with these requirements during the life of the Contract, the Contractor shall agree to take appropriate steps to correct these deficiencies.