



City of Austin Purchasing Office

**REQUEST FOR QUOTATION:**

TVN0077 – Language Testing Services

**Bid closing Date & Time: June 15, 2012 at 2:00PM**

**PRE-BID CONFERENCE N/A**

For further information contact: Terry Nicholson @ 512-322-6586

**INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS**

Quotes are solicited for furnishing the merchandise, supplies, services and/or equipment set forth. Completed Quote must be received in the Purchasing Office for Austin Energy, prior to the above due date and time. **Quotes can be either emailed to [terry.nicholson@austinenergy.com](mailto:terry.nicholson@austinenergy.com) or faxed to 512-322-6490, addressed to the attention of Terry Nicholson, City of Austin, Purchasing Office and have the RFQ number and closing date clearly marked on the cover page.** Quotes may be withdrawn at any time prior to the official opening by written notification. Quotes may not be altered, amended or withdrawn after the official closing.

**City of Austin Standard Terms and Conditions Shall Apply**

**The Standard Purchase Definitions (Section 0100), Solicitation Instructions (Section 0200), and Purchase Terms and Conditions (Section 0300) are hereby incorporated by reference, with the same force and effect as if they were incorporated in full text. The full text versions of these documents are available, upon request, in the City of Austin Purchasing Office 124 W.8<sup>th</sup> Rm 308, Austin, TX 78701, (512) 974-2500 and on the Internet at web site [www.ci.austin.tx.us/purchase](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/purchase).**

The City is exempt from Federal Excise and State Sales Tax; therefore, tax must not be included in the quote price.

The City reserves the right to accept or reject in part or whole any quote submitted, and to waive any technicalities for the best interest of the City.

Your quote must be submitted on this form. Items quoted must meet or exceed City of Austin Specifications.

All quotes shall be submitted on an FOB Destination basis, with all freight charges included in the item price.

All offers shall be valid for a period of 60 calendar days unless otherwise noted.

If you are not a registered City of Austin vendor, please visit [www.ci.austin.tx.us/purchase](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/purchase), click on Vendor Registration. Follow the instruction to register your company.

**NOTE: Bids in excess of \$5,000.00 must be accompanied by a signed Non-Collusion, Non-Conflict of Interest and Anti Lobbying Affidavit (0810).**

The following Supplemental Purchasing Provisions apply to this solicitation:

1. **EXPLANATIONS OR CLARIFICATIONS** (reference paragraph 5 in Section 0200)

All requests for explanations or clarifications must be submitted in writing to the Purchasing Office no later than 24 hours prior to the bid opening. Submissions may be made via email to [Terry.Nicholson@austinenergy.com](mailto:Terry.Nicholson@austinenergy.com), or via fax at (512)322-6490.

2. **INSURANCE**. Insurance is required for this solicitation.

A. **General Requirements**. See Section 0300, Standard Purchase Terms and Conditions, paragraph 32, entitled Insurance, for general insurance requirements.

- i. The Contractor shall provide a Certificate of Insurance as verification of coverages required below to the City at the below address prior to contract execution and within 14 calendar days after written request from the City. Failure to provide the required Certificate of Insurance may subject the Offer to disqualification from consideration for award
- ii. The Contractor shall not commence work until the required insurance is obtained and until such insurance has been reviewed by the City. Approval of insurance by the City shall not relieve or decrease the liability of the Contractor hereunder and shall not be construed to be a limitation of liability on the part of the Contractor.
- iii. The Contractor must also forward a Certificate of Insurance to the City whenever a previously identified policy period has expired, or an extension option or holdover period is exercised, as verification of continuing coverage.
- iv. The Certificate of Insurance, and updates, shall contain the solicitation number and the Buyer's name and shall be mailed to the following address:

City of Austin Purchasing Office  
**Attn: TERRY NICHOLSON / RFQ TVN0077**  
P. O. Box 1088  
Austin, Texas 78767

B. **Specific Coverage Requirements**. The Contractor shall at a minimum carry insurance in the types and amounts indicated below for the duration of the Contract, including extension options and hold over periods, and during any warranty period. These insurance coverages are required minimums and are not intended to limit the responsibility or liability of the Contractor.

- i. **Worker's Compensation and Employers' Liability Insurance**. Coverage shall be consistent with statutory benefits outlined in the Texas Worker's Compensation Act (Section 401). The minimum policy limits for Employer's Liability are \$100,000 bodily injury each accident, \$500,000 bodily injury by disease policy limit and \$100,000 bodily injury by disease each employee.
  - (1) The Contractor's policy shall apply to the State of Texas and include these endorsements in favor of the City of Austin:
    - (a) Waiver of Subrogation, Form WC 420304, or equivalent coverage
    - (b) Thirty (30) days Notice of Cancellation, Form WC 420601, or equivalent coverage
- ii. **Commercial General Liability Insurance**. The minimum bodily injury and property damage per occurrence are \$500,000 for coverages A (Bodily Injury and Property Damage) and B (Personal and Advertising Injuries).

- (1) The policy shall contain the following provisions:
  - (a) Blanket contractual liability coverage for liability assumed under the Contract and all other Contracts related to the project.
  - (b) Independent Contractor's Coverage.
  - (c) Products/Completed Operations Liability for the duration of the warranty period.
  - (d) If the project involves digging or drilling provisions must be included that provide Explosion, Collapse, and Underground Coverage (X,C,U).
- (2) The policy shall also include these endorsements in favor of the City of Austin:
  - (a) Waiver of Subrogation, Endorsement CG 2404, or equivalent coverage
  - (b) Thirty (30) days Notice of Cancellation, Endorsement CG 0205, or equivalent coverage
  - (c) The City of Austin listed as an additional insured, Endorsement CG 2010, or equivalent coverage

iii. Business Automobile Liability Insurance. The Contractor shall provide coverage for all owned, non-owned and hired vehicles with a minimum combined single limit of \$500,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. Alternate acceptable limits are \$250,000 bodily injury per person, \$500,000 bodily injury per occurrence and at least \$100,000 property damage liability per accident.

- (1) The policy shall include these endorsements in favor of the City of Austin:
  - (a) Waiver of Subrogation, Endorsement TE 2046A, or equivalent coverage
  - (b) Thirty (30) days Notice of Cancellation, Endorsement TE 0202A, or equivalent coverage
  - (c) The City of Austin listed as an additional insured, Endorsement TE 9901B, or equivalent coverage.

C. Endorsements. The specific insurance coverage endorsements specified above, or their equivalents must be provided. In the event that endorsements, which are the equivalent of the required coverage, are proposed to be substituted for the required coverage, copies of the equivalent endorsements must be provided for the City's review and approval.

D. Certificate: The following statement must be shown on the Certificate of Insurance.

The City of Austin is an Additional Insured on the general liability and the auto liability policies. A Waiver of Subrogation is issued in favor of the City of Austin for general liability, auto liability and workers compensation policies.

3. **INVOICES and PAYMENT** (reference paragraphs 12 and 13 in Section 0300)

A. Invoices shall contain a non-duplicated invoice number and the information required in Section 0300, paragraph 12, entitled "Invoices." Invoices received without all required information cannot be processed and will be returned to the vendor.

Invoices shall be mailed to the below address:

	City of Austin
Department	Payment Section
Address	P.O. Box 3546
City, State & Zip Code	Austin, TX 78758

- B. The Contractor agrees to accept payment by credit card, check or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for all goods and/or services provided under the Contract. The Contractor shall factor the cost of processing credit card payments into the Offer. There shall be no additional charges, surcharges, or penalties to the City for payments made by credit card.

4. **LIVING WAGES AND BENEFITS (applicable to procurements involving the use of labor)**

- A. In order to help assure low employee turnover, quality services, and to reduce costs for health care provided to uninsured citizens, the Austin City Council is committed to ensuring fair compensation for City employees and those persons employed elsewhere in Austin. This commitment has been supported by actions to establish a “living wage” and affordable health care protection. Currently, the minimum wage for City employees is \$11.00 per hour. This minimum wage is required for any Contractor employee directly assigned to this City Contract, unless Published Wage Rates are included in this solicitation. In addition, the City may stipulate higher wage rates in certain solicitations in order to assure quality and continuity of service.
- B. Additionally, the City provides health insurance for its employees, and for a nominal rate, employees may obtain coverage for their family members. Contractors must offer health insurance with optional family coverage for all Contractor employees directly assigned to this contract. Proof of the health care plan shall be provided prior to award of a Contract. In addition, an insurance certificate for Workers’ Compensation Insurance Coverage must be provided if required by the solicitation.
- C. The City requires Contractors submitting Offers on this Contract to provide a signed certification (**see the Living Wages and Benefits Contractor Certification included in the Solicitation**) with their Offer certifying that all employees directly assigned to this City Contract will be paid a minimum living wage equal to or greater than \$11.00 per hour and are offered a health care plan. The certification shall include a list of all employees directly assigned to providing services under the resultant contract including their name and job title. The list shall be updated and provided to the City as necessary throughout the term of the Contract.
- D. The Contractor shall maintain throughout the term of the resultant contract basic employment and wage information for each employee as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Basic employment records shall at a minimum include:
  - i. employee’s full name, as used for social security purposes, and on the same record, the employee’s identifying symbol or number if such is used in place of name on any time, work, or payroll records;
  - ii. time and date of week when employee’s workweek begins;
  - iii. hours worked each day and total hours worked each workweek;
  - iv. basis on which employee’s wages are paid;
  - v. regular hourly pay rate;
  - vi. total daily or weekly straight-time earnings;
  - vii. total overtime earnings for the workweek;
  - viii. all additions to or deductions from the employee’s wages;
  - ix. total wages paid each pay period; and
  - x. date of payment and the pay period covered by the payment.
- E. The Contractor shall provide with the first invoice and as requested by the Department’s Contract Manager, individual Employee Certifications (**see the Living Wages and Benefits Employee Certification included in the Solicitation**) for all employees directly assigned to the contract containing:
  - i. the employee’s name and job title;

- ii. a statement certifying that the employee is paid at a rate equal to or greater than the Living Wage of \$11.00 per hour;
- iii. a statement certifying that the employee is offered a health care plan with optional family coverage.

Employee Certifications shall be signed by each employee directly assigned to the contract.

- F. Contractor shall submit employee certifications quarterly with the respective invoice to verify that employees are paid the Living Wage throughout the term of the contract.
- G. The Department's Contract Manager will periodically review the employee data submitted by the Contractor to verify compliance with this Living Wage provision. The City retains the right to review employee records identified in paragraph D above to verify compliance with this provision.

7. **NON-COLLUSION, NON-CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AND ANTI-LOBBYING**

- A. The Austin City Council adopted Ordinance No. 20071206-045 on December 6, 2007, adding a new Article 6 to Chapter 2-7 of the City Code relating to Anti-Lobbying and Procurement. The policy defined in this Code applies to Solicitations for goods and/or services exceeding \$5,000. During the No-Contact Period, Offerors or potential Offerors are prohibited from making a representation to anyone other than the person designated in the Solicitation as the contact for questions and comments regarding the Solicitation.
- B. If during the No-Contact Period an Offeror makes a representation to anyone other than the Authorized Contact Person for the Solicitation, the Offeror's Offer is disqualified from further consideration except as permitted in the Ordinance.
- C. The City requires Offerors submitting Offers on this Solicitation to provide a signed affidavit certifying that the Offeror has not in any way directly or indirectly made representations to anyone other than the Authorized Contact Person during the No-Contact Period as defined in the Ordinance (**see the Non-Collusion, Non-Conflict of Interest, and Anti-Lobbying Affidavit included in the Solicitation**).