



RFP # 25-001

Request for Proposals

Speech and Language Services

Issued October 23, 2024, by:

Kayce Samuel

Stafford Municipal School District
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**Submittal Deadline and Proposal Opening Deadline:
November 20, 2024 @ 2:00 p.m.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Notice of Intent
2.0	Instructions to Vendors
3.0	Evaluation and Award of Proposal(s)
4.0	Contract Terms and Conditions
5.0	Scope of Proposal
6.0	Specifications
7.0	Pricing/Delivery Information
8.0	Vendor Questionnaire
9.0	Attachments

1.0 NOTICE OF INTENT

Contracts awarded pursuant to this RFP are intended to comply with the federal Uniform Guidance / Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 2 C.F.R. Part 200. It is the intent of Stafford Municipal School District (SMSD) to award one or more contract(s) as a result of this RFP. Product(s) and/or services considered for award shall equal or exceed a minimum quality level of industry standard(s) as defined within this RFP, including **Section 5.0 Scope of Proposal**, and shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local technical, environmental, and performance standards and specifications.

No contract shall be executed until it has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees of the District ("Board") in a duly called and posted meeting of the Board. This Contract can be accessed on an "as needed" basis from a list of contracts that have been competitively bid and awarded with qualified, high performance vendors based on the selection criteria set forth herein. Vendors are requested to submit a proposal offering their total line of available products and services that are commonly purchased by government entities, school districts and other public, not-for-profit agencies and organizations. The good(s) or service(s) to be purchased under the awarded Contract, if any, may be of indefinite delivery and indefinite quantity (IDIQ).

- 1.1 **The initial base term of the prospective contract is a period of one (1) calendar year. SMSD may elect, in its sole discretion, to extend any contract awarded pursuant to this RFP for up to four (4) additional one-year renewal terms. The maximum duration of any contract resulting from this RFP is a total of five (5) years, running from the date of execution of the contract by the authorized representative of the District. At SMSD's option, there may be an additional 90-day transitional period added to the end of the initial term or any renewal term.**
- 1.2 In this RFP and in the Contract, the following terms shall mean as follows:
 - 1.2.1 **"SMSD"** and **"District"** mean the Stafford Municipal School District, a municipal school district established under the laws of the State of Texas, with central administrative offices located at 1633 Staffordshire Road, Stafford, Texas 77477.
 - 1.2.2 **"Vendor(s)"** means the proposer(s) responding to this RFP and vendor(s) to whom a contract has been awarded as a result of this RFP by SMSD. A responsible vendor is a vendor who has adequate financial resources (or the ability to obtain such resources), can comply with the delivery requirements, and is a qualified and established firm regularly engaged in the type of business that provides the product(s) /service(s) listed herein.
 - 1.2.3 **"Contract"** means the contract terms and conditions in **Section 4.0 Contract Terms and Conditions**, as further defined in the Entire Agreement provision of Section 4.43. A contract is exclusively between SMSD and Vendor.

- 1.2.4 **“Best Value”** means the method by which a contract, if any, is awarded, in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Best Value includes multiple parameters, including experience, references, quality of the Vendor’s product(s)/service(s), and price, as detailed in **Section 3.0 Evaluation and Award of Proposal(s)**.
- 1.2.5 **“Purchase Order” or “PO”** means the agreed-upon purchase order between SMSD and the Vendor. Special terms and conditions agreed to by the Vendor and SMSD may be added as addendums to the PO, including such items as requirements concerning certificates of insurance, bonding, and small or disadvantaged business goals.
- 1.2.6 **“Premium Hours”** means those hours not included in Regular Hours or federal holidays. Premium Hours must be approved by SMSD for each Purchase Order.
- 1.2.7 **“Regular Hours”** means the hours between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday, excluding the following holidays: Presidents’ Day, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day.

1.3 Time Table

SMSD anticipates following the time table listed below for this job. The table below is only an estimate and may vary.

TIME TABLE		
Item	Activity	Date
1	RFP Released	October 23, 2024
2	RFP Advertised - 1 st run	October 23, 2024
3	RFP Advertised - 2 nd run	October 30, 2024
4	Pre-Proposal Conference via Zoom	N/A
5	Proposals Due	November 20, 2024 @ 2:00 p.m.
6	Award Date/Board Meeting	December 10, 2024

2.0 INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

2.1. Proposal Response Format

To qualify for evaluation, a proposal must have been submitted on time and must materially satisfy all mandatory requirements identified in this RFP. Vendors must follow the format instructions detailed below in preparing and submitting their proposals. It is the responsibility of the Vendor submitting a proposal to make certain that the SMSD Business Office has the appropriate and current company name, authorized representatives, and contact information on file for the purpose of receiving notices, changes, addenda or other critical information.

2.1.1 Required Format

Vendors shall submit proposals in person or mailed to the address below. The Proposal must be **received** on or before the deadline for the Bid Opening Date.

Submit Proposals to:

Stafford MSD
Business Office
1633 Staffordshire Road
Stafford, Texas 77477

The sealed envelope shall be labeled in the following manner:

Your company name Your return address info	STAFFORD MSD BUSINESS OFFICE 1633 STAFFORDSHIRE STAFFORD, TEXAS 77477
<u>RFP# xx-xxx</u> Bid Opening Date/Time:	

If the District opens an improperly labeled bid response prior to the date and time of sealed bid opening, the package will be returned as is, and rejected. The package must be labeled per the instructions in this section.

2.1.2 The following items must be included in the **Proposal**. Failure to include these items may result in non-award.

- 1) Completed 8.0 Vendor Questionnaire
- 2) Completed 9.0 Attachments

- 3) Pricing; Electronic Catalog/Price Lists
- 4) Insurance Coverage Certification
- 5) Address of Vendor's website
- 6) Any applicable certificates (i.e., HUB, SBE/WBE, licenses, etc.)

2.1.3 **Proposal Response Location and Timing**

Proposals shall be received no later than the submittal day and time deadline, at the address listed in Section 2.1.1 above.

2.2 **SMSD Reservations**

SMSD reserves the right to:

- a) Cancel this RFP in whole or in part, at the sole discretion of SMSD.
- b) Accept, reject, or negotiate modifications in any terms of the Vendor's proposal or any parts thereof.
- c) Conduct oral interviews/discussions or presentations necessary to select the Best Value Vendor and/or to obtain competitive pricing.
- d) Reject and/or disqualify any or all proposals received, award contracts for individual products or services as may appear advantageous to SMSD, and/or negotiate separately in any manner necessary to serve the best interests of SMSD.
- e) Waive any formalities, technicalities, or other defects if deemed in the best interest of SMSD and/or request clarification and/or correction by Vendor(s) for the purpose of eliminating minor errors, clerical errors, and/or non-substantive irregularities.
- f) Be the sole judge of quality and equality.
- g) Award one or more contracts, in part or in whole, to a single or to multiple Vendors, in SMSD's sole discretion.
- h) Make all decisions regarding this RFP, including, without limitation, the right to decide whether a proposal substantially complies with the requirements of this RFP.
- i) Utilize State of Texas contracts, contracts awarded by other governmental agencies, or cooperative agreements in lieu of any offer received or award made as a result of this proposal, if it is in the best interest of SMSD, in SMSD's sole discretion, to do so.
- j) SMSD may request clarification from vendor(s) for the purpose of eliminating minor errors, clerical errors, and/or non-substantive irregularities. Clarification does not give a vendor the opportunity to revise, change, or modify its proposal in any way except to the extent of correction of the error. Discussion between SMSD and a vendor may also take place after the initial receipt of proposals. SMSD reserves the right to conduct discussions with all, some, or none of the vendor(s) submitting proposals. SMSD will not assist a vendor in the revision or modification of its proposal, nor will SMSD assist a vendor in bringing its proposal to the same level of other proposals received by SMSD.
- k) SMSD makes no guarantee or commitment of any kind concerning quantities that will actually be purchased under this RFP and the resulting

contract, if any. SMSD makes no guarantee or commitment of any kind regarding usage of any contract(s) resulting from this RFP. Vendors, however, are expected to carry sufficient inventories to service the needs of SMSD and shall furnish all required goods and/or services to the District at the stated price, when and if required. Because all commodities will be provided on an “as needed” basis, SMSD makes no representation either orally or in writing to the amount of commodities, services, or related items SMSD will use during the Term of the Contract.

2.3 Financial Responsibility

SMSD assumes no financial responsibility for any costs incurred by Vendors in developing and submitting a proposal or any amendments or addenda, participating in pre-proposal meetings, participating in any negotiation sessions or discussions, or any other costs incurred by Vendors prior to award of a contract pursuant to this RFP.

2.4 Contracts Involving Federal Funds

Because at the time of procurement, SMSD may be unable to determine the source of funds to be used for particular contracts, SMSD intends to competitively procure contracts as required by Section 44.031 of the Texas Education Code and intends to comply with EDGAR for every procurement action for which federal funds may be used. SMSD maintains and uses documented procurement procedures, consistent with State, local and tribal laws and regulations and standards of 2 CFR Part 200, for the acquisition of property or services required under a Federal award or subaward as detailed in 2 CFR § 200.318. SMSD’s documented procurement procedures conform to the procurement standards identified in §§ 200.317 through 200.327 of subpart D—Post Federal Award Requirements. SMSD is utilizing the Request for Proposals (RFP) method of procurement in accordance with Texas Education Code Section 44.031(3) Purchasing Contracts, Request for Proposals for services other than construction services. To comply with EDGAR, if it is anticipated that SMSD will use federal funds exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold, SMSD will perform an independent estimate of the value of goods or services in the current market before receiving bids or proposals and after SMSD received bids and proposals, but before awarding a contract, SMSD will also conduct a price or cost analysis and document its findings.

SMSD receives a variety of federal, state, and/or grant funding. Performance by SMSD under any contract entered into pursuant to this RFP may be dependent upon the appropriation and allotment of state/federal/grant funds (a “Prime Contract”), including, but not necessarily limited to, grants/funding from the Texas Education Agency; other federal and/or state funding; and allocation of funds by SMSD. If SMSD is not appropriated or allocated the necessary federal/state/grant funds or its funding under a Prime Contract is eliminated or decreased, or SMSD fails to allocate the necessary funds, then SMSD will

issue written notice to Vendor and SMSD may terminate the contract without further duty or obligation to Vendor. Vendor acknowledges that appropriation, allotment, and allocation of funds may be beyond the control of SMSD. Vendor shall strictly comply with all applicable Prime Contract requirements and all applicable flow-down, referenced, and incorporated provisions therein and shall cooperate with SMSD in fulfillment of SMSD's obligations under the Prime Contract.

2.5 **Compliance with Specifications and Contract**

Proposals shall be deemed responsive if they comply with all material and administrative aspects of this RFP. Vendors are required to respond to all requests identified in this RFP and indicate their acceptance of or objection to the terms of the RFP and the Contract terms in **Section 4.0 Contract Terms and Conditions**. Any exceptions to the terms and conditions in the RFP or the Contract must be clearly indicated in the Vendor's submitted proposal. Deviations or exceptions stipulated in a Vendor's response may result in disqualification. Any language to the effect that the Vendor does not consider this RFP to be part of a contractual obligation may result in the Vendor's proposal being disqualified. Each Vendor, by making its proposal, represents that the Vendor has read and understands the RFP and the Contract.

2.6 **SMSD's Code of Silence – Policy CAA (Local)**

SMSD's Board of Trustees has implemented a Code of Silence for procurement of goods and services, as outlined in Board Policy CAA (Local), which provides as follows:

Purpose. The District shall implement a Code of Silence regarding the procurement of goods and services through competitive methods to enforce its commitment to ethical contracting standards and to improve accountability and public confidence.

Definition. For purposes of this policy, "vendor's representative" shall mean an employee, partner, director, Board member, or officer of a potential vendor or consultant, lobbyist, actual or potential subcontractor of a vendor, or any other individual or for-profit or nonprofit organization acting through or on behalf of any person seeking an award or on behalf of a group of interested individuals or members.

Procurement Methods. In accordance with law [see policies CH and CV], the District may purchase goods and services through one of the following procurement methods:

1. Competitive bidding for goods and services other than construction services;
2. Competitive sealed proposals for goods and services other than construction services;

3. A request for proposals (“RFP”) for goods and services other than construction services;
4. Any method provided by Chapter 2269 of the Texas Government Code for construction services;
5. A request for qualifications for professional services; and
6. Any other procurement method authorized by state law.

For purposes of this policy, “Competitive Solicitation” shall mean any RFP, bid or other competitive solicitation issued pursuant to one of the foregoing procurement methods.

Applicability. The Code of Silence period applies to the acquisition of goods or services using the procurement methods identified above, as well as renewal periods for contracts previously awarded by the Board of Trustees with renewal options.

“*Code of Silence*” shall mean a prohibition on any communication regarding any Competitive Solicitation between:

1. Any person who seeks an award from the District or its affiliated entities (including, but not limited to, the SMSD Education Foundation), including a potential vendor or vendor’s representative; and
2. A Board member, the Superintendent, the Deputy Superintendent, an Executive Team member, or other District representative who has influence on or is participating in the evaluation or selection process.

Furthermore, campaign contributions, gifts, donations, and any other items of value are prohibited between the parties defined above during the Code of Silence period. Also, candidates who have filed for election to the Board of Trustees are subject to these limitations after the date on which the candidate has filed for office. The District shall review historical campaign finance reports to identify campaign contributions for the applicable period and will hold newly elected Board members accountable as existing Board members during the Code of Silence period.

Exceptions. The Code of Silence shall not apply to communication with the District’s legal counsel, Chief Financial Officer, or Director of Operations, to the extent that they are not serving on the particular procurement committee, or with any individual specifically designated to be excepted from the Code of Silence in the Competitive Solicitation; provided that any such communications shall be limited to the purpose of obtaining clarification or information concerning the subject solicitation.

An exception shall also apply to specific members of the Board of Trustees and the office of finance for the selection of external auditors or the Board’s legal counsel, and to any other specific circumstances approved in writing by the Superintendent.

Nothing contained in this policy shall prohibit any potential vendor or vendor's representative from:

1. Making public representations at scheduled pre-bid conferences or scheduled selection and negotiation committee meetings;
2. Engaging in contract negotiations during any scheduled meeting;
3. Making a public presentation to the Board during any duly noticed public meeting; or
4. Conducting business on contracts previously executed and currently in force.

The potential vendor or vendor's representative shall send all written communication related to the foregoing items 1-4 directly to the Chief Financial Officer.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the procurement committee's representative from initiating a contact with a potential vendor or vendor's representative and subsequent communication related thereto for the purpose of obtaining additional clarifying information regarding a response to a Competitive Solicitation. Such contact, and any response thereto, shall be in writing and shall be provided to the members of the applicable procurement committee.

Time Period. The Code of Silence time period shall begin upon the issuance of a Competitive Solicitation. Additionally, the Superintendent or designee may invoke the Code of Silence at any time for any existing or anticipated procurement of goods or services. The authority of the Superintendent or designee to invoke the Code of Silence extends to any procurement method and is not limited to those procurement methods identified in this policy. The Code of Silence time period shall officially end upon execution of the awarded contract by all required parties.

Regardless of the above time period, it is not acceptable for a potential vendor or vendor's representative to participate in determining the scope of work, strategic direction, technical specifications, or evaluation criteria of District projects subject to competitive procurement in a manner that limits fair and open competition or is otherwise prohibited by law.

Notification of Solicitation. The District shall provide public notice of all current procurements that are in the Code of Silence period on a public facing page on the District's website. A weekly e-mail notification containing notice of all procurements that have entered the Code of Silence period since the last e-mail shall also be sent by the Chief Financial Officer to the Board of Trustees, the Superintendent, the Deputy Superintendent, senior staff members, department heads, directors, managers, or other District representatives who have influence on or are participating in the evaluation or selection process for each Competitive Solicitation. The weekly e-mail notification is provided as a courtesy. Board members, candidates who have filed for election to the Board, and District employees are responsible for regularly reviewing the list of

procurements subject to the Code of Silence maintained on the District's website before any interaction with a potential vendor.

Violation. Any suspected violation of this policy shall be investigated by the Chief Financial Officer or an outside law firm and may result in any of the following being deemed void or voidable:

1. Any recommendation for award;
2. Any Competitive Solicitation award;
3. Any bid award to the potential vendor or the vendor's representative; or
4. A vendor's contract.

The potential vendor or vendor's representative determined by the Board of Trustees to have violated this policy shall be subject to debarment from bidding and contracting activities of current and future projects for a period up to two calendar years. In addition to any other penalty provided by law, violation of this policy by a District employee may subject the employee to disciplinary action up to and including termination. Board members and candidates who have filed for election to the Board determined by the Board of Trustees to have violated the Code of Silence or received campaign contributions, gifts, donations, or any other items of value prohibited under this policy shall abstain from voting on all matters relating to the particular vendor with whom the Board member engaged in a violation of the Code of Silence for a period up to two calendar years and may be subject to additional action as deemed appropriate by the Board of Trustees.

In the event that a Board member or candidate unknowingly accepts a campaign contribution, gift, donation, or any other item of value from a vendor representative during the Code of Silence, the Board member or candidate shall have the duty to return the contribution, gift, donation, or other item of value within ten calendar days after becoming aware of the conflict with this policy.

Formal Complaints. This policy is not intended to prohibit contractors or their representatives from issuing formal complaints or concerns about potential conflicts of interest during the Code of Silence. Any such complaints or concerns should be communicated in writing to the Chief Financial Officer.

3.0 EVALUATION AND AWARD OF PROPOSAL(S)

3.1 **Award of Contract**

In accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations for public procurement, award(s) will be made to the responsible Vendor(s) whose proposal(s) is/are determined after evaluation by SMSD to be the Best Value to SMSD, based on the criteria set forth within this document. To qualify for evaluation, a proposal must have been submitted on time and must materially satisfy all mandatory requirements identified in this document.

3.2 **Competitive Range**

It may be necessary for SMSD to establish a competitive range of acceptable proposals as part of the evaluation process. Proposals not in the competitive range are unacceptable and will not receive further award consideration.

3.3 **EDGAR Conflict of Interest Requirements**

In accordance with federal EDGAR requirements, 2 CFR § 200.318(c)(1), no employee, officer, agent, or board member with a real or apparent conflict of interest may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by the federal award. A conflict of interest includes when the employee, officer, agent, board member, or any member of their immediate family, their partner, or an organization that employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from an entity considered for a contract.

An employee, officer, agent, or board member of SMSD may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors. However, through SMSD's written procedures, SMSD has set a de minimis amount of less than \$50 per year for items that are unsolicited and of minimal value and promotional items.

Violations of this standard by an employee will be reported to the Superintendent's Office and addressed through SMSD's personnel policies. Violations of this standard by an officer or the Superintendent shall be addressed to the Board President and addressed through SMSD Board policies.

3.4 **Deviations and Exceptions to Requirements**

Deviations or exceptions stipulated in a Vendor's response may result in disqualification. Any language to the effect that the Vendor does not consider this RFP to be part of a contractual obligation may result in the Vendor's proposal being disqualified.

3.5 **Addenda, Clarification and/or Discussions**

Any interpretations, corrections, additions, or changes to this RFP will be communicated to vendors by the issuance of an addendum. It is the responsibility of the vendor, prior to submitting the proposal, to determine whether any addenda were issued. All vendors shall comply with the requirements specified in any addendum issued by SMSD.

SMSD may request clarification from Vendor(s) for the purpose of eliminating minor errors, clerical errors, and/or non-substantive irregularities. Clarification does not give a Vendor the opportunity to revise, change, or modify its proposal in any way except to the extent of correction of the error. Discussion between SMSD and Vendor can also take place after the initial receipt of proposals. SMSD reserves the right to conduct discussions with all, some, or none of the Vendor(s) submitting proposals. SMSD will not assist the Vendor in the revision or modification of its proposal, nor will SMSD assist the Vendor in bringing its proposal to the same level of other proposals received by SMSD.

Questions related to the RFP shall be directed to SMSD Business Office, Kayce Samuel, Purchasing Specialist, (281) 261-9252 no less than five (5) business days prior to the submittal deadline date. SMSD will not answer verbal questions; all prospective vendors' questions and SMSD's answers will be listed online in the form of an addendum.

3.6 No Guarantee of Quantities

SMSD makes no guarantee or commitment of any kind concerning quantities that will actually be purchased under this RFP and the resulting contract, if any. SMSD makes no guarantee or commitment of any kind regarding usage of any contract(s) resulting from this RFP. However, Vendors are expected to carry sufficient inventories to service the needs of SMSD and shall furnish all required goods and/or services to the District at the stated price, when and if required. The District makes every effort to be as accurate as possible when providing estimated quantities; however, quantities for purchases paid for with Child Nutrition funds are subject to change for various reasons, which include, but are not limited to the following: USDA commodity allocation(s), variations in student population, SMSD production item substitution(s), changes in consumer taste or expectations, pricing, and nutrition regulatory changes.

Because all commodities will be provided on an "as needed" basis, SMSD makes no representation either orally or in writing to the amount of commodities, services, or related items SMSD will use during the Term of the Contract.

3.7 SMSD's Supplier Diversity Program / Minority and Women's Business Enterprise (MWBE), Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) and Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Participation

SMSD's Supplier Diversity Program

SMSD's supplier diversity program ensures that the District shall use its best efforts to inform small, women-owned, and minority-owned businesses of current and future purchasing activities. Pursuant to SMSD Board Policy CH (Local), the District shall encourage the participation of these businesses in purchasing of all goods and services. All solicitations issued by the District shall include a supplier diversity program form that is to be completed and submitted with the bid response. The form is included in Section 9.0 Attachments.

SMSD's MWBE, HUB, and SBE Participation

In addition to SMSD's Supplier Diversity Program, SMSD encourages the use of HUB, MWBE, and SBE both as prime and subcontractors. However, these entities must meet the same minimum standards and requirements as the prime contractor. It will be the responsibility of the prime contractor to pre-qualify any subcontractors offered as HUB, MWBE and SBE participants. The Vendor shall also indicate on their submitted proposals whether or not they are a HUB, MWBE, or SBE vendor and with whom they are certified, e.g., State, City, Federal, and provide a copy of the certificate(s) in the proposal submission.

When federal funds are expended by SMSD, Vendor is required ensure when possible, that small, minority, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms for any subcontracting opportunities are considered as set forth in 2 CFR 200.321 and below. Such consideration means:

- (1) These business types are included in solicitation lists;
- (2) These businesses types are solicited whenever deemed eligible potential sources;
- (3) Dividing procurement transactions into separate procurements to permit maximum participation by these business types;
- (4) Establishing delivery schedules (for example, the percentage of an order to be delivered by a given date of each month) that encourage participation by these business types; and

- (5) Utilizing organizations such as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

3.8 Formation of Contract (Execution of Offer)

A response to this RFP is an offer to contract with SMSD based upon the terms, conditions, scope of work, and specifications contained in this RFP. An RFP does not become a contract unless and until it is accepted by SMSD after approval by the SMSD Board of Trustees. A contract is formed when SMSD's Superintendent signs the Signature Form. The Vendor must submit a signed Signature Form, thus eliminating the need for the formal signing of a separate contract.

3.9 Multiple Awards

SMSD reserves the right to award one or more contracts, in part or in whole, to a single or to multiple prospective vendors. The decision to award multiple contracts, award only one contract, or to make no awards rests solely with SMSD. SMSD may make multiple awards; this fact should be taken into consideration by each Vendor.

3.10 Non-Exclusive Contract

Any contract resulting from this RFP is non-exclusive and shall be awarded with the understanding and Contract that it is for the sole convenience of SMSD. SMSD is free to have multiple contracts for the awarded products and/or services and may initiate other procurement solicitations or purchasing activity with other suppliers at any time, in SMSD's sole discretion. Nothing in this contract may be construed to imply that Vendor has the exclusive right to provide products and/or services to SMSD. During the term of this contract, SMSD reserves the right to use all available resources to procure other products and/or services as needed and doing so will not violate any rights of Vendor.

3.11 Disqualification

A Vendor may be disqualified before or after the proposals are opened upon evidence of collusion with the intent to defraud or evidence of intent to perform other illegal activities for the purpose of obtaining an unfair competitive advantage. A Vendor may also be disqualified before or after the proposals are opened in the event Vendor is out of compliance with an existing contract with SMSD.

3.12 Environmental Initiatives

SMSD is committed to reducing waste and promoting energy conservation. Toward that end, Vendors responding to this RFP are encouraged to provide their company's environmental policy and green initiative.

3.13 Interpretation

This RFP represents the basis for any award and supersedes all prior offers, negotiations, exceptions and understandings (whether orally or in writing). Submitted proposals should be self-explanatory and should not require any clarification or additional information.

3.14 Return of Proposals; Withdrawal of Proposals

A Vendor may request the return of its proposal within five (5) business days of the proposal deadline. After that time, SMSD will not return proposals to Vendors. Vendors should be aware that the District will retain a copy of all materials submitted, and the information will remain subject to the Texas Public Information Act. A Vendor may withdraw its submitted proposal prior to the deadline for the submission of proposals by written and signed request, which request must be delivered to SMSD at the address listed in Section 2.1.1 no later than the business day prior to the deadline for the submission of proposals.

3.15 Non-Collusion Statement

Vendors are required to certify a **Non-Collusion Statement**. (See **Section 9.0 Attachments**) Vendors are required to state the party submitting a proposal or bid, that such proposal or bid

is genuine and not collusive or sham; that Vendor has not colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly, with an entity or person, to put in a sham proposal or bid or to refrain from proposing, and has not in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by Contract or collusion, or communication or conference, with any person, to fix the proposed price or of any other vendor, or to fix any overhead, profit or cost element of said proposed price, or of that of any other vendor, or to secure any advantage against SMSD or any person interested in the proposed contract, and that all statements in said proposal or bid are true.

3.16 Open Records Policy

SMSD is a governmental body subject to the Texas Public Information Act. SMSD shall comply with the Texas Public Information Act in the event SMSD receives an open records request for information relating to proposals submitted in response to this RFP. Proposals submitted to SMSD as a result of this RFP may be subject to release as public information after contracts are executed or the procurement is terminated. If a Vendor believes that its response, or parts of its response, may be exempted from disclosure under Texas law, the Vendor must specify page-by-page and line-by-line the parts of the response which it believes are exempt. In addition, the Vendor must specify which exception(s) to the Texas Public Information Act are applicable and provide detailed reasons to substantiate the exception(s). Vague or general claims to confidentiality will not be accepted. SMSD assumes no obligation or responsibility relating to the disclosure or nondisclosure of information submitted by Vendors.

3.17 Preferences

SMSD may apply applicable preferences for Texas resident Vendors in the event of a tie bid. Preferences must be explicitly claimed by Vendor and may not be applicable in all procurements and/or contracts, including those involving federal funds unless specifically authorized by federal regulations. See TEXAS GOV'T. CODE §2252.001-.004; 2 C.F.R. § 200.319.

3.18 Responsible Vendor

SMSD may only award contracts to Responsible Vendor(s) who possess the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement contract. A Responsible Vendor is a vendor who has adequate financial resources (or the ability to obtain such resources), can comply with the delivery requirements, and is a qualified and established firm regularly engaged in the type of business that provides the items listed herein. When determining if a vendor is responsible, SMSD will consider the vendor's integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources.

3.19 Responsive Proposal

Proposals shall be deemed responsive if they comply with all material and administrative aspects of this RFP.

3.20 Similar Products or Materials

Whenever product(s), article(s), and/or material(s) are referred and/or defined by SMSD in this RFP by describing a proprietary product or by using the name of a manufacturer or brand name, the term "or equal" if not inserted shall be implied, as applicable. The specified product(s), article(s), and/or material(s) shall be understood as indicating type, function, minimum standard of design, efficiency and quality desired and shall not be construed as to exclude other manufactured products or comparable quality, design and efficiency, as applicable.

3.22 Material Changes

In the event federal Child Nutrition funds are used, if a material change (as that term is defined by TDA rules and regulations) to a contract entered into between SMSD and Vendor occurs, then the contract will not be renewed upon the conclusion of its term. Upon the expiration of the term, SMSD may issue a new procurement solicitation for the goods or services procured under the previously-existing contract. "Material change" for purposes of this Section 3.22

means a change made to a contract after the contract has been awarded that alters the terms and conditions of the contract substantially enough, that, had other Vendors known of the change in advance, they may have bid differently and more competitively.

3.23 Product Recall

If a product recall is instituted on an item that has been furnished and delivered to SMSD, Vendor must immediately notify the SMSD representative who signed the Purchase Order and SMSD's Chief Financial Officer at Dovran.ovezov@staffordmsd.org with all pertinent information regarding the recall.

3.24 Appeal/Protest Process

Any Vendor who submitted a proposal may appeal SMSD's award, if the appeal is based on deviations from laws, rules, regulations, or SMSD Board policies. SMSD Board Policy GF (Local) applies to any Vendor wishing to appeal a proposal and/or award of a contract. In accordance with Policy GF (Local), a Vendor shall submit a complaint/appeal form by hand-delivery, electronic communication, including email and fax, or U.S. mail, to SMSD's Chief Financial Officer. Complaints/appeals must be received by the close of business on or before the 15th SMSD business day after award of the contract. In the event Vendor is unsure about the award of the contract, it is the Vendor's responsibility to contact the SMSD Business Office on the next business day after the award is announced and verify details concerning the award.

3.25 Sole Source

In order to become a Sole Source Vendor, a vendor must meet the requirements of Texas Education Code § 44.031 (j) Sole Source, as described below.

Selected purchases may be exempt from competitive procurement if they meet the established criteria for a sole source purchase:

- Identification and confirmation that competition in providing the item or product to be purchased is precluded by the existence of a patent, copyright, secret process or monopoly
- Identification and confirmation that the product is a film, manuscript, book, utility service (including electricity, gas, or water), or a captive replacement part or component for equipment
- Sole source does not apply to mainframe data-processing equipment and peripheral attachments with a single item purchase price in excess of \$15,000.

It is incumbent upon the District to obtain and retain documents from the vendor which clearly delineate the reasons that qualify the purchase to be made on a sole source basis. In order to do business with SMSD as a Sole Source Vendor, SMSD must receive a notarized Sole Source Affidavit along with proof of your company qualifying as a sole source.

Please mail this information to:

Stafford MSD
Attn: Business Office
1633 Staffordshire Road
Stafford, Texas 77477

SMSD reserves the right to decide if your company is a qualified Sole Source Vendor.

3.26 Evaluation of Proposals

In accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations for public purchasing, award(s) will be made to the responsible vendor(s) whose proposal(s) is/are determined, after evaluation by SMSD, to be the Best Value to SMSD. To qualify for evaluation, a proposal must have been submitted on time and must materially satisfy all mandatory requirements identified in this document. A committee selected by SMSD will review and evaluate all proposals and make a recommendation to the SMSD Board of Trustees. SMSD represents that it has considered each of the criteria in Texas Education Code § 44.031(b), thereby fulfilling Section 44.031(b)'s requirement that it "shall consider" the criteria listed in 44.031(b); in accordance with Module 5 of the TEA FASRG and applicable federal laws, SMSD has determined which criteria should be considered most important and has assigned weights/points to each criterion based on its importance. SMSD will base a recommendation for contract award on the following factors, in accordance with Texas Education Code § 44.031:

Evaluation Factors	Weighted Value
Price	40
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall Cost of Products/Services Pricing as determined by the proposal submitted Pricing may also be based upon usage and coverage Warranty Terms and Conditions 	
Vendor's experience and reputation, and reputation of Vendor's products/services	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> References from local governmental entities Local government agencies within the past 5 years Other projects completed within the past 10 years 	
Vendor's compliance with RFP specifications	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery schedules, product or service specifications 	
Quality of Vendor's products/services and extent to which the products/services meet SMSD's needs:	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of Vendor's Products/Service, including product guarantees Demonstrated Ability to Perform Timeliness 	
Impact on the ability of SMSD to comply with laws and rules relating to HUB/MWBE/SBE	0
Whether Vendor's financial capability is appropriate to the size and scope of the project, and the total long-term cost to SMSD to acquire the products/services	10
For a contract for goods and services, other than goods and services related to telecommunications and information services, building construction and maintenance, or instructional materials, whether the Vendor or the Vendor's ultimate parent company or majority owner:	0
(A) Has its principal place of business in this state; or (B) Employs at least 500 persons in this state ¹	
Vendor's past relationship with SMSD	10
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS:	<u>100</u>

¹ SMSD may apply an optional geographic preference in the procurement of unprocessed locally grown or locally raised agricultural products for use in a Child Nutrition Program. See 7 C.F.R. §§ 210 (National School Lunch Program), 215 (Special Milk Program for Children), 220 (School Breakfast Program), 225 (Summer Food Service Program), 226 (Child and Adult Care Food Program).

4.0 CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

These Contract Terms and Conditions: (1) apply to all bids, requests for proposals, quotes, competitive sealed proposals, and other procurement solicitations to which they are attached; and (2) are part of the final contract in each product and/or service contract awarded as a result of this RFP and are part of the terms and conditions of each Purchase Order or other bid/proposal forms issued in connection with this RFP. Vendors are responsible for identifying any exceptions to these terms and conditions. **ANY EXCEPTIONS MUST BE NOTED DIRECTLY BELOW EACH OF THE RESPECTIVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS.** Proposals that are qualified with conditional clauses, items not called for, or other irregularities may be considered non-responsive by SMSD and eliminated from further consideration by SMSD.

CONTRACT BETWEEN STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND ("VENDOR") (RFP 25-001 Speech and Language Services)

This Contract is entered into between Stafford Municipal School District (SMSD) and Vendor, having submitted a proposal in response to this RFP issued by SMSD and whose proposal has been accepted and awarded by SMSD. In consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions contained in this Contract and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, SMSD and Vendor, intending to be legally bound, and subject to the terms, conditions, and provisions of this Contract, agree as follows:

4.1 Definitions

The terms used in this Contract shall have the meanings assigned to them in **Section 1.0 Notice of Intent** of the RFP.

4.2 Contract Terms; Amendment

The terms and conditions of this Contract shall govern all procurements conducted hereunder. No pre-published terms on Vendor's Purchase Order, acknowledgments, invoices, or other forms shall have any force or effect unless expressly agreed to by SMSD and Vendor. Further, no amendment of this Contract shall be permitted unless first approved in writing by SMSD, and no such amendment shall have any effect unless and until a written amendment to this Contract is executed by the SMSD Superintendent or his designee after any necessary approvals have been obtained from the SMSD Board of Trustees. In the event that a Vendor has an existing SMSD contract in the same contract title, upon award the new contract will immediately supersede the older contract.

4.3 Term of Contract; Renewal of Contract

The initial term of this Contract is for a period of one (1) calendar year, , with SMSD having the option to renew the Contract for four (4) additional one-year terms, in SMSD's sole discretion, unless otherwise specified in **Section 5.0 Scope of Proposal**. Consequently, the maximum duration of any Contract resulting from this RFP is a total of **five (5)** years, running from the date of execution of the contract by the authorized representative of the District. The phrase "Term" in this Contract shall mean the then-current Term of the Contract, whether the initial term or a renewal term.

4.4 Termination of Contract; Survival

This Contract shall remain in effect until (1) the Contract expires by its terms or (2) the Contract is terminated by mutual consent of SMSD and Vendor.

In the event of a breach or default of the Contract and/or the RFP by Vendor, SMSD reserves the right to enforce the performance of the Contract and/or the RFP in any manner prescribed by law or deemed to be in the best interest of SMSD. SMSD further reserves the right to terminate the Contract immediately in the event Vendor fails to: (1) meet schedules, deadlines,

and/or delivery dates within the time specified in this Contract, the RFP, and/or a Purchase Order or work order; (2) make any payments owed; or (3) otherwise perform in accordance with this Contract and/or the RFP. SMSD also reserves the right to terminate the Contract immediately, with written notice to Vendor, if SMSD believes, in its sole discretion, that it is in the best interest of SMSD to do so.

In the event that a material change to the terms of the Contract occurs, then the Contract shall not be renewed upon the conclusion of the Contract's term. The phrase "material change" in this paragraph shall mean a change made to a contract after the contract has been awarded that alters the terms and conditions of the contract substantially enough, that, had other Vendors known of the change in advance, they may have bid differently and more competitively. Upon the expiration of the Contract's term, SMSD may issue a new procurement solicitation for the goods or services procured under the previously-existing contract.

Vendor agrees that SMSD shall not be liable for damages in the event that SMSD declares Vendor to be in default or breach of this Contract and/or the RFP. If federal funds are used under this Contract, SMSD shall provide written notice of termination to Vendor. Vendor further agrees that upon termination of the Contract for any reason, Vendor shall, in good faith and with reasonable cooperation, aid in the transition to any new arrangement and/or Vendor.

4.5 **Buy American Provision; Prevailing Wage Rates**

Buy American

The Buy American provision, set forth in 7 C.F.R. § 210.21(d), requires that participants in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program use the nonprofit food service funds, to the maximum extent practicable, to buy domestic commodities or products for Program meals. 7 C.F.R. § 210.21(d) defines a "domestic commodity or product" as one that is either produced in the U.S. or is processed in the U.S. substantially using agricultural commodities that are produced in the U.S. "Substantially" means that over 51 percent of the final processed product consists of agricultural commodities that were grown domestically and processed into final end products in the United States.

If applicable, SMSD requires Vendor to certify whether its products are "domestic commodity[ies] or product[s]", as defined by 7 C.F.R. Part 210.21(d). Accordingly, Vendor agrees to provide certification that the food product was processed in the U.S. and the percentage of U.S. content, by weight or volume, in the food component of processed food products supplied to SMSD, as well as any other documentation requested by SMSD to demonstrate that purchases are compliant with the Buy American provision, including but not limited to compliant product labels and the required descriptions on delivery invoices and receipts. Vendors' contracts and invoices must state that all food products will meet the Buy American provisions.

When USDA Foods items are made into processed end products, 51 percent of resulting food products must be of United States origin, and the food products must be manufactured/processed in the United States. Pursuant to USDA/TDA regulations, if SMSD receives USDA Foods products that do not meet the Buy American requirements, SMSD must refuse delivery and report the issue to TDA immediately.

If Vendor is repetitively unable to provide domestic food products, SMSD may require Vendor to provide evidence that Vendor is capable of fulfilling the specifications, technical requirements, terms, and conditions of the Contract and specifically, the Buy American provision. If SMSD determines that Vendor is not capable of fulfilling the specifications, technical requirements, terms, and conditions of the Contract and/or specifically, the Buy American provision, SMSD may terminate its Contract with Vendor. Vendor shall provide documentation that demonstrates that food products meet the Buy American provision. Vendor certifies that it will adhere to the documentation requirements for the Buy American provision.

Vendor must notify the District if a delivery contains non-domestic products, so the District may approve delivery as an exception to the Buy American provision. Vendor certifies that it will adhere to the notification requirements for the Buy American provision.

Exceptions to the Buy American provision should be used as a last resort; however, an alternative or exception may be approved by SMSD, by occurrence (i.e., delivery). Blanket exception approvals are not allowed. The District must determine that the use of a non-domestic food product is appropriate and an exception is allowed, using the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-prescribed questions in making the decision. See "Requirements for an Exception," Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) ARM Section 17b Buy American, at p. 18 (July 28, 2022). Vendor agrees to provide information to the District, by occurrence, that will assist the District in this determination. The decision to purchase or accept delivery of a non-US product must be made by the District. Vendor agrees to comply with all requirements imposed by applicable law, USDA/TDA guidance, and the District concerning Buy American provision exceptions. To be considered for an exception to the Buy American provision, Vendor must submit a good faith request for an exception, certifying that the Vendor reasonably believes that:

- a) the product is not produced or manufactured in the U.S. in sufficient and reasonable available quantities of a satisfactory quality; and/or
- b) the costs of a U.S. product are significantly higher than the non-domestic product.

In the event Vendor or Vendor's supplier(s) are unable or unwilling to certify compliance with the Buy American Provision, or the applicability of an exception to the Buy American provision, Vendor's response to the procurement solicitation will be considered non-responsive, and SMSD may decide not to purchase from Vendor and/or SMSD may terminate the Contract if Vendor is incapable of fulfilling the terms and conditions of the Contract, including the Buy American requirements.

Additionally, SMSD may require country of origin on all products and invoices submitted for payment by Vendor, and Vendor agrees to comply with any such requirements.

Vendor further agrees that any and all subcontract(s) entered into for the performance of the RFP and Contract shall contain a provision requiring compliance with the Buy American requirements herein specified, binding upon each subcontractor.

Vendor accepts the terms and conditions set forth above for procurements and purchases involving federal Child Nutrition funds.

Prevailing Wage Rates – Construction/public works projects only

Vendor and all subcontractors of Vendor shall comply with all laws regarding wage rates, including, but not limited to, TEX. GOV'T. CODE Chapter 2258 and any related federal requirements applicable to this Contract and to this RFP by SMSD.

4.6 Change Orders

Pursuant to TEX. EDUC. CODE § 44.0411(a), if a change in plans or specifications is necessary after the performance of a Purchase Order has begun or if it is necessary to decrease or increase the quantity of work to be performed or of materials, equipment, or supplies to be furnished, SMSD may approve change orders making the changes. The total Purchase Order price may not be increased because of the changes unless additional money for increased costs is approved for that purpose from available money or is provided for by the authorization of the issuance of time warrants. A Purchase Order with an original contract price of \$1 million or more may not be increased under TEX. EDUC. CODE § 44.0411 by more than 25 percent. If a change order for a Purchase Order with an original contract price of less than \$1 million increases the contract amount to \$1 million or more, the total of the subsequent

change orders may not increase the revised contract amount by more than 25 percent of the original contract price.

4.7 **Compliance with Laws**

Vendor shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, statutes, ordinances, standards, orders, rules, and regulations, including, as applicable, workers' compensation laws, minimum and maximum salary and wage statutes and regulations; prompt payment and licensing laws and regulations, the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. § 276a / 29 CFR Part 5), the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (18 U.S.C. § 874 / 29 CFR Part 5), the Equal Opportunity Employment requirements (Executive Orders 11246 and 11375 / 41 CFR Chapter 60), the McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act (41 U.S.C. 351), Section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 1857h), Section 508 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1368), Executive Order 11738, Environmental Protection Agency regulations (40 CFR Part 15), the Contract Work Hours and Safety Act (40 U.S.C. § 3701-3708; 29 C.F.R. Part 5), the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR Part 200), the Education Department General Administrative Regulations, 2 C.F.R. Parts 200 and 3474, and 34 C.F.R. Parts 75-77 and 81 ("EDGAR"), mandatory standards and policies contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Pub. L. 94-163, 89 Stat. 871), and all applicable requirements and regulations, including those related to reporting, patent rights, copyrights, data rights and those mandated by federal agencies making awards of federal funds to SMSD. Vendor understands that Vendor is ineligible to receive a contract award with SMSD if Vendor or its principal(s) is listed on the government wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (Debarment and Suspension Orders Executive Orders 12549 and 12689) or is 30 days or more delinquent in paying child support (Tex. Fam. Code § 231.006). For the entire duration of this Contract, Vendor and all subcontractors shall maintain all required licenses, certifications, permits, and any other documentation necessary to perform this Contract. All permits will be acquired by Vendor and invoiced to SMSD at cost as part of the Purchase Order, unless the permits are provided by SMSD. For the entire duration of this Contract, Vendor and all subcontractors shall also comply with all requirements pertaining to local, state, or federal health and safety certifications, licensing, or regulations. Vendor must comply with all state and local building code requirements unless otherwise specifically provided in SMSD's Purchase Order, and Vendor must pay all fees and charges for connections to outside services and for use of property outside the project site. Vendor is responsible for being acquainted with and complying with Texas's requirements. When required or requested by SMSD, Vendor shall furnish SMSD with satisfactory proof of Vendor's compliance with this provision.

4.8 **Confidentiality**

Vendor and SMSD agree to secure the confidentiality of all information and records in accordance with applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. Vendor and SMSD understand that the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, governs the privacy and security of educational records and information and agree to abide by FERPA rules and regulations, as applicable. Vendor also acknowledges that SMSD is subject to the Texas Public Information Act, and Vendor waives any claim against and releases from liability SMSD, its officers, employees, agents, and attorneys with respect to disclosure of information provided under or in this Contract or otherwise created, assembled, maintained, or held by Vendor or SMSD and determined by SMSD, the Attorney General of Texas, or a court of law to be subject to disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act.

4.9 **Performance and Payment Bonds – Construction/public works projects only**

Vendor agrees to provide performance bonds and/or payment bonds as required by Texas law on specified contracts and/or projects, as applicable. SMSD will include the performance and payment bonds requirement in the specifications section of any solicitation if performance bonds and/or payment bonds are required. Additionally, Vendor shall provide all bonds, including bid guarantee, performance bond, and payment bond, as applicable under U.S. Department of Agriculture and/or Texas Department of Agriculture rules.

4.10 Title and Risk of Loss

Whenever SMSD is purchasing (and not leasing) an item under this Contract, title and risk of loss shall pass upon the later of SMSD's acceptance of the item or payment of the applicable invoice.

4.11 Warranty Conditions

All product(s) and/or service(s) provided by the Vendor under this Contract must be warranted to be free from defects in material, workmanship, and free from such defects in design for a period of one (1) year upon the later of SMSD's acceptance of the product and/or service or payment of the applicable invoice. Vendor warrants that all products and/or services furnished under this Contract shall conform in all respects to the terms of this Contract, including any drawings, specifications, and/or standards incorporated herein, including, without limitation, those detailed in the RFP and Purchase Order. In addition, Vendor warrants that products and/or services are suitable for and will perform in accordance with the purposes for which they are intended. Vendor shall assume all liabilities incurred within the scope of consequential damages and incidental expenses, as set forth in the Vendor or manufacturer's warranty, which result from either delivery or use of product, which does not meet the specifications within this Contract, the RFP, or Purchase Order.

4.12 Criminal History Review

Section 9.0 Attachments—Ch. 22 Contractor Certification: Contractor Employees Form must be filled out and submitted with packet, if applicable.

Prior to commencing any work under the Contract, if Vendor contracts with SMSD to provide services, Vendor must comply with all requirements relating to criminal history information required by Tex. Educ. Code Chapter 22. Vendor must also ensure subcontractors' compliance with Tex. Educ. Code, Chapter 22 requirements. Covered employees with disqualifying criminal history are prohibited from serving at SMSD locations; Vendor and any subcontracting entity may not permit a "covered employee" to provide services at a school if the employee has a "disqualifying criminal history" (as those terms are defined within the form). If Vendor receives information that a covered employee has a reported disqualifying criminal history, then Vendor will immediately remove the covered employee from the project/contract and notify SMSD in writing within three (3) business days. If SMSD, in its sole discretion, objects to the assignment of a covered employee for any reason, including, but not limited to, on the basis of the covered employee's criminal history record information and/or insufficient qualifications, lack of experience, and the like, based on information gathered by SMSD through the procurement and/or contracting processes, Vendor (and each subcontractor) agrees to discontinue using that covered employee to provide services on SMSD's project/contract. The criminal history record information review obligation applies if Vendor contracts with SMSD to provide services; it does not apply to a contract for the purchase of goods or real estate.

4.13 Customer Support

Vendor shall provide timely and accurate technical advice and sales support to SMSD and SMSD staff. Vendor shall respond to requests for customer support within one (1) business day after receipt of the request. Vendor shall provide training to SMSD staff regarding products and/or services supplied by Vendor, at no additional charge, if requested by SMSD.

4.14 SMSD Property

In the event of loss, damage, or destruction of any property owned by or loaned by SMSD that is caused by Vendor or Vendor's representative, agent, employee, or contractor, Vendor shall indemnify SMSD and pay to SMSD the full value of or the full cost of repair or replacement of such property, whichever is greater, within thirty (30) days of Vendor's receipt of written notice of SMSD's determination of the amount due. If Vendor fails to make timely payment, SMSD

may obtain such money from Vendor by any means permitted by law, including, without limitation, offset or counterclaim against any money otherwise due to Vendor by SMSD.

4.15 Tax Exempt Status

SMSD is tax-exempt, and SMSD shall not pay taxes for goods and/or services provided under this Contract. Proposal prices should not include taxes. Vendor represents and warrants that it shall pay all taxes or similar amounts resulting from this Contract, including, without limitation, any federal, state, or local income, sales or excise taxes of Vendor or its employees. SMSD shall not be liable for any taxes resulting from this Contract.

4.16 State of Texas Franchise Tax

By submitting a proposal in response to the RFP, Vendor certifies that Vendor is not currently delinquent in Vendor's payment of any franchise taxes or other taxes owed to the State of Texas.

4.17 Tax Responsibilities of Vendor and Indemnification for Taxes

Vendor is responsible for complying with the tax laws of states and the federal government. Vendor and all subcontractor(s) of Vendor shall pay all federal, state, and local taxes applicable to their operation and any persons employed by Vendor and all subcontractors of Vendor. Vendor shall require all subcontractors to hold SMSD harmless from any responsibility for taxes, damages, and interest. If applicable, contributions required under federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations and any other costs, including, but not limited to, transaction privilege taxes, unemployment compensation insurance, Social Security, and Worker's Compensation, shall be the sole responsibility of Vendor.

4.18 IRS W-9

In order to receive payment under this Contract, Vendor shall have a current I.R.S. W-9 Form on file with SMSD.

4.19 Assignment of Contract

Vendor may not assign this Contract or any of its rights, duties or obligations hereunder without the prior written approval of SMSD. Any attempted assignment of this Contract by Vendor shall be null and void. Any Purchase Order or work order made as a result of this Contract may not be transferred, assigned, subcontracted, mortgaged, pledged, or otherwise disposed of or encumbered in any way by Vendor without the prior written approval of SMSD.

4.20 Notification of Material Change

Vendor is required to notify SMSD when any material change in operations occurs, including changes in distribution rights for awarded products, bankruptcy, material changes in financial condition, change of ownership, and the like, within three (3) business days of such change.

4.21 Performance

Vendor agrees to use best efforts to provide the product(s) and/or service(s) subject to this Contract. Vendor shall furnish all supervision, labor, tools, equipment, permits, licenses, transportation, insurance, material, and supplies necessary to complete any scope of work and Purchase Order under this Contract. Vendor shall use skilled, trained personnel, who shall be supervised by Vendor.

4.22 Subcontractors

If Vendor uses subcontractors in the performance of any part of this Contract, Vendor shall be fully responsible to SMSD for all acts and omissions of the subcontractors just as Vendor is responsible for Vendor's own acts and omissions. Nothing in this Contract shall create for the benefit of any such subcontractor any contractual relationship between SMSD and any such subcontractor, nor shall it create any obligation on the part of SMSD to pay or to see to the payment of any moneys due any such subcontractor except as may otherwise be required by law. Vendor represents and warrants that it is willing, able, and capable of obtaining,

supervising, and being responsible for any subcontractors who perform and/or provide products and services related to this Contract.

4.23 Non-Appropriation

Renewal of this Contract, if any, will be in accordance with Texas Local Government Code § 271.903 concerning non-appropriation of funds for multi-year contracts. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract or obligation imposed on SMSD by this Contract, SMSD shall have the right to terminate this Contract or Purchase Order without default or liability to Vendor resulting from such termination, effective as of the expiration of each budget period of SMSD if it is determined by SMSD, in SMSD's sole discretion, that there are insufficient funds to extend this Contract, or any Purchase Order. The parties agree that this Contract and/or any Purchase Order are commitments of the current revenue of SMSD only.

4.24 Ordering Procedures

Purchase Orders are issued by SMSD to the Vendor according to this Contract. A purchase order will not be executed until the District wishes to purchase the specified product and/or services. The purchase order cannot be re-used; a new purchase order must be issued and executed if additional product(s) and/or service(s) are required. SMSD shall not be responsible or liable for any payment to the Vendor for any goods and/or services unless a purchase order is issued and signed by an appropriate and authorized individual from SMSD and delivered to the Vendor. Each SMSD purchase order shall indicate "formal bid."

4.25 Invoices; Payments

- 4.25.1 Vendor shall submit invoices directly to SMSD at the address indicated below or via email to ap@staffordmsd.org. Each invoice shall include SMSD's Purchase Order number. All invoices shall be itemized to include the type and quantity of product(s) and/or service(s) rendered. Vendor shall submit invoices within a timely manner during SMSD's fiscal year in which the product(s) and/or service(s) are purchased. The shipment tracking number or pertinent information for verification of SMSD's receipt shall be made available upon request by SMSD.

Each invoice shall be itemized and submitted to:

Stafford MSD

Attention: Accounts Payable

1633 Staffordshire Road

Stafford, Texas 77477

or via email to: ap@staffordmsd.org

SMSD will make payments directly to Vendor.

- 4.25.2 In accordance with Texas Government Code § 2251.021, payments are due to Vendor by SMSD, whose governing body meets only once a month or less frequently, **within forty-five (45) days** after the later of the following: (1) the date SMSD receives the products and services under the Contract; (2) the date the performance of the service under the Contract is completed; or (3) the date SMSD receives an invoice for the products or service. Vendor agrees to pay any subcontractors, if any, the appropriate share of the payment received from SMSD not later than the **tenth (10th) day** after the date the Vendor receives the payment from SMSD.

The exceptions to payments made by SMSD and/or Vendor listed in Texas Government Code § 2251.002 shall apply to this Contract.

In addition to all other rights and remedies that SMSD may have, SMSD shall have the right to setoff, against any and all amounts due to Vendor by SMSD, whether due under this Contract or any other agreement between SMSD (including any division of SMSD) and Vendor, any sums to which SMSD is entitled under this Contract, as determined by SMSD in

its sole discretion, including, without limitation, sums due by Vendor to SMSD as a result of indemnification obligations and/or warranty claims.

4.26 **Pricing Changes**

All prices and discount percentages in Vendor's proposal shall be firm for the Term of this Contract. Pricing may be negotiated during the Contract renewal period. Vendor agrees to promptly lower the proportionate price of any product purchased through this Contract following a reduction in the price the Vendor is paying suppliers. All price changes shall be presented to SMSD for acceptance or rejection by SMSD, in its sole discretion, using the same format as was accepted in Vendor's original proposal; all price changes for products and/or services provided under this Contract must be approved, in writing, by SMSD prior to taking effect.

The following documentation shall be provided to support a request for a price change:

- justification for change/increase
- terms and conditions
- market conditions
- manufacturers'/distributors' impact, if any

All price decreases shall be allowed for all products and/or services.

4.27 **Records Retention**

Vendor shall maintain its records and accounts in a manner that shall assure a full accounting for all product(s) and/or service(s) provided by the Vendor to SMSD under this Contract. These records and accounts shall be retained by Vendor and made available for review, copying, and audit by SMSD for a period of **not less than three (3) years** from the date of completion of the service(s), receipt of product(s), the date of the receipt by SMSD of Vendor's final invoice or claim for payment in connection with this Contract, or the date SMSD makes final payments and closes pending matters in connection with a federal grant, whichever is later. If an audit or a compliance review has been announced, the Vendor shall retain its records and accounts until such audit or compliance review has been completed.

When federal funds are expended by SMSD pursuant to this Contract, Vendor certifies that it will comply with the record retention requirements detailed in 2 CFR § 200.334. Vendor further certifies that Vendor will retain all records as required by 2 CFR § 200.334 for a period of three years after grantees or subgrantees submit final expenditure reports or quarterly or annual financial reports, as applicable, and all other pending matters are closed.

4.28 **Right to Review, Audit and Inspect**

SMSD, any federal agency that has awarded federal funds/grant(s) to SMSD, and the Comptroller General of the United States, and/or any of their authorized representatives, shall, upon written notice, have the right to audit and examine all of Vendor's records and accounts relating to this Contract and inspect any project performed by the Vendor relating to this Contract. Records subject to audit/review shall include, but are not limited to, all Purchase Orders resulting from this Contract and records which may have a bearing on matters of interest to SMSD in connection with the Vendor's work for SMSD, and shall be open to inspection and subject to audit/review and/or reproduction by SMSD, and/or its authorized representative(s) to the extent necessary to adequately permit evaluation and verification of:

- Vendor's compliance with this Contract and the requirements of the RFP,
- Compliance with procurement laws and SMSD policies and procedures, including, without limitation, reviewing/comparing pricing on invoices for SMSD,
- Compliance with provisions for computing billings to SMSD, and /or
- Any other matters related to this Contract.

4.29 **Indemnification**

VENDOR SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS SMSD, INCLUDING SMSD'S TRUSTEES, OFFICERS, ADMINISTRATORS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS, FROM ALL CLAIMS, LIABILITIES, COSTS, SUITS OF LAW OR IN EQUITY, EXPENSES, ATTORNEYS' FEES, FINES, PENALTIES OR DAMAGES ARISING FROM THE ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF VENDOR, VENDOR'S EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, OR SUBCONTRACTORS, IN CONNECTION WITH THIS CONTRACT, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, THOSE ARISING FROM CLAIMED INFRINGEMENT OF ANY PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, COPYRIGHT OR OTHER CORRESPONDING RIGHT(S) WHICH IS RELATED TO ANY ITEM VENDOR IS REQUIRED TO DELIVER. Vendor's obligations under this clause shall survive acceptance and payment by SMSD.

4.30 **Governing Law and Venue**

The laws of the State of Texas, without regard to its provisions on conflicts of laws, govern this Contract. The mandatory, exclusive jurisdiction for any dispute under this Contract is in the state and federal courts located in Houston, Fort Bend County, Texas.

4.31. **Multiple Contract Awards; Non-Exclusivity**

SMSD reserves the right to award multiple contracts for each commodity category. Commodity categories are established at the sole discretion of SMSD. Nothing in this Contract may be construed to imply that Vendor has the exclusive right to provide products and/or services to SMSD. During the Term of this Contract, SMSD reserves the right to use all available resources to procure other products and/or services as needed and doing so will not violate any rights of Vendor. In the event that a Vendor has an existing SMSD contract in the same contract title, upon award the new contract will immediately supersede the older contract.

4.32 **New Products**

New products that meet the specifications detailed in the RFP may be added to this Contract, with prior written approval from SMSD. Pricing of any new products shall be equivalent to the percentage discount or proposed prices for other similar products. Vendor may replace or add products to an existing contract if: the replacing products are equal to or superior to the original products offered; are discounted in a similar or to a greater degree; and the products meet the requirements of the original RFP. No products may be added to avoid competitive procurement procedures. SMSD may reject any proposed additions, without cause, in its sole discretion.

4.33. **No Substitution**

Any order issued pursuant to this Contract shall conform to the specifications and descriptions identified in this Contract and the RFP. Unless otherwise agreed to in advance by SMSD, Vendor shall not deliver substitutes without prior written authorization from SMSD.

4.34 **Penalties**

If the Vendor is unable to provide the product(s) or services at the prices quoted in Vendor's proposal or if Vendor fails to fulfill or abide by the terms and conditions of the Contract or the RFP, SMSD may take the following action(s), in the sole discretion of SMSD, and Vendor agrees to comply with SMSD's action(s):

- Insist that the Vendor honor the quoted price(s) specified in Vendor's proposal;
- Have the Vendor pay the difference between the Vendor's price and the price of the next acceptable proposal (as determined by SMSD);
- Have the Vendor pay the difference between Vendor's price and the actual purchase price of the product or service on the open market; and/or
- Recommend to SMSD's Board of Trustees that the Vendor no longer be given the opportunity to submit a proposal to SMSD and/or that this Contract be terminated.

4.35 **Safety**

Vendor, its subcontractors, and their respective employees shall comply fully with all applicable federal, state, and local safety and health laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations in the performance of services under this Contract, including, without limitation, those promulgated by SMSD and by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA"). In case of conflict, the most stringent safety requirements shall govern. Vendor shall comply with all other safety guidelines and standards as required by SMSD. Vendor shall indemnify and hold SMSD harmless from and against all claims, demands, suits, actions, judgments, fines, penalties, and liability of every kind arising from the breach of Vendor's obligations under this provision.

4.36 Workforce

Vendor shall employ only orderly and competent workers, skilled in the performance of the services, if any, which shall be performed under this Contract. Vendor, its employees, subcontractors, and subcontractor's employees may not use or possess any firearms, alcoholic or other intoxicating beverages, illegal drugs or controlled substances while on the job or on SMSD's property, nor may such workers be intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or drugs on SMSD's property.

4.37 Insurance

Vendor is required to provide SMSD with copies of certificates of insurance, naming SMSD as additional insured for Texas Workman's Compensation and General Liability Insurance, **within 14 business days of contract award and prior to the commencement of any work under this Contract.** Certificates of Insurance, name and address of Vendor, the limits of liability, the effective dates of each policy, and policy number shall be delivered to SMSD prior to commencement of any work under this Contract. The insurance company insuring Vendor shall be licensed in the State of Texas, and shall be acceptable to SMSD. Vendor shall give SMSD a **minimum of ten (10) days'** notice prior to any modifications or cancellation of said policies of insurance. Vendor shall require all subcontractors performing any work under or relating to this Contract to maintain coverage as specified below.

Minimum Insurance Requirements:

- Vendor shall, at all times during the Term of this Contract, maintain insurance coverage with not less than the type and requirements shown below. Such insurance is to be provided at the sole cost of the Vendor. These requirements do not establish limits of Vendor's liability.
 - All policies of insurance shall waive all rights of subrogation against SMSD and SMSD's officers, employees, and agents.
 - Upon request, certified copies of original insurance policies shall be furnished to SMSD.
 - SMSD shall be named as an "additional insured" on all insurance policies.
 - SMSD reserves the right to require additional insurance should SMSD deem additional insurance necessary, in SMSD's sole discretion.
- A. Workers' Compensation (with Waiver of subrogation to SMSD) Employer's Liability,
including all states, U.S. Longshoremen, Harbor Workers and other endorsements.
- B. Statutory, and Bodily Injury by Accident: \$100,000 each employee. Bodily Injury by Disease: \$500,000, policy limit \$100,000 each employee. Commercial General Liability Occurrence Form including, but not limited to, Premises and Operations, Products Liability Broad Form Property Damage, Contractual Liability, Personal and Advertising Injury Liability and where the exposure exists, coverage for watercraft, blasting collapse, and explosions, blowout, cratering and underground damage.

- \$300,000 each occurrence Limit Bodily Injury and Property Damage combined.
- \$300,000 Products-Completed Operations Aggregate Limit \$500,000 per Job Aggregate.
- \$300,000 Personal and Advertising Injury Limit.

C. Automobile Liability Coverage:

- \$300,000 Combined Liability Limits Bodily Injury and Property Damage Combined.

4.38 **No Agency or Endorsements**

It is the intention of the parties that Vendor is independent of SMSD, is an independent contractor, and is not an employee, agent, joint venturer, or partner of SMSD, and nothing in this Contract shall be interpreted or construed as creating or establishing the relationship of employer and employee, agent, joint venturer or partner, between SMSD and Vendor or SMSD and any of Vendor's agents. SMSD and Vendor are independent contractors and have no power or authority to assume or create any obligation or responsibility on behalf of the other party. This Contract shall not be construed to create or imply any partnership, agency, or joint venture, nor shall it be construed or deemed an endorsement of a specific company or product. Vendor agrees that SMSD has no responsibility for any conduct of any of Vendor's employees, agents, representatives, contractors, or subcontractors.

4.39 **Equal Opportunity**

It is the policy of SMSD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, National origin, gender, limited English proficiency or handicapping conditions in its programs. Vendor agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment to be employed in the performance of this Contract, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions and privileges of employment, or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of age (except where based on a bona fide occupational qualification), sex (except where based on a bona fide occupational qualification) or race, color, religion, national origin, or ancestry. Vendor further agrees that every subcontract entered into for the performance of this Contract shall contain a provision requiring non-discrimination in employment herein specified, binding upon each subcontractor. Breach of this covenant may be regarded as a material breach of the Contract.

4.40 **Force Majeure**

Neither SMSD nor Vendor shall be deemed to have breached any provision of this Contract as a result of any delay, failure in performance, or interruption of service resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, network failures, acts of civil or military authorities, civil disturbances, wars, energy crises, fires, transportation contingencies, interruptions in third-party telecommunications or Internet equipment or service, other catastrophes, or any other occurrences which are reasonably beyond such party's control.

The parties to this Contract are required to use due caution and preventive measures to protect against the effects of force majeure, and the burden of proving that a force majeure event has occurred shall rest on the party seeking relief under this provision. The party seeking relief due to force majeure is required to promptly notify the other party in writing, citing the details of the force majeure event and relief sought, and shall resume performance immediately after the obstacles to performance caused by a force majeure event have been removed, provided the Contract has not been terminated. Delay or failure of performance, by either party to this Contract, caused solely by a force majeure event, shall be excused for the period of delay caused solely by the force majeure event. Neither party shall have any claim for damages against the other resulting from delays caused solely by force majeure. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, in the event the Vendor's performance of its obligations under this Contract is delayed or stopped by a force majeure event, SMSD shall have the option to terminate this Contract. This section shall not be interpreted as to limit or otherwise modify any of SMSD's contractual, legal, or equitable rights.

4.41 Severability

In the event that any one or more of the provisions contained in this Contract shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions, and the Contract shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained in it.

4.42 Waiver

No failure on the part of either party at any time to require the performance by the other party of any term hereof shall be taken or held to be a waiver of such term or in any way affect such party's right to enforce such term, and no waiver on the part of either party of any term hereof shall be taken or held to be a waiver of any other term hereof or the breach thereof. No waiver, alteration, or modification of any of the provisions of this Contract shall be binding unless in writing and signed by duly authorized representatives of the parties hereto.

4.43 Entire Agreement

The Contract, Vendor's completed SMSD Vendor Packet (including all certifications therein), the RFP issued by SMSD, and the portion(s) of Vendor's proposal submitted in response to SMSD's RFP that are accepted by SMSD, and the attached and incorporated attachments, addendum, and/or exhibits, if any, contain the entire agreement of the parties relative to the purpose(s) of the Contract and supersede any other representations, agreements, arrangements, negotiations, or understanding, oral or written, between the parties to this Contract. In the event of a conflict between or among the documents that form this Contract, the following order of precedent shall apply: (1) Vendor's completed SMSD Vendor Packet; (2) this Contract; (3) the RFP issued by SMSD; (4) the portion(s) or Vendor's proposal submitted in response to SMSD's RFP that are accepted by SMSD. This Contract supersedes any conflicting terms and conditions on any Purchase Order or work order, invoices, checks, order acknowledgements, forms, purchase orders, or similar commercial documents relating hereto and which may be issued by Vendor after the Effective Date of this Contract.

4.44 Interpretation

Vendor agrees that the normal rules of construction that require that any ambiguities in this Contract are to be construed against the drafter shall not be employed in the interpretation of this Contract.

4.45 Notice

Any notice provided under the terms of this Contract by either party to the other shall be in writing and shall be given by hand-delivery or by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. Notice shall be sufficient if made or addressed to the address listed in the signature line of this Contract. Notice shall be deemed effective upon receipt. Each party may change the address at which notice may be sent to that party by giving notice of such change to the other party by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested.

4.46 Captions

The captions herein are for convenience and identification purposes only, are not an integral part hereof, and are not to be considered in the interpretation of any part hereof.

4.47 Use by other governmental entities.

Pursuant to applicable law, including the Interlocal Cooperation Act (Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code), SMSD may permit other governmental entities to "piggy-back" onto an existing contract between SMSD and Vendor entered into as a result of this RFP. In the event that the Vendor's proposal becomes an awarded Contract, the Vendor's proposal, including all pricing information, may be provided to a requesting governmental entity desiring to establish separate, independent contracts with Vendor. **Vendor expressly agrees that SMSD may disclose Vendor's proposal, including, but not limited to, pricing information, to other governmental entities.** Governmental entities are authorized to enter into separate, independent contracts with Vendor that employ the same negotiated terms and conditions

contained in an existing contract(s) between SMSD and Vendor. However, there is no obligation on either party to participate unless both parties agree. If another governmental entity chooses to utilize a contract established by this RFP and subsequent Contract, contracts will be awarded individually by those governmental entities, and products/services would be provided under the same contract pricing and purchasing terms established by this RFP. Any such separate, independent contract developed as a result of this RFP and/or the Contract is exclusively between such other governmental entity and Vendor and shall have no effect or impact on SMSD or SMSD's contract with Vendor. It is expressly understood that SMSD shall in no way be liable for the obligations of any other governmental entity contracting with Vendor pursuant to this section.

5.0 SCOPE OF PROPOSAL

- 5.1 It is the intention of SMSD to establish one or more contracts to furnish and/or deliver **(Speech and Language Service)**. The intention of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to solicit proposals for Speech and Language Services. SMSD is utilizing the Request for Proposals (RFP) method for the procurement of these products and/or services in accordance with Texas Education Code Section 44.031 Purchasing of Contracts, Item (3) Request for Proposals. SMSD is looking to obtain proposals from vendors that can provide Speech and Language Services.
- 5.2 Vendors are encouraged to offer any applicable terms and conditions that Vendor believes should be included for any additional product or service. SMSD reserves the right to accept or reject any items offered by Vendor pursuant to this section.
- 5.3 Awards will be made to the successful Vendor(s) for the total line of products and services submitted. Proposals can be made for any or all services and products described herein. Awards will be based on the criteria set forth within this document. SMSD reserves the right to award contracts to multiple Vendors if these Vendors offer items that are unique and have value to SMSD. SMSD shall comply with the Texas Public Information Act in the event SMSD receives an open records request for information relating to proposals submitted in response to this RFP.

The terms and conditions listed below apply to all categories and lots within **the necessary equipment**. Each category and lot contain additional terms, conditions, and specifications. If there is a conflict between category or lot terms and conditions and those listed below, the category or lot terms and conditions shall take precedence.

- 5.4 **Vendor is required to ensure that the Purchase Order includes the following, as applicable:**
- The contract number, lump sum price, start date, schedule, and notice to proceed. The schedule will include the mobilization, materials purchase, installation and delivery, design, weather, and site cleanup and inspection. No additional claims may be made for delays as a result of these items.
 - The date for commencing services and/or delivery of products ("work"). Upon commencing work, the Vendor will proceed diligently toward contract completion. Any delay in the work beyond the Vendor's control must be reported to SMSD's authorized representative immediately.
 - Compensation for received products, terms of progress payments, and a schedule of payments. SMSD retains the right to extend the schedule of work/delivery time or to suspend the work and to direct the Vendor to resume work when appropriate. The Purchase Order must describe an equitable adjustment for added costs caused by any suspension. Any increases will be invoiced through SMSD as allowed in the Contract or RFP.
 - A schedule for performance of work that can be met without planned overtime, which shall be Vendor's responsibility.
 - Terms for acceptance by SMSD and title to work must be clearly agreed upon and described. If any part of the work requires SMSD to assume control prior to the completion, this must be defined. Vendor and SMSD must agree on the definition of what constitutes final acceptance before payment of any retained compensation.
- 5.5 **For each Purchase Order, the following shall apply:**
- After the Purchase Order is signed, a copy of the Purchase Order shall be sent to the awarded vendor.
 - Each individual vendor may be limited to work at a single facility, and Director of Federal and State Programs will be responsible for writing the description of the Scope of Work to

be performed within the Purchase Order. Descriptions may be written, by sketch, and/or by drawing and should include the location where work is to be performed, whether work may be performed during Regular Hours, the project completion time, and the price to be paid for the work.

- The Vendor shall perform the scope of work within the project completion time and for the fixed price of the Purchase Order.
- No work shall be performed until a written and signed Purchase Order has been issued by SMSD. Any work performed under a Purchase Order before the Vendor's receipt of the written and signed Purchase Order is at the Vendor's risk.
- The Vendor is required to perform all work under a Purchase Order which has been issued and received before the expiration date of this Contract. If the Purchase Order is not received by the Vendor before the expiration date of this Contract, the Purchase Order will be considered cancelled. Purchase Orders sent in the last 30 days of a Term should be sent "Return Receipt Requested". Any Purchase Order issued during the Term of the Contract and not completed before the expiration date of the Contract must be completed within the completion/delivery time stated in the Purchase Order, and the rights and obligations of the Vendor and SMSD with respect to the Purchase Order will be the same as if the Purchase Order were completed during the Term of the Contract.
- The Vendor may not refuse to perform any project requested by SMSD unless such project is unlawful.
- SMSD also reserves the right not to issue a Purchase Order if such non-issuance is in SMSD's best interest, as determined by SMSD in its sole discretion. Regardless of such non-issuance, the Vendor shall not recover any costs arising out of or related to the development of the Purchase Order.

6.0 SPECIFICATIONS

- 6.1 It is the intention of SMSD to establish one or more contract(s) with highly qualified Vendor(s) for **Speech and Language Services**. Vendor(s) shall, at the request of SMSD, provide these products and/or covered services under the terms of this RFP and the Contract set forth in Section **4.0 Contract Terms and Conditions**. Vendor shall assist SMSD with making a determination of its individual needs, as stated below.

To meet the special needs of a segment of the student population at Stafford Municipal School District, it will be necessary for the District to retain Speech and Language services, on an independent contractor basis. The services will be provided to those students in need of additional support to enhance their educational experience.

The District is seeking qualified vendors to provide Speech and Language services to designated SMSD students by licensed, registered, and/ or certified Speech and Language Pathologist. The qualifications and services requested will include but not limited to:

Qualifications:

- Licensure by Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and ASA, American Speech Language Hearing Association
- School -based experience preferred

Responsibilities:

- Speech/Language Screening – (includes teacher and parent consult, student observation, teacher interview, parent interview, screening of student in suspected area of speech/language disability, professional diagnostic).
- Initial Speech and Language Evaluations – (includes teacher and parent consult, student observation, teacher interview(s)/data collection, parent interview(s), student speech/language evaluation in area of suspected disability, professional diagnostic determination of speech/language special education eligibility, speech and language recommendations, review of evaluation results and parent, speech and language evaluation report).
- Triennial Speech and Language Re-Evaluations – (includes review of existing speech/language evaluation data, teacher and parent consult, student observations, teacher interview(s)/data collection, parent interview(s), student speech/language evaluation in areas(s) of speech and language disability, professional diagnostic determination of continued speech special education eligibility or dismissal, speech and language recommendations, speech and language re-evaluation report).
- Speech and Language Review of Existing Evaluation Data (REEDs) – (includes review of existing speech/language evaluation data teacher and parent consult student, interview(s), professional diagnostic determination of need for additional testing in other areas and/or professional diagnostic determination of continued need for speech and language intervention services, speech and language recommendations, speech and language REED report).
- Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARDs)-(includes update of speech and language Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (PLAAFP). Individualized Education Program (IEP) speech and language goal/objective creation, recommendations, and ARD meeting attendance).
- Speech and Language Therapy Treatment Services – (minimum of 2 hours per contracted day – includes direct service provision per student IEP and documentation of treatment sessions).

- Maintenance of confidential, legible, current student records to be submitted to the Agency in accordance with established procedures and deadlines.
- Maintenance of accurate billing records and submits these records to the Agency monthly.
- Description of Services/obligations – included with each item.
- Supervision of Speech Language Pathologist Assistant

Please Note: Indirect service provision (e.g., ARD meetings, consultations, administrative meetings, etc.) may be conducted via cloud-based video conferencing (e.g., Microsoft TEAMS) for efficient collaboration and communication where appropriate.

Contractor will comply with all rules and regulations of the district relating to the provision of services to students, as well as with all State and Federal requirements and regulations applicable to the provision of speech services. This included written evaluations, progress reports, and other required documentation.

7.0 PRICING / DELIVERY INFORMATION

7.1 Pricing

Vendors must submit pricing to SMSD in their proposals, including any additional pricing examples and pricing discount schedules that need to be submitted to provide SMSD with a comprehensive catalog. SMSD may request the awarded Vendor(s) to provide discounts or other adjustments, on a per-Purchase Order basis. If discounts or quantity prices are offered by an awarded Vendor, the Vendor must also offer to SMSD the same reductions in pricing to be available for orders of similar size. **Catalog/price lists must be included in the Vendor's proposal, if applicable.**

Vendors must identify in their proposals all costs, fees, or charges for which SMSD may be billed. Costs not indicated in proposals will not be paid. Vendors are to provide written documentation for any exceptions.

7.2 Discounts provided on price lists and catalogs – Detail the average discount provided by the Vendor on stated prices.

7.2.1 Provide discount schedules for all products Vendor intends to offer, shown either by category or code. Use separate discount for any net items with description of these net items.

7.2.1.1 In the event of a catalog discount type proposal, Vendor may be allowed to make additions and/or deletions from Vendor's offerings on an annual basis during the Contract renewal period, in SMSD's sole discretion, provided the item(s) substituted are of a like quality and category. These changes will be compliant with the format of Vendor's original proposal (i.e., manufacturer name, product category, or entire catalog discount). SMSD will send notification to Vendor(s) seeking any additions and/or deletions, and Vendor will return these proposed changes on company letterhead within the given timeframe. If SMSD, in its sole discretion, accepts Vendor's proposed changes, such changes will remain in effect for the entire year until the next renewal period.

7.2.2 Provide labor notes for each category shown that Vendor is proposing. These notes must include Vendor's overhead and profit. Provide Vendor's miscellaneous material markups. If Vendor does not provide this labor classification, mark "NA" (Not Available).

7.2.3 Provide a description on how Vendor intends to guarantee the performance of Vendor's labor, and what benchmark will be used to determine the labor hours for each project.

7.2.4 Indicate any list price adjustment Vendor intends on providing during the contract period and on what it is based. For example: CPI.

7.2.5 **All pricing shall be flat fee and, if federal Child Nutrition funds are used, may not use the "cost-plus percentage of cost" pricing method, as defined by USDA/Texas Department of Agriculture regulations.**

7.3 Freight, Delivery, Inspection & Acceptance

All deliveries under this Contract shall be delivered: **Freight Prepaid, F.O.B. Destination, Full Freight Allowed, Inside Delivery** and shall be included in all pricing in Vendor's proposal unless otherwise clearly stated in writing in Vendor's proposal. Deliveries shall be made during SMSD's Regular Hours.

Awarded Vendor(s) shall deliver the conforming product(s) procured on this Contract to the SMSD division issuing a Purchase Order within **ten (10) business days** of Vendor's receipt of a Purchase Order. If delivery is not or cannot be made within the proper time period, the

awarded Vendor must receive authorization from the issuing SMSD division for the delayed delivery. Vendor shall submit to SMSD, in support of its request for such authorization, a written document containing the reasons why the product cannot be timely delivered and an estimated shipping date, if applicable. SMSD may cancel the order if the estimated shipping time is not acceptable to SMSD, in SMSD's sole discretion.

If defective or incorrect products are delivered, SMSD may make the determination, in its sole discretion, to return the products to Vendor at no cost to SMSD. Vendor agrees to pay all shipping and handling costs for any such return shipment. Vendor also shall be responsible for arranging the return of the defective or incorrect products.

SMSD may request emergency delivery. Vendor must use its best efforts to comply with rush or emergency delivery. However, if Vendor is unable to fulfill the emergency delivery request, SMSD may procure its needs from alternative sources without penalty.

8.0 VENDOR QUESTIONNAIRE

8.1 Please complete the Vendor Questionnaire and return with the Vendor proposal.

LEGAL NAME OF VENDOR:

DATA UNIVERSAL NUMBERING SYSTEM / DUN & BRADSTREET (DUNS) NUMBER:

TYPE OF BUSINESS/DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCTS AND/OR SERVICES PROVIDED:

VENDOR MAILING ADDRESS:

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

VENDOR STREET ADDRESS:

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

CONTACT PERSON'S NAME:

CONTACT PERSON'S TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX: _____

CONTACT PERSON'S E-MAIL ADDRESS:

1. TYPE OF BUSINESS ENTITY: ☐ PUBLICLY TRADED CORPORATION ☐ PRIVATE CORPORATION ☐ LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
☐ PARTNERSHIP ☐ SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP ☐ NOT FOR PROFIT ENTITY

2. NUMBER OF FULL TIME EMPLOYEES: _____ NUMBER OF PART TIME EMPLOYEES: _____

3. NUMBER OF YEARS VENDOR HAS BEEN IN CONTINUOUS OPERATION: _____

4. NUMBER OF YEARS VENDOR HAS BEEN IN BUSINESS UNDER ITS PRESENT BUSINESS NAME: _____

5. HAS VENDOR CONDUCTED BUSINESS WITH THE DISTRICT UNDER ANOTHER NAME? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, PROVIDE OTHER

NAME(S): _____

6. NUMBER OF YEARS DOING BUSINESS WITH SMSD: _____

7. DOES VENDOR HAVE A PARENT COMPANY OR SUBSIDIARY THAT CURRENTLY CONDUCTS OR THAT HAS PREVIOUSLY CONDUCTED BUSINESS WITH THE DISTRICT? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, NAME OF PARENT COMPANY AND/OR SUBSIDIARY:

8. DOES VENDOR HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, NAMES OF SCHOOL

DISTRICTS _____

9. DOES VENDOR HAVE ANY OWNERS, PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS OR STOCKHOLDERS, OFFICERS, AGENTS, SALESPeOPLE OR KEY EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF THE SMSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES DURING THE LAST 5 YEARS? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, NAME(S) AND TITLE(S):

10. DOES ANY OFFICER, PARTNER, OWNER, SALES REPRESENTATIVE AND/OR SPOUSE WORK FOR SMSD? ☐ YES ☐ NO

11. DOES VENDOR HAVE ANY OWNERS, PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS OR STOCKHOLDERS, OFFICERS, AGENTS, SALESPeOPLE OR KEY EMPLOYEES WHO ARE DISTRICT EMPLOYEES OR WHO ARE MEMBERS OF A DISTRICT EMPLOYEE'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY WHO EITHER WORK OR WHO MAY POTENTIALLY WORK ON THIS CONTRACT WITH THE DISTRICT? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, NAME(S) AND TITLE(S):

12. NAMES OF AUTHORIZED AGENTS, INCLUDING ANY PERSON OR ENTITY AUTHORIZED TO 'ACT WITH' OR 'ACT ON YOUR BEHALF,' SUCH AS CONSULTANTS, SUB-CONTRACTORS, RE-SELLERS, LOBBYISTS, CONFIDANTS, ETC., WHETHER COMPENSATED OR NOT COMPENSATED:

13. HAS VENDOR (INCLUDING ANY OWNER, PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDER OR STOCKHOLDER, OFFICER, AGENT, SALESPerson, OR EMPLOYEE) BEEN INVOLVED IN PAST, PENDING, OR PRESENT LITIGATION INVOLVING THE DISTRICT OR ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE THE STYLE AND STATUS OF THE CASE AS WELL AS THE TYPE OF LITIGATION:

14. NAME OF INSURANCE COMPANIES:

INSURANCE COMPANIES	INSURANCE COMPANIES

15. CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ VENDOR WILL PROVIDE GOODS AND SERVICES WITH OWN WORK FORCE

☐ VENDOR WILL PURCHASE GOODS DIRECTLY FROM THE MANUFACTURER OR OTHER SUPPLIER

16. CAN VENDOR PROVIDE SMSD WITH PERIODIC PREFORMATTED FLAT FILE UPDATES OF YOUR CATALOG? ☐

YES ☐ NO

17. DOES VENDOR HAVE E-COMMERCE CAPABILITY? ☐ YES ☐ NO

18. DOES VENDOR HAVE PUNCH-OUT CATALOGS IN PLACE TODAY? ☐ YES ☐ NO

19. DOES VENDOR HAVE ANY INTERNAL ELECTRONIC CATALOGS WITH ANY CUSTOMERS? ☐ YES ☐ NO

I ATTEST THAT I HAVE ANSWERED THE ABOVE QUESTIONS TRUTHFULLY AND TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

9.0 ATTACHMENTS

Please complete the enclosed Vendor Packet and return all completed, executed forms with the proposal.



Stafford Municipal School District
"The Best Little School District in Texas"

VENDOR PACKET

Name of Vendor: _____

TABLE OF CONTENTS

All vendors doing business with Stafford Municipal School District (SMSD) must complete and submit a Vendor Packet that consists of the attachments listed below. Items below are components which comprise this bid/proposal/contract package. Respondents are asked to review the Vendor Packet and attachments to be sure that all applicable parts are included. If any portion of the package is missing, please notify SMSD immediately.

This attachment package must be completed, executed, and dated by the authorized proposer/vendor and must be included with your proposal/contract at the time of submission.

Attachments:

Execution of Offer

Conflict of Interest Questionnaire

Certificate of Interested Parties – Form 1295

IRS Form W-9

Proposer/Vendor Certification Forms

Felony Conviction Notice Form

Antitrust Certification Statement

Ch. 22 Criminal History Records Contractor Certification

Confidentiality Declaration Form

EXECUTION OF OFFER

The undersigned Proposer has carefully examined all instructions, requirements, specifications, terms and conditions of this RFP and the Agreement and certifies:

1. It is a reputable company regularly engaged in providing goods and/or services necessary to meet the requirements, specifications, terms and conditions of the RFP and the Agreement.
2. It has the necessary experience, knowledge, abilities, skills, and resources to satisfactorily perform the requirements, specifications, terms and conditions of the RFP and the Agreement. Further, if awarded, the Proposer agrees to perform the requirements, specifications, terms and conditions of the RFP and the Agreement.
3. All statements, information, and representations prepared and submitted in response to this RFP are current, complete, true, and accurate. Proposer acknowledges that SMSD will rely on such statements, information, and representations in selecting the successful Proposer(s).
4. It is not currently barred or suspended from doing business with the Federal government, any of the members represented, or any of their respective agencies.
5. It shall be bound by all statements, representations, warranties, and guarantees made in its proposal.
6. Submission of a proposal indicates the Proposer's acceptance of the evaluation technique and the Proposer's recognition that some subjective judgments may be made by SMSD as part of the evaluation.
7. That all of the requirements of this RFP and the Agreement have been read and understood. In addition, compliance with all requirements, terms and conditions will be assumed by SMSD if not otherwise noted in the proposal.
8. The individual signing below has authority to enter into this Agreement on behalf of Proposer.
9. Proposer acknowledges that the Agreement may be canceled if any conflict of interest or appearance of a conflict of interest is discovered by SMSD.
10. This Agreement is subject to purchase orders duly authorized and executed by SMSD.

CORPORATE NAME:			
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:			
PRINT NAME:			
TITLE:			
DATE:			
ADDRESS:			
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE:			
PHONE:		FAX:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:			
WEBSITE URL:			

This Section to be Completed by SMSD

Contract Number: _____ Term of contract: _____ to _____

Approved by Stafford Municipal School District:

Authorized SMSD Representative

Board Approval Date

SMSD CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Stafford Municipal School District (SMSD) is required to comply with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176, Disclosure of Certain Relationships with Local Government Officers. House Bill 23 significantly changed Chapter 176 as well as the required disclosures and the corresponding forms. As of September 1, 2015, any vendor who does business with SMSD or who seeks to do business with SMSD must fill out the new Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (CIQ) whether or not a conflict of interest exists. A conflict of interest exists in the following situations:

- 1) If the vendor has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of SMSD or a family member of the officer, as described by section 176.003(a)(2)(A) of the Texas Local Government Code; or
- 2) If the vendor has given a local government officer of SMSD, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value of \$100, excluding any gift accepted by the officer or a family member of the officer if the gift is:
(a) a political contribution as defined by Title 15 of the Election Code; or (b) a gift of food accepted as a guest; or
- 3) If the vendor has a family relationship with a local government officer of SMSD.

“Vendor” means a person who enters or seeks to enter into a contract with a local governmental entity. The term includes an agent of a vendor. The term includes an officer or employee of a state agency when that individual is acting in a private capacity to enter into a contract. The term does not include a state agency except for Texas Correctional Industries. *Texas Local Government Code 176.001(7).*

“Business relationship” means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on: (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity; (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency. *Texas Local Government Code 176.001(3).*

“Family relationship” means a relationship between a person and another person within the third degree by consanguinity or the second degree by affinity, as those terms are defined by Subchapter B, Chapter 573, Government Code. *Texas Local Government Code 176.001(2-a).*

“Local government officer” means: (A) a member of the governing body of a local governmental entity; (B) a director, superintendent, administrator, president, or other person designated as the executive officer of a local governmental entity; or (C) an agent of a local governmental entity who exercises discretion in the planning, recommending, selecting, or contracting of a vendor. *Texas Local Government Code 176.001(4).*

- ***SMSD Board of Trustees and Superintendent include:***

Mr. Manuel Hinojosa	Mr. Adam Sanchez
Mr. Ash Hamirani	Ms. Jacqueline Jean-Baptiste
Ms. Joyce Wilkins	Ms. Patricia Soza-Montelongo
Ms. Suzette Thompson	Dr. Robert Bostic, Superintendent

- ***Current local government officers include, but are not limited to:***

Dovran Ovezov	Theresa Almendarez
Ceisy Delco	Danny McDonald

Dr. Dawn Dubose	Dr. Almus Kadir
Other Administrator(s) assigned	

If no conflict of interest exists, you must fill out Box 1 and type N/A on Box 3 of the CIQ form, sign and date it. In the event of changed circumstances, an updated CIQ must be filed within seven (7) business days after the vendor becomes aware that a conflict of interest exists.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE
For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

FORM CIQ

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2 ☐ **Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.** (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.

Name of Officer

4 Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?

☐ Yes ☐ No

B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

☐ Yes ☐ No

5 Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.

6 ☐ Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).

7

Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

Date

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm>. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a): "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

(a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

(2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed;

or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;

(B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

(a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

(1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);

(2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or

(3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.

(a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

(1) the date that the vendor:

(A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or

(B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

(2) the date the vendor becomes aware:

(A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);

(B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or

(C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

SMSD CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES – FORM 1295

SMSD is required to comply with HB 1295, which amended the Texas Government Code by adding Section 2252.908, Disclosure of Interested Parties. Section 2252.908 applies to a contract of SMSD that (1) requires an action or vote by the SMSD Board of Trustees before the contract may be signed; (2) has a value of at least \$1 million; or (3) is for services that would require a person to register as a lobbyist under Tex. Gov't Code Chapter 305. If applicable, the business entity must submit a Disclosure of Interested Parties (Form 1295) to SMSD at the time business entity submits the signed contract. The Form 1295 requirement does not apply to: (1) a contract with a publicly traded business entity or wholly owned subsidiary of the same; (2) an electric utility; or (3) a gas utility. The Texas Ethics Commission has adopted rules requiring the business entity to file Form 1295 electronically with the Texas Ethics Commission. The following **definitions** apply:

- (1) ***“Business Entity”*** means an entity recognized by law through which business is conducted, including a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation. TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2252.908(1).
- (2) ***“Interested Party”*** means a person:
 - a) who has a controlling interest in a business entity with whom SMSD contracts; or
 - b) who actively participates in facilitating the contract or negotiating the terms of the contract, including a broker, intermediary, adviser, or attorney for the business entity. TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2252.908(3).
- (3) ***“Controlling interest”*** means:
 - a) an ownership interest or participating interest in a business entity by virtue of units, percentage, shares, stock, or otherwise that exceeds 10 percent;
 - b) membership on the board of directors or other governing body of a business entity of which the board or other governing body is composed of not more than 10 members; or
 - c) service as an officer of a business entity that has four or fewer officers, or service as one of the four officers most highly compensated by a business entity that has more than four officers. *Subsection (c) does not apply to an officer of a publicly held business entity or its wholly owned subsidiaries.* TEX. ETHICS COMM. RULE 46.3(c).
- (4) ***“Intermediary”*** means a person who actively participates in the facilitation of the contract or negotiating the contract, including a broker, adviser, attorney, or representative of or agent for the business entity who:
 - a) receives compensation from the business entity for the person's participation;
 - b) communicates directly with the governmental entity or state agency on behalf of the business entity regarding the contract; and
 - c) is not an employee of the business entity. TEX. ETHICS COMM. RULE 46.3(e).

As a “business entity,” vendors must:

- (1) **complete Form 1295 electronically** with the Texas Ethics Commission using the online filing application, which can be found at https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf_info_form1295.htm
 - **All vendors must complete Form 1295, even if no interested parties exist**
 - In Section 2, insert “Stafford Municipal School District”
 - In Section 3, insert the SMSD RFQ/RFP # for this proposal
- (2) **print a copy of the completed form** (make sure that it has a computer-generated certification number in the “Office Use Only” box)
- (3) have an authorized agent of the business entity **sign the form**
- (4) **submit** the completed Form 1295 by **attaching the form to your statement of qualifications/proposal.**

SMSD must acknowledge the receipt of the filed Form 1295 by notifying the Texas Ethics Commission of the receipt of the filed Form 1295 no later than the 30th day after receipt. After SMSD acknowledges the Form 1295, the Texas Ethics Commission will post the completed Form 1295 to its website with seven business days after receiving notice from SMSD.

CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES

FORM 1295

Complete Nos. 1 - 4 and 6 if there are interested parties.
Complete Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 if there are no interested parties.

OFFICE USE ONLY

1 Name of business entity filing form, and the city, state and country of the business entity's place of business.

2 Name of governmental entity or state agency that is a party to the contract for which the form is being filed.

Stafford Municipal School District

3 Provide the identification number used by the governmental entity or state agency to track or identify the contract, and provide a description of the services, goods, or other property to be provided under the contract.

SMSD RFPNo. <insert RFP No. here>

4	Name of Interested Party	City, State, Country (place of business)	Nature of Interest (check applicable)	
			Controlling	Intermediary

5 Check only if there is NO Interested Party. ☐

6 UNSWORN DECLARATION

My name is _____, and my date of birth is _____.

My address _____ (street) _____ (city) _____ (state) _____ (zip code) _____ (country)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed in _____ County, State of _____, on the _____ day of _____, 20_____.
(month) (year)

Signature of authorized agent of contracting business entity
(Declarant)

ADD ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NECESSARY

**Request for Taxpayer
Identification Number and Certification**

Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

**Give form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.**

Before you begin. For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see *Purpose of Form*, below.

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	1 Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, enter the owner's name on line 1, and enter the business/disregarded entity's name on line 2.)		
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above.		
	3a Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes. <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> C corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate <input type="checkbox"/> LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership) Note: Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) _____	4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): Exempt payee code (if any) _____ Exemption from Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting code (if any) _____ (Applies to accounts maintained outside the United States.)	
	3b If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" as its tax classification, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an ownership interest, check this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions <input type="checkbox"/>		
	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions.	Requester's name and address (optional)	
6 City, state, and ZIP code			
7 List account number(s) here (optional)			

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. See also *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number	
<div></div>	<div></div>
or	
Employer identification number	
<div></div>	<div></div>

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and, generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person	Date
------------------	---------------------------------	-------------

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

What's New

Line 3a has been modified to clarify how a disregarded entity completes this line. An LLC that is a disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Otherwise, it should check the "LLC" box and enter its appropriate tax classification.

New line 3b has been added to this form. A flow-through entity is required to complete this line to indicate that it has direct or indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries when it provides the Form W-9 to another flow-through entity in which it has an ownership interest. This change is intended to provide a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, so that it can satisfy any applicable reporting requirements. For example, a partnership that has any indirect foreign partners may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3. See the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they

must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN), which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid).
- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds).
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds).
- Form 1099-NEC (nonemployee compensation).
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers).
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions).
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third-party network transactions).
- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), and 1098-T (tuition).
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt).
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property).

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

Caution: If you don't return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See *What is backup withholding*, later.

By signing the filled-out form, you:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued);
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding; or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee; and
4. Certify to your non-foreign status for purposes of withholding under chapter 3 or 4 of the Code (if applicable); and
5. Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting is correct. See *What is FATCA Reporting*, later, for further information.

Note: If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien;
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States;
- An estate (other than a foreign estate); or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Establishing U.S. status for purposes of chapter 3 and chapter 4 withholding. Payments made to foreign persons, including certain distributions, allocations of income, or transfers of sales proceeds, may be subject to withholding under chapter 3 or chapter 4 of the Code (sections 1441–1474). Under those rules, if a Form W-9 or other certification of non-foreign status has not been received, a withholding agent, transferee, or partnership (payor) generally applies presumption rules that may require the payor to withhold applicable tax from the recipient, owner, transferor, or partner (payee). See Pub. 515, *Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities*.

The following persons must provide Form W-9 to the payor for purposes of establishing its non-foreign status.

- In the case of a disregarded entity with a U.S. owner, the U.S. owner of the disregarded entity and not the disregarded entity.
- In the case of a grantor trust with a U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner, generally, the U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner of the grantor trust and not the grantor trust.
- In the case of a U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust), the U.S. trust and not the beneficiaries of the trust.

See Pub. 515 for more information on providing a Form W-9 or a certification of non-foreign status to avoid withholding.

Foreign person. If you are a foreign person or the U.S. branch of a foreign bank that has elected to be treated as a U.S. person (under Regulations section 1.1441-1(b)(2)(iv) or other applicable section for chapter 3 or 4 purposes), do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 or Form 8233 (see Pub. 515). If you are a qualified foreign pension fund under Regulations section 1.897(l)-1(d), or a partnership that is wholly owned by qualified foreign pension funds, that is treated as a non-foreign person for purposes of section 1445 withholding, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use Form W-8EXP (or other certification of non-foreign status).

Nonresident alien who becomes a resident alien. Generally, only a nonresident alien individual may use the terms of a tax treaty to reduce or eliminate U.S. tax on certain types of income. However, most tax treaties contain a provision known as a saving clause. Exceptions specified in the saving clause may permit an exemption from tax to continue for certain types of income even after the payee has otherwise become a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes.

If you are a U.S. resident alien who is relying on an exception contained in the saving clause of a tax treaty to claim an exemption from U.S. tax on certain types of income, you must attach a statement to Form W-9 that specifies the following five items.

1. The treaty country. Generally, this must be the same treaty under which you claimed exemption from tax as a nonresident alien.
2. The treaty article addressing the income.
3. The article number (or location) in the tax treaty that contains the saving clause and its exceptions.
4. The type and amount of income that qualifies for the exemption from tax.
5. Sufficient facts to justify the exemption from tax under the terms of the treaty article.

Example. Article 20 of the U.S.-China income tax treaty allows an exemption from tax for scholarship income received by a Chinese student temporarily present in the United States. Under U.S. law, this student will become a resident alien for tax purposes if their stay in the United States exceeds 5 calendar years. However, paragraph 2 of the first Protocol to the U.S.-China treaty (dated April 30, 1984) allows the provisions of Article 20 to continue to apply even after the Chinese student becomes a resident alien of the United States. A Chinese student who qualifies for this exception (under paragraph 2 of the first Protocol) and is relying on this exception to claim an exemption from tax on their scholarship or fellowship income would attach to Form W-9 a statement that includes the information described above to support that exemption.

If you are a nonresident alien or a foreign entity, give the requester the appropriate completed Form W-8 or Form 8233.

Backup Withholding

What is backup withholding? Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 24% of such payments. This is called "backup withholding." Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include, but are not limited to, interest, tax-exempt interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, payments made in settlement of payment card and third-party network transactions, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:

1. You do not furnish your TIN to the requester;
2. You do not certify your TIN when required (see the instructions for Part II for details);
3. The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN;
4. The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only); or
5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding, as described in item 4 under "*By signing the filled-out form*" above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See *Exempt payee code*, later, and the separate Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

See also *Establishing U.S. status for purposes of chapter 3 and chapter 4 withholding*, earlier.

What Is FATCA Reporting?

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) requires a participating foreign financial institution to report all U.S. account holders that are specified U.S. persons. Certain payees are exempt from FATCA reporting. See *Exemption from FATCA reporting code*, later, and the Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Updating Your Information

You must provide updated information to any person to whom you claimed to be an exempt payee if you are no longer an exempt payee and anticipate receiving reportable payments in the future from this person. For example, you may need to provide updated information if you are a C corporation that elects to be an S corporation, or if you are no longer tax exempt. In addition, you must furnish a new Form W-9 if the name or TIN changes for the account, for example, if the grantor of a grantor trust dies.

Penalties

Failure to furnish TIN. If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Civil penalty for false information with respect to withholding. If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

Criminal penalty for falsifying information. Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

Misuse of TINs. If the requester discloses or uses TINs in violation of federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Specific Instructions

Line 1

You must enter one of the following on this line; **do not** leave this line blank. The name should match the name on your tax return.

If this Form W-9 is for a joint account (other than an account maintained by a foreign financial institution (FFI)), list first, and then circle, the name of the person or entity whose number you entered in Part I of Form W-9. If you are providing Form W-9 to an FFI to document a joint account, each holder of the account that is a U.S. person must provide a Form W-9.

• **Individual.** Generally, enter the name shown on your tax return. If you have changed your last name without informing the Social Security Administration (SSA) of the name change, enter your first name, the last name as shown on your social security card, and your new last name.

Note for ITIN applicant: Enter your individual name as it was entered on your Form W-7 application, line 1a. This should also be the same as the name you entered on the Form 1040 you filed with your application.

• **Sole proprietor.** Enter your individual name as shown on your Form 1040 on line 1. Enter your business, trade, or "doing business as" (DBA) name on line 2.

• **Partnership, C corporation, S corporation, or LLC, other than a disregarded entity.** Enter the entity's name as shown on the entity's tax return on line 1 and any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

• **Other entities.** Enter your name as shown on required U.S. federal tax documents on line 1. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. Enter any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

• **Disregarded entity.** In general, a business entity that has a single owner, including an LLC, and is not a corporation, is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner (a disregarded entity). See Regulations section 301.7701-2(c)(2). A disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Enter the owner's name on line 1. The name of the owner entered on line 1 should never be a disregarded entity. The name on line 1 should be the name shown on the income tax return on which the income should be reported. For

example, if a foreign LLC that is treated as a disregarded entity for U.S. federal tax purposes has a single owner that is a U.S. person, the U.S. owner's name is required to be provided on line 1. If the direct owner of the entity is also a disregarded entity, enter the first owner that is not disregarded for federal tax purposes. Enter the disregarded entity's name on line 2. If the owner of the disregarded entity is a foreign person, the owner must complete an appropriate Form W-8 instead of a Form W-9. This is the case even if the foreign person has a U.S. TIN.

Line 2

If you have a business name, trade name, DBA name, or disregarded entity name, enter it on line 2.

Line 3a

Check the appropriate box on line 3a for the U.S. federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one box on line 3a.

IF the entity/individual on line 1 is a(n) . . .	THEN check the box for . . .
• Corporation	Corporation.
• Individual or	Individual/sole proprietor.
• Sole proprietorship	
• LLC classified as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes or	Limited liability company and enter the appropriate tax classification:
• LLC that has filed Form 8832 or 2553 electing to be taxed as a corporation	P = Partnership, C = C corporation, or S = S corporation.
• Partnership	Partnership.
• Trust/estate	Trust/estate.

Line 3b

Check this box if you are a partnership (including an LLC classified as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes), trust, or estate that has any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate, in which you have an ownership interest. You must check the box on line 3b if you receive a Form W-8 (or documentary evidence) from any partner, owner, or beneficiary establishing foreign status or if you receive a Form W-9 from any partner, owner, or beneficiary that has checked the box on line 3b.

Note: A partnership that provides a Form W-9 and checks box 3b may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065). For more information, see the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

If you are required to complete line 3b but fail to do so, you may not receive the information necessary to file a correct information return with the IRS or furnish a correct payee statement to your partners or beneficiaries. See, for example, sections 6698, 6722, and 6724 for penalties that may apply.

Line 4 Exemptions

If you are exempt from backup withholding and/or FATCA reporting, enter in the appropriate space on line 4 any code(s) that may apply to you.

Exempt payee code.

- Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding.
- Except as provided below, corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, including interest and dividends.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding for payments made in settlement of payment card or third-party network transactions.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding with respect to attorneys' fees or gross proceeds paid to attorneys, and corporations that provide medical or health care services are not exempt with respect to payments reportable on Form 1099-MISC.

The following codes identify payees that are exempt from backup withholding. Enter the appropriate code in the space on line 4.

- 1—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2).

- 2—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities.
- 3—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or territory, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities.
- 4—A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities.
- 5—A corporation.
- 6—A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. commonwealth or territory.
- 7—A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.
- 8—A real estate investment trust.
- 9—An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- 10—A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a).
- 11—A financial institution as defined under section 581.
- 12—A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian.
- 13—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947.

The following chart shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 13.

IF the payment is for . . .	THEN the payment is exempt for . . .
• Interest and dividend payments	All exempt payees except for 7.
• Broker transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4 and 6 through 11 and all C corporations. S corporations must not enter an exempt payee code because they are exempt only for sales of noncovered securities acquired prior to 2012.
• Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends	Exempt payees 1 through 4.
• Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 ¹	Generally, exempt payees 1 through 5. ²
• Payments made in settlement of payment card or third-party network transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4.

¹ See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Information, and its instructions.

² However, the following payments made to a corporation and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, gross proceeds paid to an attorney reportable under section 6045(f), and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

Exemption from FATCA reporting code. The following codes identify payees that are exempt from reporting under FATCA. These codes apply to persons submitting this form for accounts maintained outside of the United States by certain foreign financial institutions. Therefore, if you are only submitting this form for an account you hold in the United States, you may leave this field blank. Consult with the person requesting this form if you are uncertain if the financial institution is subject to these requirements. A requester may indicate that a code is not required by providing you with a Form W-9 with "Not Applicable" (or any similar indication) entered on the line for a FATCA exemption code.

A—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a) or any individual retirement plan as defined in section 7701(a)(37).

B—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities.

C—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or territory, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities.

D—A corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more established securities markets, as described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i).

E—A corporation that is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as a corporation described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i).

F—A dealer in securities, commodities, or derivative financial instruments (including notional principal contracts, futures, forwards, and options) that is registered as such under the laws of the United States or any state.

G—A real estate investment trust.

H—A regulated investment company as defined in section 851 or an entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

I—A common trust fund as defined in section 584(a).

J—A bank as defined in section 581.

K—A broker.

L—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947(a)(1).

M—A tax-exempt trust under a section 403(b) plan or section 457(g) plan.

Note: You may wish to consult with the financial institution requesting this form to determine whether the FATCA code and/or exempt payee code should be completed.

Line 5

Enter your address (number, street, and apartment or suite number). This is where the requester of this Form W-9 will mail your information returns. If this address differs from the one the requester already has on file, enter "NEW" at the top. If a new address is provided, there is still a chance the old address will be used until the payor changes your address in their records.

Line 6

Enter your city, state, and ZIP code.

Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. If you are a resident alien and you do not have, and are not eligible to get, an SSN, your TIN is your IRS ITIN. Enter it in the entry space for the Social security number. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

Note: See *What Name and Number To Give the Requester*, later, for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

How to get a TIN. If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local SSA office or get this form online at www.SSA.gov. You may also get this form by calling 800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at www.irs.gov/EIN. Go to www.irs.gov/Forms to view, download, or print Form W-7 and/or Form SS-4. Or, you can go to www.irs.gov/OrderForms to place an order and have Form W-7 and/or Form SS-4 mailed to you within 15 business days.

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and enter "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, you will generally have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

Note: Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon. See also *Establishing U.S. status for purposes of chapter 3 and chapter 4 withholding*, earlier, for when you may instead be subject to withholding under chapter 3 or 4 of the Code.

Caution: A disregarded U.S. entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if item 1, 4, or 5 below indicates otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). In the case of a disregarded entity, the person identified on line 1 must sign. Exempt payees, see *Exempt payee code*, earlier.

Signature requirements. Complete the certification as indicated in items 1 through 5 below.

1. Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

2. Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983. You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form.

3. Real estate transactions. You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.

4. Other payments. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments made in settlement of payment card and third-party network transactions, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).

5. Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), ABLE accounts (under section 529A), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

What Name and Number To Give the Requester

For this type of account:	Give name and SSN of:
1. Individual	The individual
2. Two or more individuals (joint account) other than an account maintained by an FFI	The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account ¹
3. Two or more U.S. persons (joint account maintained by an FFI)	Each holder of the account
4. Custodial account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act)	The minor ²
5. a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee)	The grantor-trustee ¹
b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law	The actual owner ¹
6. Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual	The owner ³
7. Grantor trust filing under Optional Filing Method 1 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(A))**	The grantor*

For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
8. Disregarded entity not owned by an individual	The owner
9. A valid trust, estate, or pension trust	Legal entity ⁴
10. Corporation or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 or Form 2553	The corporation
11. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization	The organization
12. Partnership or multi-member LLC	The partnership
13. A broker or registered nominee	The broker or nominee
14. Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural program payments	The public entity
15. Grantor trust filing Form 1041 or under the Optional Filing Method 2, requiring Form 1099 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(B))**	The trust

¹ List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish. If only one person on a joint account has an SSN, that person's number must be furnished.

² Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's SSN.

³ You must show your individual name on line 1, and enter your business or DBA name, if any, on line 2. You may use either your SSN or EIN (if you have one), but the IRS encourages you to use your SSN.

⁴ List first and circle the name of the trust, estate, or pension trust. (Do not furnish the TIN of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.)

*** Note:** The grantor must also provide a Form W-9 to the trustee of the trust.

****** For more information on optional filing methods for grantor trusts, see the Instructions for Form 1041.

Note: If no name is circled when more than one name is listed, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

Secure Your Tax Records From Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information, such as your name, SSN, or other identifying information, without your permission to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may use your SSN to get a job or may file a tax return using your SSN to receive a refund.

To reduce your risk:

- Protect your SSN,
- Ensure your employer is protecting your SSN, and
- Be careful when choosing a tax return preparer.

If your tax records are affected by identity theft and you receive a notice from the IRS, respond right away to the name and phone number printed on the IRS notice or letter.

If your tax records are not currently affected by identity theft but you think you are at risk due to a lost or stolen purse or wallet, questionable credit card activity, or a questionable credit report, contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 800-908-4490 or submit Form 14039.

For more information, see Pub. 5027, Identity Theft Information for Taxpayers.

Victims of identity theft who are experiencing economic harm or a systemic problem, or are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, may be eligible for Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) assistance. You can reach TAS by calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 800-829-4059.

Protect yourself from suspicious emails or phishing schemes.

Phishing is the creation and use of email and websites designed to mimic legitimate business emails and websites. The most common act is sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

The IRS does not initiate contacts with taxpayers via emails. Also, the IRS does not request personal detailed information through email or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords, or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

If you receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, forward this message to phishing@irs.gov. You may also report misuse of the IRS name, logo, or other IRS property to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 800-366-4484. You can forward suspicious emails to the Federal Trade Commission at spam@uce.gov or report them at www.ftc.gov/complaint. You can contact the FTC at www.ftc.gov/idtheft or 877-IDTHEFT (877-438-4338). If you have been the victim of identity theft, see www.IdentityTheft.gov and Pub. 5027.

Go to www.irs.gov/IdentityTheft to learn more about identity theft and how to reduce your risk.

Privacy Act Notice

Section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code requires you to provide your correct TIN to persons (including federal agencies) who are required to file information returns with the IRS to report interest, dividends, or certain other income paid to you; mortgage interest you paid; the acquisition or abandonment of secured property; the cancellation of debt; or contributions you made to an IRA, Archer MSA, or HSA. The person collecting this form uses the information on the form to file information returns with the IRS, reporting the above information. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and territories for use in administering their laws. The information may also be disclosed to other countries under a treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce civil and criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism. You must provide your TIN whether or not you are required to file a tax return. Under section 3406, payors must generally withhold a percentage of taxable interest, dividends, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to the payor. Certain penalties may also apply for providing false or fraudulent information.

STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSER/VENDOR CERTIFICATION FORMS
CERTIFICATION OF RESIDENCY

The State of Texas has a law concerning nonresident vendors. This law can be found in Texas Government Code under Chapter 2252, Subchapter A. This law makes it necessary for SMSD to determine the residency of its Vendors. In part, this law reads as follows:

Section: 2252.001: "'Nonresident bidder' refers to a person who is not a resident." "'Resident bidder' refers to a person whose principal place of business is in this state, including a contractor whose ultimate parent company or majority owner has its principal place of business in this state."

Section: 2252.002: "A governmental entity may not award a governmental contract to a nonresident bidder unless the nonresident underbids the lowest bid submitted by a responsible resident bidder by an amount that is not less than the greater of the following: (1) the amount by which a resident bidder would be required to underbid the nonresident bidder to obtain a comparable contract in the state in which the nonresident's principal place of business is located; or (2) the amount by which a resident bidder would be required to underbid the nonresident bidder to obtain a comparable contract in the state in which a majority of the manufacturing relating to the contract will be performed."

Company submitting bid is a resident bidder: ☐ Yes ☐ No

City and state of vendor's principal place of business: _____

**MINORITY/WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWBE), HISTORICALLY
UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES (HUB), AND DISADVANTAGED
BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (DBE)**

Bidding companies that have been certified by the State of Texas as Historically Underutilized Business (HUB), Minority/Women Business Enterprise (MWBE), or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) entities are encouraged to indicate their HUB, MWBE, and DBE status when responding to this Bid Invitation.

Vendor certifies that this firm is a MWBE (Required by some participating agencies) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Vendor certifies that this firm is a HUB (Required by some participating agencies) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Vendor certifies that this firm is a DBE (Required by some participating agencies) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Vendor is MWBE and/or HUB certified, please include a copy of the certification letter and the percentage of your business with MWBE and/or HUB suppliers, if applicable, in your proposal response.

I, the authorized representative for the company named below, certify that the information concerning residency certification and MWBE and HUB certifications have been reviewed by me and the information furnished is true to the best of my knowledge.

Contractor's Name/Company Name: _____

Address, City, State, and Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative: _____

Email Address: _____

Signature of Authorized Representative: _____

Date: _____

CERTIFICATION REGARDING TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

Vendor hereby certifies that it is not a company identified on the Texas Comptroller's list of companies known to have contracts with, or provide supplies or services to, a foreign organization designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization by the U.S. Secretary of State.

_____ Initials of Authorized Representative of Vendor

CERTIFICATION REGARDING BOYCOTTING OF ISRAEL

If (a) Vendor is not a sole proprietorship; (b) Vendor has ten (10) or more full-time employees; and (c) this Agreement has a value of \$100,000 or more, the following certification shall apply; otherwise, this certification is not required. Pursuant to Chapter 2271 of the Texas Government Code, the Vendor hereby certifies and verifies that neither the Vendor, nor any affiliate, subsidiary, or parent company of the Vendor, if any (the "Vendor Companies"), boycotts Israel, and the Vendor agrees that the Vendor and Vendor Companies will not boycott Israel during the term of this Agreement. For purposes of this Agreement, the term "boycott" shall mean and include refusing to deal with, terminating business activities with, or otherwise taking any action that is intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations with Israel, or with a person or entity doing business in Israel or in an Israeli-controlled territory, but does not include an action made for ordinary business purposes.

_____ Initials of Authorized Representative of Vendor, if applicable

CERTIFICATION REGARDING CONTRACTING INFORMATION

If Vendor is not a governmental body and (a) this Agreement has a stated expenditure of at least \$1 million in public funds for the purchase of goods or services by SMSD; or (b) this Agreement results in the expenditure of at least \$1 million in public funds for the purchase of goods or services by SMSD in a fiscal year of SMSD, the following certification shall apply; otherwise, this certification is not required. As required by Tex. Gov't Code § 552.374(b), the following statement is included in the RFP and the Agreement (unless the Agreement is (1) related to the purchase or underwriting of a public security; (2) is or may be used as collateral on a loan; or (3) proceeds from which are used to pay debt service of a public security of loan): "The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this RFP and Agreement and the contractor or vendor agrees that the contract can be terminated if the contractor or vendor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter." Pursuant to Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Texas Government Code, the Vendor hereby certifies and agrees to (1) preserve all contracting information related to this Agreement as provided by the records retention requirements applicable to SMSD for the duration of the Agreement; (2) promptly provide to SMSD any contracting information related to the Agreement that is in the custody or possession of the Vendor on request of SMSD; and (3) on completion of the Agreement, either (a) provide at no cost to SMSD all contracting information related to the Agreement that is in the custody or possession of Vendor, or (b) preserve the contracting information related to the Agreement as provided by the records retention requirements applicable to SMSD.

_____ Initials of Authorized Representative of Vendor, if applicable

CERTIFICATION REGARDING BOYCOTTING CERTAIN ENERGY COMPANIES

If (a) Vendor is not a sole proprietorship; (b) Vendor has ten (10) or more full-time employees; and (c) this Agreement has a value of \$100,000 or more that is to be paid wholly or partly from public funds, the following certification shall apply; otherwise, this certification is not required. Pursuant to TEX. GOV'T CODE Ch. 2274 of SB 13 (87th session), Vendor hereby certifies and verifies that Vendor, or any wholly owned subsidiary, majority-

owned subsidiary, parent company, or affiliate of these entities or business associations, if any, does not boycott energy companies and will not boycott energy companies during the term of the Agreement. For purposes of this Agreement, the term “company” shall mean an organization, association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability company, that exists to make a profit. The term “boycott energy company” shall mean “without an ordinary business purpose, refusing to deal with, terminating business activities with, or otherwise taking any action intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations with a company because the company (a) engages in the exploration, production, utilization, transportation, sale, or manufacturing of fossil fuel-based energy and does not commit or pledge to meet environmental standards beyond applicable federal and state law, or (b) does business with a company described by paragraph (a).” See TEX. GOV’T CODE § 809.001(1).

_____ Initials of Authorized Representative of Vendor, if applicable

**CERTIFICATION PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST
FIREARM AND AMMUNITION INDUSTRIES**

If (a) Vendor is not a sole proprietorship; (b) Vendor has at least ten (10) full-time employees; (c) this Agreement has a value of at least \$100,000 that is paid wholly or partly from public funds; (d) the Agreement is not excepted under TEX. GOV’T CODE § 2274.003 of SB 19 (87th leg.); and (e) SMSD has determined that Vendor is not a sole-source provider or SMSD has not received any bids from a company that is able to provide this written verification, the following certification shall apply; otherwise, this certification is not required. Pursuant to TEX. GOV’T CODE Ch. 2274 of SB 19 (87th session), Vendor hereby certifies and verifies that Vendor, or association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability company, including a wholly owned subsidiary, majority-owned subsidiary parent company, or affiliate of these entities or associations, that exists to make a profit, does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association and will not discriminate during the term of this contract against a firearm entity or firearm trade association. For purposes of this Agreement, “discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association” shall mean, with respect to the entity or association, to: “(1) refuse to engage in the trade of any goods or services with the entity or association based solely on its status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association; (2) refrain from continuing an existing business relationship with the entity or association based solely on its status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association; or (3) terminate an existing business relationship with the entity or association based solely on its status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association.” See TEX. GOV’T CODE § 2274.001(3) of SB 19. “Discrimination against a firearm entity or firearm trade association” does not include: “(1) the established policies of a merchant, retail seller, or platform that restrict or prohibit the listing or selling of ammunition, firearms, or firearm accessories; and (2) a company’s refusal to engage in the trade of any goods or services, decision to refrain from continuing an existing business relationship, or decision to terminate an existing business relationship to comply with federal, state, or local law, policy, or regulations or a directive by a regulatory agency, or for any traditional business reason that is specific to the customer or potential customer and not based solely on an entity’s or association’s status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association.” See TEX. GOV’T CODE § 2274.001(3) of SB 19.

_____ Initials of Authorized Representative of Vendor, if applicable

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING CERTAIN FOREIGN-OWNED COMPANIES IN CONNECTION
WITH CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

SMSD is prohibited from entering into a contract or other agreement relating to critical infrastructure that would grant to Vendor direct or remote access to or control of critical infrastructure in this state, excluding access specifically allowed by SMSD for product warranty and support purposes. Vendor certifies that neither it nor its parent company nor any affiliate of Vendor or its parent company, is (1) owned by or the majority of stock or other

ownership interest of the company is held or controlled by individuals who are citizens of China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, or a designated country; (2) a company or other entity, including governmental entity, that is owned or controlled by citizens of or is directly controlled by the government of China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, or a designated country; or (3) headquartered in China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, or a designated country. For purposes of this Agreement, “critical infrastructure” means “a communication infrastructure system, cybersecurity system, electric grid, hazardous waste treatment system, or water treatment facility.” See TEX. GOV’T CODE § 2274.0101(2) of SB 1226 (87th leg.). Vendor verifies and certifies that Vendor will not grant direct or remote access to or control of critical infrastructure, except for product warranty and support purposes, to prohibited individuals, companies, or entities, including governmental entities, owned, controlled, or headquartered in China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, or a designated country, as determined by the Governor.

_____ Initials of Authorized Representative of Vendor, if applicable

**REQUIRED CONTRACT PROVISIONS FOR NON-FEDERAL ENTITY/RECIPIENT AND SUBRECIPIENT CONTRACTS
UNDER FEDERAL AWARDS – APPENDIX II TO 2 CFR PART 200**

The following provisions are required and apply when federal funds are expended by SMSD for any contract resulting from this procurement process. In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between the following terms and conditions and any provision of any contract, agreement, or Purchase Order, the following terms and conditions shall control. Accordingly, the parties agree that the following terms and conditions apply to the Contract/PO between SMSD and Vendor in all situations where Vendor has been paid or will be paid with federal funds:

- (A) Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$250,000 (2 CFR §200.320), which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. 1908, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.**

Pursuant to Federal Rule (A) above, when federal funds are expended by SMSD, SMSD reserves all rights and privileges under the applicable laws and regulations with respect to this procurement in the event of breach of contract by either party.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ **Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor**

- (B) Termination for cause and for convenience by the grantee or subgrantee including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement. (All contracts in excess of \$10,000)**

Pursuant to Federal Rule (B) above, when federal funds are expended by SMSD, SMSD reserves the right to immediately terminate any agreement in excess of \$10,000 resulting from this procurement process in the event of a breach or default of the agreement by Vendor, in the event vendor fails to: (1) meet schedules, deadlines, and/or delivery dates within the time specified in the procurement solicitation, contract, and/or a purchase order; (2) make any payments owed; or (3) otherwise perform in accordance with the contract and/or the procurement solicitation; (4) to the greatest extent authorized by law, if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or priorities of the Federal awarding agency or SMSD. SMSD also reserves the right to terminate the contract immediately for convenience, if SMSD believes, in its sole discretion that it is in the best interest of SMSD to do so. The vendor will be compensated for work performed and accepted and goods accepted by SMSD as of the termination date if the contract is terminated for convenience of SMSD. If SMSD terminates the contract for any reason, written notice of termination will be provided to vendor. Any award under this procurement process is not exclusive and SMSD reserves the right to purchase goods and services

from other vendors when it is in the best interest of SMSD.

Does vendor agree? YES Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

(C) Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, all contracts that meet the definition of “federally assisted construction contract” in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, “Equal Employment Opportunity” (30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, “Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity,” and implementing regulations at 41 CFR part 60, “Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.”

Pursuant to Federal Rule (C) above, when federal funds are expended by SMSD on any federally assisted construction contract, the equal opportunity clause is incorporated by reference herein.

Does vendor agree to abide by the above?

YES Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

(D) Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 3141-3148). When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by recipients or subrecipients must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, “Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction”). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week. The recipient or subrecipient must place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract must be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The recipient or subrecipient must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency. The contracts must also include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (40 U.S.C. 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 3, “Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States”). The Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. The recipient or subrecipient must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (D) above, when federal funds are expended by SMSD, during the term of an award for all contracts and subgrants for construction or repair, the vendor will be in compliance with all applicable Davis-Bacon Act provisions.

Does vendor agree? YES Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

(E) Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708). Where applicable, all contracts awarded by the recipient or subrecipient in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic

must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (E) above, when federal funds are expended by SMSD, the vendor certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by SMSD resulting from this procurement process, the vendor will be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

(F) Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement. If the Federal award meets the definition of “funding agreement” under 37 CFR §401.2 (a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that “funding agreement,” the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401, and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (F) above, when federal funds are expended by SMSD, the vendor certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by SMSD resulting from this procurement process, the vendor agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in Federal Rule (F) above.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

(G) Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387), as amended—Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251- 1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Pursuant to Federal Rule (G) above, when federal funds are expended by SMSD, the vendor certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by SMSD resulting from this procurement process, the vendor agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in Federal Rule (G) above.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

(H) Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)—A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the government wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.” SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (H) above, when federal funds are expended by SMSD, the vendor certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by SMSD resulting from this procurement process, the vendor certifies that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation by any federal department or agency or by the State of Texas. Vendor shall immediately provide written notice to SMSD if at any time the vendor learns that this certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances. SMSD may rely upon a certification of a vendor that the vendor is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered contract, unless SMSD knows the certification is erroneous.

Does vendor agree? YES

Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

(I) Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352)—Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (I) above, when federal funds are expended by SMSD, the vendor certifies that during the term and after the awarded term of an award for all contracts by SMSD resulting from this procurement process, the vendor certifies that it is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352). The undersigned further certifies that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of a Federal contract, the making of a Federal grant, the making of a Federal loan, the entering into a cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying", in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certificate is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Does vendor agree? YES

Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

(J) Procurement of Recovered Materials – When federal funds are expended by SMSD, SMSD and its contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include: (1) procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; (2) procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and (3) establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

SMSD and its contractors will, to the greatest extent practicable and consistent with law, purchase, acquire, or use products and services that can be reused, refurbished, or recycled; contain recycled content, are biobased, or are energy and water efficient; and are sustainable. This may include purchasing compostable items and other products and services that reduce the use of single-use plastic products. See Executive Order 14057, section 101, Policy.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (J) above, when federal funds are expended SMSD, as required by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. § 6962(c)(3)(A)(i)), the vendor certifies, by signing this document, that (1) the percentage of recovered materials content for EPA-designated items to be delivered or used in the performance of the contract will be at least the amount required by the applicable contract specifications or other contractual requirements; and (2) vendor will ensure compliance with all of the aforementioned requirements in Federal Rule (J) above.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

**CONSIDERATION OF SMALL, MINORITY, AND WOMEN’S BUSINESS ENTERPRISES, VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES, AND LABOR SURPLUS FIRMS FOR
CONTRACTS PAID FOR WITH FEDERAL FUNDS – 2 CFR § 200.321**

When federal funds are expended by SMSD, Vendor must ensure that small businesses, minority businesses, women’s business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms (See U.S. Department of Labor’s list) are considered for any subcontracting opportunities on the project by: 1) including these business types on solicitation lists; 2) soliciting these business types whenever they are deemed eligible as potential sources; 3) dividing procurement transactions into separate procurements to permit maximum participation by these business types; 4) establishing delivery schedules (for example, the percentage of an order to be delivered by a given date of each month) that encourage participation by these business types; and 5) utilizing organizations such as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH NEVER CONTRACT WITH THE ENEMY – 2 C.F.R. § 200.215

When federal funds are expended by SMSD for grant and cooperative agreements, or any contract resulting from this procurement process, that are expected to exceed \$50,000 during the period of performance, and are performed outside of the United States, including U.S. territories, to a person or entity that is actively opposing United States or coalition forces involved in a contingency operation in which members of the Armed Forces are actively engaged in hostilities, SMSD will terminate any grant or cooperative agreement or contract resulting from this procurement process as a violation of Never Contract with the Enemy detailed in 2 CFR Part 183. The vendor certifies that it is neither an excluded entity under the System for Award Management (SAM) nor Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS) for any grant or cooperative agreement terminated due to Never Contract with the Enemy as a Termination for Material Failure to Comply. SMSD has a responsibility to ensure no Federal award funds are provided directly or indirectly to the enemy, to terminate subawards in violation of Never Contract with the Enemy, and to allow the Federal Government access to records to ensure that no Federal award funds are provided to the enemy.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES – 2 C.F.R. § 200.216

SMSD, as a recipient, is prohibited from obligating or expending Federal financial assistance, to include loan or grant funds, to: (1) procure or obtain, (2) extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain, or (3) enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain covered telecommunications equipment or services. Covered telecommunications equipment or services means any of the following: (1) Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities); (2) for the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security

surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities); (3) telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment; (4) telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country. For the purposes of Section 200.216, covered telecommunications equipment or services also include systems that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. The vendor certifies that vendor will not procure or obtain, as set forth above, covered telecommunications equipment or services, as defined herein.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS – 2 C.F.R. § 200.217

If vendor is a subrecipient of SMSD, vendor must not discharge, demote, or otherwise discriminate against an employee as a reprisal for disclosing to a person or body described in paragraph (a)(2) of 41 U.S.C. 4712 information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract or grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract) or grant. Vendor must inform its employees in writing of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712. See statutory requirements for whistleblower protections at 10 U.S.C. 4701, 41 U.S.C. 4712, 41 U.S.C. 4304, and 10 U.S.C. 4310.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

**RECORD RETENTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTS PAID FOR WITH FEDERAL FUNDS –
2 C.F.R. § 200.334**

When federal funds are expended by SMSD for any contract resulting from this procurement process, the vendor certifies that it will comply with the record retention requirements detailed in 2 CFR § 200.334. The vendor further certifies that vendor will retain all records as required by 2 CFR § 200.334, including, without limitation, financial records, supporting documentation, and statistical records, for a period of three years after grantees or subgrantees submit final expenditure reports or quarterly or annual financial reports, as applicable, and all other pending matters are closed.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH EPA REGULATIONS
APPLICABLE TO GRANTS, SUBGRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND CONTRACTS
IN EXCESS OF \$100,000 OF FEDERAL FUNDS**

When federal funds are expended by SMSD for any contract resulting from this procurement process in excess of \$100,000, the vendor certifies that the vendor is in compliance with all applicable standards, orders, regulations, and/or requirements issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1857(h)), Section 508 of the Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 117389 and Environmental Protection Agency Regulation, 40 CFR Part 15.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT

When federal funds are expended by SMSD for any contract resulting from this procurement process, the vendor certifies that the vendor will be in compliance with mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Pub. L. 94-163, 89 Stat. 871).

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

CERTIFICATION OF EQUAL EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT

It is the policy of SMSD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, limited English proficiency or handicapping conditions in its programs. Vendor agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment to be employed in the performance of this Contract, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions and privileges of employment, or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of age (except where based on a bona fide occupational qualification), sex (except where based on a bona fide occupational qualification) or race, color, religion, national origin, or ancestry. Vendor further agrees that every subcontract entered into for the performance of this Agreement shall contain a provision requiring non-discrimination in employment herein specified binding upon each subcontractor. Breach of this covenant may be regarded as a material breach of the Contract.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE AS A RESPONSIBLE CONTRACTOR – 2 C.F.R. § 200.318

When federal funds are expended by SMSD for any contract resulting from this procurement process, the vendor certifies that the vendor will be in compliance with mandatory regulations, legal requirements, standards, and policies relating to: contractor integrity, public policy compliance, proper classification of employees (see the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201, chapter 8), past performance record, and financial and technical resources when conducting a procurement transaction.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

**CERTIFICATION OF DOMESTIC PREFERENCES FOR PROCUREMENTS AND
COMPLIANCE WITH BUY AMERICA PROVISIONS – 2 C.F.R. § 200.322**

To the greatest extent practicable and consistent with law, SMSD has a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products) when spending federal funds. Vendor agrees that the requirements of this section will be included in all subawards, contracts, and purchase orders under this federal award. (Purchases that are made with non-federal funds or grants are excluded from the Buy America Act.) Vendor certifies that it is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Buy America Act. Purchases made in accordance with the Buy America Act must still follow the applicable procurement rules calling for free and open competition.

“Produced in the United States” means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.

“Manufactured products” means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

**CERTIFICATION OF DOMESTIC PREFERENCES FOR PROCUREMENTS AND
COMPLIANCE WITH BUY AMERICA PROVISIONS – 2 C.F.R. § 200.322(c)**

2 CFR § 200.322(c) requires federal agencies providing Federal financial assistance for infrastructure projects to implement the Buy America preferences set forth in 2 CFR part 184. Consequently, to the extent applicable and pursuant to the Build America, Buy America Act (“BABA”), when SMSD is the recipient of an award of Federal financial assistance from a program for infrastructure, none of the funds provided under the award may be used for an infrastructure project unless all iron and steel, manufactured products, and construction materials incorporated into the project are produced in the United States. **“Infrastructure”** means public infrastructure projects in the United States, which includes, at a minimum, the structures, facilities, and equipment for roads, highways, and bridges; public transportation; dams, ports, harbors, and other maritime facilities; intercity passenger and freight railroads; freight and intermodal facilities; airports; water systems, including drinking water and wastewater systems; electrical transmission facilities and systems; utilities; broadband infrastructure; and buildings and real property; and structures, facilities, and equipment that generate, transport, and distribute energy including electric vehicle (EV) charging. Vendor hereby certifies and agrees that it is in compliance with all applicable provisions and requirements of the Buy America Preference, including, but not limited to, all BABA requirements and/or guidance that are specific to the Federal agency awarding the Federal financial assistance, including, but expressly not limited to: the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (collectively, the “Buy America Preference Requirements”).

The Buy America Preference Requirements shall flow down to and be included in all subawards of the Federal award to all subrecipients at all tiers, including all contracts and purchase orders for work performed or products supplied under the Federal award. Vendor shall be responsible to obtain certifications of compliance with the Buy America Preference Requirements from such subrecipients, to retain such certifications in accordance with the record retention requirements applicable to the Federal award, and to provide copies of such certifications, upon request, to SMSD and/or the awarding Federal agency.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

CERTIFICATION OF ACCESS TO RECORDS – 2 C.F.R. § 200.337

Vendor agrees that SMSD, Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives shall have access to any records of Vendor, and its successors, transferees, assignees, and subcontractors that are directly pertinent to the Agreement for the purpose of performing audits, executing site visits, or any other official use. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to Vendor’s personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion relating to such documents, this Contract, or the federal award in general. Vendor agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed. Vendor agrees to provide the FEMA Administrator or his authorized representatives access to construction or other work sites pertaining to the work being completed under the Contract.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

CERTIFICATION OF APPLICABILITY TO SUBCONTRACTORS

Vendor agrees that all contracts it awards pursuant to the Agreement shall be bound by the foregoing terms and conditions.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor

CERTIFICATION OF NON-COLLUSION STATEMENT

Vendor certifies under penalty of perjury that its response to this procurement solicitation is in all respects bona fide, fair, and made without collusion or fraud with any person, joint venture, partnership, corporation or other business or legal entity.

Does vendor agree? YES _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of vendor _____

Vendor agrees to comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations and ordinances, as applicable. It is further acknowledged that vendor certifies compliance with all provisions, laws, acts, regulations, etc. as specifically noted above.

Vendor's Name/Company Name: _____

Address, City, State, and Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative: _____

Email Address: _____

Signature of Authorized Representative: _____

Date: _____ Federal Tax ID # _____

STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FELONY CONVICTION NOTICE FORM

FELONY CONVICTION NOTIFICATION

State of Texas Legislative Senate Bill No. 1 Section 44.034, Notification of Criminal History, Subsection (a), states “a person or business entity that enters into an agreement with a school district must give advance notice to the district if the person or an owner or operator of the business entity has been convicted of a felony. The notice must include a general description of the conduct resulting in the conviction of a felony”.

Subsection (b) states “a school district may terminate the agreement with a person or business entity if the district determines that the person or business entity failed to give notice as required by Subsection (a), or misrepresented the conduct resulting in the conviction. The district must compensate the person or business entity for services performed before the termination of the contract”.

Subsection (c) states “this section does not apply to a publicly held corporation”.

.....

I, the undersigned agent for the firm named below, certify that the information concerning notification of felony convictions has been reviewed by me and the information furnished is true to the best of my knowledge.

Contractor’s Name/Company Name: _____

Authorized Official’s Name (Printed or Typed): _____

You must select one and sign below:

- ☐ Firm is a publicly held corporation; therefore the above reporting requirement does not apply per Section 44.034, Texas Education Code, Subsection (c).
- ☐ Contractor/Firm **is not** owned nor operated by anyone who has been convicted of a felony.
- ☐ Contractor/Firm **is** operated or owned by the following individual(s) who has/have been convicted of a felony:

Name of Individual(s): _____ Detail
of Conviction(s): _____

(Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Signature of Company Official: _____

Date: _____

STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANTITRUST CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

(Tex. Government Code § 2155.005)

I affirm under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Texas that:

1. I am duly authorized to execute this contract on my own behalf or on behalf of the company, corporation, firm, partnership or individual (Company) listed below;
2. In connection with this bid, neither I nor any representatives of the Company have violated any provision of the Texas Antitrust laws codified in Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code Chapter 15;
3. In connection with this bid, neither I nor any representative of the Company have violated any federal antitrust law; and
4. Neither I nor any representatives of the Company have directly or indirectly communicated any of the contents of this bid to a competitor of the Company or any other company, corporation, firm, partnership or individual engaged in the same line of business as the Company.

Contractor's Name/Company Name: _____

Address, City, State, and Zip Code: _____

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____ Date Signed: _____

Ch. 22 Criminal History Records Contractor Certification: Contractor/Subcontractor Employees

Background: Texas Education Code Chapter 22 requires that criminal history records be obtained regarding covered employees of entities that contract with a school district to provide services to the school district (“Contractors”) and entities that contract with school district contractors (“Subcontractors”). Covered employees with disqualifying criminal histories are prohibited from serving at a school district. Contractors/Subcontractors shall (1) complete this form certifying compliance with the requirements of Texas Education Code Chapter 22 to SMSD; and (2) require that each of their subcontractors complies with the requirements of Texas Education Code Chapter 22.

Criminal history records will be obtained by either the Contractor/Subcontractor or SMSD, as follows:

- (1) **Contractor/Subcontractor:** The only Contractors/Subcontractors who will be granted access to obtain criminal history record information are those “qualified school contractors” that (1) contract or subcontract to provide services to SMSD; and (2) are determined eligible by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to obtain criminal history record information under the National Child Protection Act of 1993 (34 U.S.C. § 40101 *et seq.*) (NCPA), specifically, those contractors/subcontractors who provide “care or care placement services” and are based in Texas, for an employee, applicant for employment, or volunteer of the “qualified school contractor.” All “qualified school contractors” are required to obtain their covered employees’ criminal histories, certify compliance to SMSD, and obtain similar certifications from their subcontractors. Before or immediately after employing or securing the services of a person who is a “covered employee” (as defined below) the Contractor/Subcontractor shall send or ensure that the employee sends to DPS all information that is required by DPS for obtaining the person’s national criminal history record information, which may include (but is not limited to) a complete set of the person’s fingerprints and a recent electronic digital image photograph of the person, as required by DPS. DPS shall obtain the person’s national criminal history record information and report the results through the criminal history clearinghouse as provided by Texas Government Code 411.0845. For more information or to set up an account, Contractor/Subcontractor should contact the Texas Department of Public Safety’s Crime Records Service at 512.424.2474. Contractor/Subcontractor shall obtain all criminal history record information that relates to all covered employees through the criminal history clearinghouse as provided by Texas Government Code 411.0845. In addition, Contractor/Subcontractor shall require that each of its subcontracting entities obtains all criminal history record information that relates to its covered employees, if the subcontracting entity is also a “qualified school contractor.” Contractor/Subcontractor shall: (1) provide SMSD with a fitness determination (as set forth below) as to each covered employee, based on all criminal history record information obtained; and (2) certify to SMSD that Contractor/Subcontractor has received all criminal history record information relating to a person who is employed by or under a current offer of employment by Contractor/Subcontractor.
- (2) **SMSD:** All Contractors/Subcontractors who are not “qualified school contractors” (in other words, all Contractors/Subcontractors who do not provide “care or care placement services” or are not based in Texas) are required to follow the instructions listed below, so that SMSD may obtain their covered employees’ criminal history record information, as applicable. Contractor/Subcontractor shall also require that any of its subcontracting entities that are not “qualified school contractors” follow the instructions listed below, so that SMSD may obtain their covered employees’ criminal history record information. **Contractor/Subcontractor is responsible for the payment of all fingerprinting costs. Should SMSD pay any costs of fingerprinting Contractor/Subcontractor employees, Contractor agrees to reimburse SMSD for such costs; in the event Contractor fails to reimburse SMSD for the costs of fingerprinting Contractor/Subcontractor employees, Contractor agrees that SMSD may deduct such costs from any payment due and owing by SMSD to Contractor.**

Definitions:

- Covered employees: Employees of a Contractor/Subcontractor who have or will have continuing duties related to the service to be performed at a school district and have or will have direct contact with students. SMSD will be the final arbiter of what constitutes *continuing duties* and *direct contact* with students.
- Continuing duties related to contracted services: Work duties that are performed pursuant to a contract to provide services to a school entity on a regular, repeated basis rather than infrequently or one-time only. *See* 19 Tex. Admin. Code §153.1101(2).
- Direct contact with students: The contact that results from activities that provide substantial opportunity for verbal or physical interaction with students that is not supervised by a certified educator or other professional district employee. Contact with students that results from services that do not provide substantial opportunity for unsupervised interaction with a student or students, such as addressing an assembly, officiating a sports contest, or judging an extracurricular event, is not, by itself, direct contact with students. However, direct contact with students does result from any activity that provides substantial opportunity for unsupervised contact with students, which might include, without limitation, the provision of coaching, tutoring, or other services to students. *See* 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 153.1101(7).
- Public Works Contractor: An entity that contracts directly or subcontracts with an entity that contracts with a school district to provide construction services to the school district.
- Exception for Certain Public Works Contractors' Employees and Applicants: The criminal history record information requirements outlined above do not apply to an employee or applicant for employment of a public works contractor (as defined above) if: (1) the public work does not involve the construction, alteration, or repair of an instructional facility as defined by Texas Education Code Section 46.001; (2) the employee's duties will be completed not later than the seventh (7th) day before a new instructional facility will be used for instruction; or (3) for an existing instructional facility, the work area contains sanitary facilities and is separated from all areas used by students by a secure barrier fence at least six (6) feet high, and the Contractor adopts, informs employees of, and enforces a policy prohibiting employees and any subcontractor's employees from interacting with students or entering areas used by students.

Disqualifying criminal history:

- (1) a conviction or other criminal history information designated by SMSD; or (2) a felony or misdemeanor offense that would prevent a person from being employed under Texas Education Code § 22.085(a), that is: (a) conviction of a felony offense under Title 5, Texas Penal Code if at the time of the offense, the victim was under 18; (b) conviction of or placement on deferred adjudication community supervision for an offense for which a defendant is required to register as a sex offender under Chapter 62, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure; or (c) conviction of an offense under federal law or the laws of another state that is equivalent to (a) or (b).

Types of Criminal History Record Information:

- National criminal history record information from the Texas Department of Public Safety criminal history clearinghouse. SMSD and/or Contractor/Subcontractor may obtain from any law enforcement or criminal justice agency all criminal history record information that relates to a covered employee.

On behalf of _____ ("Contractor/Subcontractor"), I, the undersigned authorized signatory for Contractor/Subcontractor, certify to Stafford Municipal School District ("SMSD") (and,

Page 29 of 34

in the case of a Subcontractor, certify to Contractor and SMSD) that [checkone]:



OPTION A: Contractor/Subcontractor certifies that none of the employees of Contractor/Subcontractor are covered employees, as defined above. For each covered employee who is employed by or under a current offer of employment by Contractor/Subcontractor, Contractor/Subcontractor certifies to SMSD that it will timely complete the “Contractor Criminal History Background Check Certification” form and submit such to SMSD. If this box is checked, I further certify that Contractor/Subcontractor has taken precautions or imposed conditions to ensure that its employees will not become *covered employees*. Contractor/Subcontractor will ensure that these precautions or conditions continue to exist throughout the time that the contracted services are provided. If SMSD, in its sole discretion, determines that employees of Contractor/Subcontractor are *covered employees*, as defined above, Contractor/Subcontractor will provide SMSD with the name, date of birth, and any other requested information of such covered employees so that SMSD may obtain criminal history record information on the covered employees, upon request by SMSD.

Or



OPTION B: Contractor/Subcontractor certifies that some or all of the employees of Contractor/Subcontractor are covered employees, but the criminal history record information requirements do not apply to its employees or applicants for employment because:

- (1) Contractor/Subcontractor is a public works contractor (an entity that contracts directly or subcontracts with an entity that contracts with a school district to provide construction services to the school district); **and**
- (2) the public work does not involve the construction, alteration, or repair of an instructional facility as defined by Texas Education Code Section 46.001; the employee’s duties will be completed not later than the seventh (7th) day before a new instructional facility will be used for instruction; **or** for an existing instructional facility, the work area contains sanitary facilities and is separated from all areas used by students by a secure barrier fence at least six (6) feet high, and the Contractor adopts, informs employees of, and enforces a policy prohibiting employees and any subcontractor’s employees from interacting with students or entering areas used by students.

If this option is selected, Contractor/Subcontractor further certifies to SMSD that:

- (a) Contractor/Subcontractor shall ensure that the conditions or precautions that resulted in the determination that the criminal history record information requirements do not apply to its employees or applicants for employment continue to exist throughout the time that the contracted services are provided;
- (b) For each covered employee who is employed by or under a current offer of employment by Contractor/Subcontractor, Contractor/Subcontractor will timely complete the “Contractor Criminal History Background Check Certification” form and submit such to SMSD; and
- (c) If SMSD, in its sole discretion, determines that the conditions in paragraph (1) and/or (2) above are not satisfied as to Contractor/Subcontractor, Contractor/Subcontractor will provide SMSD with the name, date of birth, and any other requested information of its covered employees so that SMSD may obtain criminal history record information on the covered employees, upon request by SMSD.

Or



OPTION C: Contractor/Subcontractor certifies that some or all of the employees of Contractor/Subcontractor are covered employees, and Contractor/ Subcontractor is a “qualified school contractor.” For each covered employee who is employed by or under a current offer of employment by Contractor/Subcontractor, Contractor/Subcontractor certifies to SMSD that it will timely complete the “Contractor Criminal History Background Check Certification” form and submit such to SMSD. If this option is selected, I further certify that:

- (1) Contractor/Subcontractor certifies to SMSD that Contractor/Subcontractor has received all criminal history record information relating to a person who is employed by or under a current offer of employment by

Contractor/Subcontractor. Contractor/Subcontractor provides SMSD with the following fitness determination as to each covered employee, based on all criminal history record information obtained: None of the covered employees has a disqualifying criminal history.

- (2) If Contractor/Subcontractor at any time receives information that a covered employee subsequently has a reported disqualifying criminal history, Contractor/Subcontractor will immediately remove the covered employee from contract duties and notify SMSD in writing within 3 business days.
- (3) Upon request by SMSD, Contractor/Subcontractor will provide SMSD with the name, date of birth, and any other requested information of covered employees so that SMSD may obtain criminal history record information on the covered employees.

Or

OPTION D: Contractor/Subcontractor certifies that some or all of the employees of Contractor/Subcontractor are *covered employees*, and Contractor/Subcontractor is not a “qualified school contractor.” If this option is selected, I further certify that:

- (1) For each covered employee who is employed by or under a current offer of employment by Contractor/Subcontractor, Contractor/Subcontractor certifies to SMSD that will timely complete the “Contractor Criminal History Background Check Certification” form and submit such to SMSD, providing the following information regarding each covered employee as required by DPS in order to provide criminal history record information, so that SMSD may obtain the covered employees’ criminal history record information: (a) Full name (first, middle, and last); (b) Date of birth; (c) Sex; (d) Social Security number; (e) number assigned to any form of unexpired identification card issued by Texas or another state, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. territory that includes the person’s photograph; (f) if the employee has ever been fingerprinted by a public school district in Texas (and if so, the name of the school district); and (g) the person’s written consent to the release of his or her criminal history record information.
- (2) Contractor/Subcontractor shall provide SMSD’s “Texas Fingerprint Service Code Form” document to all covered employees and ensure that they schedule fingerprinting appointments in a timely manner. Contractor/Subcontractor shall be solely responsible to send or ensure that each covered employee sends to DPS all information that may be required by DPS for obtaining national criminal history record information, which may include, but is not limited to, a complete set of the person’s fingerprints and a recent electronic digital image photograph of the person. Any covered employee whose criminal history record information is not received by SMSD at least ten (10) SMSD business days prior to the start of the services to be performed by Contractor/Subcontractor at SMSD is subject to exclusion from service, in SMSD’s sole discretion, until his or her criminal history record information can be obtained and reviewed by SMSD. **Contractor/Subcontractor is responsible for the payment of all fingerprinting costs.** Because Contractor/Subcontractor is not a “qualified school contractor,” it will not be permitted to view the criminal history record information obtained by SMSD.
- (3) DPS shall obtain the person’s national criminal history record information and report the results through the criminal history clearinghouse as provided by Texas Government Code 411.0845. Contractor/Subcontractor agrees that SMSD will obtain all criminal history record information that relates to a covered employee through the criminal history clearinghouse as provided by Texas Government Code 411.0845. Contractor/Subcontractor agrees that SMSD will review each covered employee’s criminal history record information, together with the employee’s qualifications, background, and experience, based on information gathered by SMSD through the procurement and/or contracting processes, to determine, in SMSD’s sole discretion, whether any covered employee(s) should be prohibited from serving at SMSD. SMSD will notify Contractor/Subcontractor of its determination.
- (4) If SMSD at any time receives information that a covered employee subsequently has a reported disqualifying criminal history or should be prohibited from serving at SMSD, in SMSD’s sole discretion,

for any other reason, including, but not limited to, the employee's qualifications, background, and experience, based on information gathered by SMSD through the procurement and/or contracting processes, SMSD will notify Contractor/Subcontractor of its determination. Contractor/Subcontractor will immediately remove the covered employee from contract duties.

Upon contract award and/or initiation of PO/contract from SMSD, the winning proposer/Contractor shall complete SMSD's "Contractor Criminal History Background Check Certification" form, providing the following information regarding each covered employee as required by DPS in order to provide criminal history record information, so that SMSD may obtain the covered employees' criminal history record information: (a) Full name (first, middle, and last); (b) Date of birth; (c) Sex; (d) Social Security number; (e) number assigned to any form of unexpired identification card issued by Texas or another state, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. territory that includes the person's photograph; (f) if the employee has ever been fingerprinted by a public school district in Texas (and if so, the name of the school district); and (g) the person's written consent to the release of his or her criminal history record information. Contractor/Subcontractor shall be solely responsible to send or ensure that each covered employee sends to DPS all information that may be required by DPS for obtaining national criminal history record information, which may include, but is not limited to, a complete set of the person's fingerprints and a recent electronic digital image photograph of the person.

If, during the term of the contract with SMSD, Contractor/Subcontractor employs additional covered employees or assigns new covered employees to perform services at SMSD, Contractor shall immediately notify SMSD and provide SMSD with all of the information listed in the preceding paragraph as to each additional covered employee, so that SMSD may obtain the additional covered employees' criminal history record information. If, during the term of the contract with SMSD, Contractor/Subcontractor ceases to employ a covered employee in connection with an SMSD contract, whose information was previously provided to SMSD, Contractor/Subcontractor shall immediately notify SMSD of the same and provide SMSD with each former covered employee's (a) Full name (first, middle, and last); (b) Date of birth; (c) Sex; (d) Social Security number; and (e) number assigned to any form of unexpired identification card issued by Texas or another state, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. territory that includes the person's photograph, so that SMSD may unsubscribe from that individual's criminal history record.

If SMSD, in its sole discretion, objects to the assignment of a covered employee for any reason, including, but not limited to, on the basis of the covered employee's criminal history record information and/or insufficient qualifications, lack of experience, and the like, based on information gathered by SMSD through the procurement and/or contracting processes, Contractor/Subcontractor agrees to discontinue using that covered employee to provide services at SMSD.

I also certify to SMSD (and, in the case of a Subcontractor, certify to Contractor and SMSD) on behalf of Contractor/Subcontractor that Contractor/Subcontractor has required its subcontractors to comply with Texas Education Code, Chapter 22 and obtained certifications from its subcontractors of such compliance. Noncompliance or misrepresentation regarding this certification may be grounds for contract termination.

Signature

Title

Date

***** Upon contract award, the awarded proposer(s) will be provided SMSD's fingerprint service code form to have its and subcontractors' covered employees fingerprinted.**

CONFIDENTIALITY DECLARATION FORM

INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO SMSD IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PROCUREMENT SOLICITATION OR THE AGREEMENT IS GOVERNED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 552

As a governmental body, SMSD is subject to the Texas Public Information Act found in Chapter 552, Texas Government Code. Proposals and other information submitted to SMSD in connection with this procurement solicitation or the Agreement may be subject to release as public information. If a Vendor believes that part(s) of its proposal or any other information submitted by Vendor to SMSD in connection with this procurement solicitation or the Agreement contain confidential, proprietary, and/or trade secret information or otherwise may be excepted from disclosure under Texas law, the Vendor must clearly and conspicuously mark the applicable information as “CONFIDENTIAL.”

Marking information as “CONFIDENTIAL” does not guarantee that the information will be withheld from disclosure. If SMSD receives a request for public information involving information that Vendor has clearly and conspicuously marked as “CONFIDENTIAL,” SMSD will respond pursuant to Chapter 552, Texas Government Code, which may or may not require that SMSD provide notice of the request to Vendor. Vendor understands and agrees that it is solely responsible for submitting to the Attorney General of Texas each reason why the requested information should be withheld and a letter, memorandum, or brief in support of that reason. Pursuant to Tex. Gov’t Code § 552.02222, “contracting information”¹ is public and must be released unless excepted from disclosure under Chapter 552. The exceptions provided by Chapter 552 for disclosure for proprietary information (552.1101), commercial or financial information that would cause substantial competitive harm if released (552.110(c)), or trade secrets (552.110(b)) may not be asserted for the following types of contracting information:

- (1) the following contract or offer terms or their functional equivalent: (A) any term describing the overall or total price the governmental body will or could potentially pay, including overall or total value, maximum liability, and final price; (B) a description of the items or services to be delivered with the total price for each if a total price is identified for the item or service in the contract; (C) the delivery and service deadlines; (D) the remedies for breach of contract; (E) the identity of all parties to the contract; (F) the identity of all subcontractors in a contract; (G) the affiliate overall or total pricing for a vendor, contractor, potential vendor, or potential contractor; (H) the execution dates; (I) the effective dates; and (J) the contract duration terms, including any extension options; or
- (2) information indicating whether a vendor, contractor, potential vendor, or potential contractor performed its duties under a contract, including information regarding: (A) a breach of contract; (B) a contract variance or exception; (C) a remedial action; (D) an amendment to a contract; (E) any assessed or paid liquidated damages; (F) a key measures report; (G) a progress report; and (H) a final payment checklist.

SMSD assumes no obligation or responsibility relating to the disclosure or nondisclosure of information submitted by Vendors, and **Vendor hereby waives any claim against and releases from liability SMSD, its respective officers, employees, agents, and attorneys with respect to disclosure of information provided under or in connection with this procurement solicitation or the Agreement or otherwise created, assembled, maintained, or held by Vendor or SMSD and determined by SMSD, the Attorney General of Texas, or a court of law to be subject to disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act.** Further, even if Vendor marks information as “CONFIDENTIAL,” **Vendor expressly agrees that SMSD may disclose Vendor’s proposal, including, but not limited to, pricing information, to other governmental entities.**

¹ “Contracting information” is defined by Tex. Gov’t Code § 552.003(7) as “the following information maintained by a governmental body or sent between a governmental body and a vendor, contractor, potential vendor, or potential contractor: (A) information in a voucher or contract relating to the receipt or expenditure of public funds by a governmental body; (B) solicitation or bid documents relating to a contract with a governmental body; (C) communications sent between a governmental body and a vendor, contractor, potential vendor, or potential contractor during the solicitation, evaluation, or negotiation of a contract; (D) documents, including bid tabulations, showing the criteria by which a governmental body evaluates each vendor, contractor, potential vendor, or potential contractor responding to a solicitation and, if applicable, an explanation of why the vendor or contractor was selected; and (E) communications and other information sent between a governmental body and a vendor or contractor related to the performance of a final contract with the governmental body or work performed on behalf of the governmental body.”

Please check **ONLY ONE** of the following options:

- ☐ **Declaration of Confidentiality** – Vendor **HAS** clearly and conspicuously marked information contained in its proposal and/or other information submitted by Vendor to SMSD in connection with this procurement solicitation or the Agreement as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Vendor declares that the information marked by Vendor as “CONFIDENTIAL” contains confidential, proprietary, and/or trade secret information and is excepted from disclosure under Chapter 552, Texas Government Code.

- ☐ **Waiver of Confidentiality** – Vendor **HAS NOT** marked any information contained in its proposal and/or other information submitted by Vendor to SMSD in connection with this procurement solicitation or the Agreement as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Vendor certifies that it has not submitted any confidential, proprietary, and/or trade secret information to SMSD and that its proposal and all other information—including any pricing information—submitted by Vendor to SMSD in connection with this procurement solicitation or the Agreement is subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Texas Government Code. Vendor hereby expressly waives any claim of confidentiality with respect to its proposal and/or any other information submitted by Vendor to SMSD in connection with this procurement solicitation or the Agreement.

Vendor Name

Printed Name of Authorized Officer/Representative of Vendor

Title

Signature

Date