

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**IFB # 98****NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT****Title: Tuscarora Nation Transportation to and from Niagara-Wheatfield Central School District**

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) Office of Indigenous Education is seeking bids for the transportation of certain Native American pupils from the Tuscarora Nation to and from school buildings in the Niagara-Wheatfield Central School District, BOCES sites and certain other locations as determined by the Committee on Special Education or other Niagara-Wheatfield Central School District offices, with the approval of NYSED. The transportation to be provided must include but is not limited to regular school year home to school transportation, including late busing, as well as summer school transportation. Transportation will also be provided for children with disabilities and/or students with academic interventions who may require abbreviated school days. Eligible applicants include private bus companies, motor coach companies and school districts who have demonstrated expertise in the area of school bus transportation.

NYSED will award one (1) contract with a term of five (5) years. The contract is anticipated to run from September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2030. Transportation will be provided for the 2025-26 through 2029-30 school years, including summer school sessions as needed. Subcontracting is not allowed for this contract; services must be provided by the bidding organization.

Mandatory Requirements: See Mandatory Requirements section of the IFB.

Components contained in IFB #98 are as follows:

- 1.) Description of Services to Be Performed
- 2.) Submission
- 3.) Evaluation Criteria and Method of Award
- 4.) Assurances
- 5.) Submission Documents (separate document)

Questions regarding the request must be submitted via [online form](#) no later than the close of business **April 29, 2025**. A Questions and Answers Summary will be posted to [NYSED's Funding Opportunities website](#) no later than May 9, 2025. The following are the designated contacts for this procurement:

Program Matters: Keri Willis

Fiscal Matters: Thomas McBride

Bidders are requested to submit their bids electronically. The following documents, as detailed in the Submission section of this IFB, must be received via [online form](#) no later than **May 30, 2025**.

1. Submission Documents labeled **[name of bidder] Submission Documents IFB 98**
2. Cost Proposal labeled **[name of bidder] Cost Proposal IFB 98**

Instructions for Submitting an Electronic Bid:

1. The technical and cost proposal documents should be submitted in Microsoft Office. PDF files that are editable and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) searchable are acceptable. Please do not submit the technical or cost proposal as a scanned PDF.
2. Submission documents requiring a signature must be signed using one of the methods listed below and may be submitted as a Microsoft Office, PDF, or JPG document. A scanned PDF is acceptable for these documents.
3. The following forms of e-signatures are acceptable:
 - a. handwritten signatures on faxed or scanned documents
 - b. e-signatures that have been authenticated by a third-party digital software, such as DocuSign and Adobe Sign
 - c. stored copies of the images of signatures that are placed on a document by copying and pasting or otherwise inserting them into the documents
4. Unacceptable forms of e-signatures include:
 - a. a typed name, including a signature created by selecting a script or calligraphy font for the typed name of the person "signing"
5. To identify the signer and indicate that the signer understood and intended to agree to the terms of the signed document, the signer will sign beside or provide by email the following attestation: "I agree, and it is my intent, to sign this document by [describe the signature solution used] and by electronically submitting this document to [name of recipient individual or entity]. I understand that my signing and submitting this document is the legal equivalent of having placed my handwritten signature on the submitted document and this attestation. I understand and agree that by electronically signing and submitting this document I am affirming to the truth of the information contained therein."
6. To ensure receipt of your bid, please ensure that the IFB number and title listed on page 1 are accurately entered into the fields "Procurement No" and "Procurement Title/Name" on the [online form](#). Failure to include this information may result in the bid not being received by the deadline or considered for award.

1.) Description of Services to be Performed

Work Statement and Specifications

This section of the bid package details the services and products to be acquired. Please note that the contract process also includes general New York State administrative terms and conditions, as well as terms and conditions required by New York State law. These terms and conditions address issues related to both the submission of bids and any subsequent contract; they are included separately in this bid package for your information. Please review all terms and conditions.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants include private bus companies, motor coach companies and school districts who have demonstrated expertise in the area of school bus transportation.

Mandatory Requirements

The eligible bidder must agree to the Mandatory Requirements found below and must submit the Mandatory Requirements Certification Form located in 5.) Submission Documents. This required form must be signed by an authorized person. **Bids that do not comply with the Mandatory Requirements will be disqualified.**

In addition to the attachments contained in **5.) Submission Documents**, bidders must submit a narrative statement indicating the type and extent of school bus transportation experience they have had and submit supporting references of those school districts that they have previously or are presently serving, together with the details of such service. **References from at least two different school districts must be included with the bid. Failure to submit the required narrative statement and two references will result in disqualification.**

Services to be Provided

The New York State Education Department is seeking bids for the transportation of certain Native American pupils to and from the Tuscarora Nation to school buildings in the Niagara-Wheatfield, BOCES sites and certain other locations as determined by the Committee on Special Education or other Niagara-Wheatfield School District offices, with the approval of NYSED. The transportation to be provided must include but is not limited to regular school year home to school transportation, including late busing, as well as summer school transportation. Transportation will also be provided for children with disabilities and/or students with academic interventions who may require abbreviated school days.

Definitions

For all proposals submitted in response to this IFB the following definitions apply:

School Bus Driver

Each proposed regular or substitute school bus driver must comply with Section 156.3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Commissioner of Education [School Bus Safety Regulations](#) and Part 6 of the Rules and Regulations of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, as revised.

Any person who drives a school bus which is owned, leased, or contracted for by the State for the purpose of transporting students. This does not include:

- (1) a driver of a passenger or suburban type vehicle if such driver is not ordinarily required to transport pupils and is operating such vehicle for the purpose of transporting one or more pupils to a hospital or other medical facility, a physician's office, or home for medical treatment or because of illness;
- (2) a driver of a suburban intercity coach or transit type bus, transporting pupils on trips other than between home and school, such as field trips, and other special transportation services;
- (3) a parent who transports exclusively his or her own children.

All drivers of school transportation conveyances shall be at least 21 years of age and comply with State Vehicle and Traffic Law and with rules and regulations of the State Department of Transportation for School Buses.

School Bus Monitor

A school bus monitor is any person employed to assist children to safely enter and exit from a school bus owned, leased, or contracted for by a school district or board of cooperative educational services (BOCES), and to assist the school bus driver in maintaining proper order on the school bus (8 NYCRR 156.3 (a) (3))

School Bus Attendant (Aide)

A school bus attendant (aide) is any person employed to assist students with a disabling condition on a school bus owned, leased, or contracted for a school district or board of cooperative educational services (BOCES) (8 NYCRR 156.3 (a) (4))

School Bus

Every motor vehicle owned by a public or governmental agency or private school and operated for the transportation of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity, to or from school or school activities or privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity to or from school or school activities.

In preparing a response for this IFB, potential respondents should consider the following:

School Calendars

- a. The official school calendar(s) of 180 school attendance days and 29 summer school attendance days, should be obtained by the bidder directly from such school(s) to determine the exact number of days and the dates that buses will be in operation. Bus service will begin in September and end in August as determined by the official school calendar(s), as adopted or revised. The successful bidder shall be expected to conform to the school

calendars and time schedules of all the different schools educating students who live on the Tuscarora Nation.

- b. The "State" reserves the right to make changes in schedules for all schools served, covering such special occasions as parent-teacher conference days; half days prior to various recesses such as Easter, Christmas, Thanksgiving; first week of school in September; Regents and final Examination week in January and June of each year; and half days for teacher conferences or workshops. This service shall be supplied at no extra cost.
- c. Bidders should acquire 2025-26 school year calendars directly from the school districts and schools involved to develop bid amounts. School calendars shall be submitted along with the bid proposal. If 2025-26 calendars are not available at time of submission, submit a 2024-25 calendar. See **ATTACHMENT F** School Calendars in **5.) Submission Documents**.

Drivers/Monitors

- a. Each proposed regular or substitute school bus driver, bus monitor and aide must comply with Section 156.3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Commissioner of Education [School Bus Safety Regulations](#) and Part 6 of the Rules and Regulations of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, as revised. Each regular or substitute school bus driver shall be examined by a physician prior to beginning service as required in Section 156.3(c)(1) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. An examination to determine the physical condition of each driver shall be reported by the physician on the form prescribed in 6.13 of Part 6 of the Rules and Regulations of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and Section 156.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.
- b. Each regular or substitute school bus driver must submit to his/her employer prior to September of each year an annual report of his or her driving record for review and approval by the contractor on a form prescribed in 6.6 of Part 6 of the Rules and Regulations of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.
- c. All expenses for training, finger printing and physical examinations are expenses of the contractor.
- d. Sufficient spare drivers will be available and identified in the Roster of Drivers (**ATTACHMENT C**) to prevent an interruption of service.
- e. "DMA" (drivers, monitors and aides) shall not smoke, drink, eat or be under the influence of alcohol and/or a controlled substance or medication which would impair driving ability while operating a school bus.
- f. The successful bidder must agree that no later than August 25 of any year that the contract is in force, he shall submit to the "State" a list of the bus drivers to be assigned for that current year (**ATTACHMENT C**). Medical examination forms, annual drivers abstract, drivers' applications, letters of reference, and other pertinent data will be maintained at contractor's office and be available at any time for examination and review by the State.
- g. Since the actions and conduct of the bus drivers, monitors, and aides reflect upon the State as a whole, the State reserves the right to have the bus contractor replace immediately drivers, monitors, or aides the State deems unsatisfactory.
- h. Each driver shall be properly trained and shall have the appropriate motor vehicle operator's license required to drive the vehicles used to transport students under this contract. This license will be in each driver's possession at all times. Proper training shall encompass all driver trainings mandated under state and federal law, including Dignity for All Students Act training.

- i. It is understood that the contractor will maintain reasonable precautions to see that he or she is informed as to the on- or off-the-job involvements of employees. Should it come to the attention of the contractor that any employee has been, or is reputed to have been, involved in any crime or act which might raise any doubts as to his or her fitness to work with children, it shall be the duty of the contractor to immediately investigate such act or allegations. Of particular importance would be moral crimes or automobile accidents which disqualify a driver from driving as specified in 6.4 and 6.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or moral crimes committed by a monitor or aide. Unless the contractor is satisfied that no serious involvements exist, the matter shall be brought to the attention of the State with all promptness.
- j. Each DMA (driver, monitor, aides) will be responsible for complete control of his or her bus. Each driver will be responsible for the student discipline and the management of students on the bus and will have commensurate authority to cope with this responsibility. The driver in charge will take up pupil problems with his or her employer, and/or school officials and/or representatives of the Tuscarora Nation. Each driver may expect help and guidance from his or her employer and school officials on most problems. It will be the duty of the driver to notify the employer and school officials of all accidents and all other unusual situations that should be brought to the State's attention. It shall be the responsibility of the contractor in conjunction with school officials to also notify representatives of the Tuscarora Nation of all such accidents or situations.

Required Insurance

- a. Compensation Insurance
The contractor shall obtain and maintain standard Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance such as will meet the requirements of the Workers' Compensation Law of the State of New York and any other State or Federal body having jurisdiction.
- b. Fleet Insurance
Such insurance shall be comprehensive in form to automatically cover all vehicles owned by the contractor as well as any liability arising out of the use of hired and non-owned vehicles and shall include the State of New York and the Niagara-Wheatfield Central School District as additional insured parties. Coverage shall also be provided for uninsured motorist's insurance, as required by law.
- c. Minimum Liability Limits
Unless higher limits are specified elsewhere in the contract, the liability insurance required shall be subject to the following: The winning Bidder shall be required to provide proof of adequate insurance and must carry at a minimum a Commercial General Liability policy containing the standard provisions including at least \$3 million of coverage for each occurrence and \$3 million of general aggregate coverage; an Automobile policy which covers Scheduled Autos, Hired Autos and Non-Owned Autos with a combined single limit of at least \$5 million; and an Excess/Umbrella policy with at least \$10 million of coverage for each occurrence and \$10 million in the aggregate. The State of New York and the Niagara-Wheatfield Central School District are to be named as additional insured parties.
- d. Personal Injury Protection (no-fault) Coverage
The policy shall provide the minimum coverage as required by law.
- e. Limits
The limits as outlined herein are strictly minimum amounts. The State encourages the use of higher limits and assumes no liability in the event that claims are presented against the contractor for amounts in excess of these minimum limits.

Insurance Certificates

- a. Before execution of the contract resulting from this IFB, the contractor shall file with the State triplicate copies of certificates verifying such coverage, which certificates shall be in such form as are satisfactory to the State and shall indicate:
 - (1) That the policy will not be canceled or coverage thereunder be reduced or limited without thirty (30) days written notice to the State.
 - (2) That a similar thirty (30) days written notice will be given to the State prior to the expiration of the policy if renewal coverage is to be refused or such coverage is to be reduced on renewal.
 - (3) Such certificates shall show the name and address of the insured contractor, the policy number, the type of coverage and the inception and expiration dates. The State reserves the right to make direct inquiry to the insurance carrier for an explanation of coverage and the contractor agrees to assist, if necessary, in obtaining any such desired information.
 - (4) That a similar thirty (30) days written notice will be given to the State prior to the expiration of the Contractor's workers compensation insurance policy if renewal coverage is to be refused or such coverage is to be reduced on renewal.

Buses

- a. All buses to be used must conform to the rules, standards, and specifications as established by Regulations of the Commissioner of Education of the State of New York, throughout the term of the contract to be awarded. The contractor must also at all times comply with the rules and regulations of the New York State Department of Transportation and the Motor Vehicles Department related to school transportation.
- b. Each year the successful bidder who is awarded a transportation contract will be required to present a list of vehicles he proposes to use in fulfilling the requirements of the contract, showing make, years, and New York State Department of Transportation seating capacity of each bus and date of last New York State Department of Transportation inspection and length of approved operational period for each bus (**ATTACHMENT D**).
- c. All buses must be painted National School Bus chrome yellow.
- d. The "State" reserves the right, in the exercise of its sound discretion, to reject equipment proposed to be used, or after the contract shall have been awarded, equipment which may be in use. Buses must be kept in excellent mechanical condition and must be kept clean both inside and out. All buses shall be open to inspection by the "State" or its duly authorized representatives at all times. School buses regularly scheduled to be used for the transportation of nation students should have seat belts.
- e. In the event of inclement weather or other emergency, all buses shall be available for early dismissal at any time during the school day.
- f. Service may be added to or subtracted from this contract at the discretion of the "State" during the life of the contract, consistent with, or as outlined in **ATTACHMENT B**. It is understood by both parties that there will be no additional charges or credits in the event the number of pupils transported either increases or decreases and said increase or decrease does not result in the need to travel any more or less miles or result in the need to change the equipment shown for said route in **ATTACHMENT D**.
- g. Relief buses in a sufficient number to maintain the schedule of services, complying in all respects with the requirements for buses set down herein, shall be available at all times for

use in the event of breakdown of any of the buses regularly employed to fulfill the terms of the contract.

- h. In the event of a strike or other reason that causes interruption of service for more than 24 hours, the "State" shall have the right to secure such other transportation as may be necessary and charge the cost of same to the account of the contractor.
- i. The "State" reserves the right to have the contractor prove that the buses will be available and ready for operation by September 1. A list of equipment proposed for use in the performance of this contract must be included with the bid on the form provided **(ATTACHMENT D)**.
- j. Each bus shall carry some form of route identification established by the contractor in consultation with school officials. This route identification is to be securely posted in a window adjacent to the front entry door of the bus and must be at least six inches high and four inches wide. Drivers are required to change route identification to coincide with assigned bus routes.

Routes

- a. It shall be the responsibility of the chosen contractor to propose bus routes for the Tuscarora Nation. In establishing such routes, the contractor is authorized to provide transportation to and from school only for school-age children who reside within the boundaries of the Tuscarora Nation during the academic school year, special needs, abbreviated school days, and summer school as applicable. **ATTACHMENT E** includes the schools of attendance for students transported from the Tuscarora Nation during the 2024-25 school year. **These lists represent the best information available at the time these bid specifications were prepared; and will differ prior to the start of school in September 2025. This list is a representation of the type and quantity of students to be transported. It shall be the responsibility of the chosen contractor to consult with officials of the Niagara-Wheatfield Central School District and representatives of the Tuscarora Nation prior to the start of school each year, to obtain accurate and/or updated information regarding students to be transported, the home addresses of such students including the roads they live on, house numbers or rural route box numbers, if available, and places on the nation where students are to be picked up or dropped off, if different than the home address.** The school district shall be required to maintain accurate address information, as noted above, so that it can be supplied to the transportation contractor. The contractor must also verify with school officials the school's students from the Tuscarora Nation are scheduled to attend prior to the start of school each year. In establishing bus routes for the Tuscarora Nation, the contractor shall ensure that all students arrive at school on time each day and are picked up at or shortly after scheduled dismissal times for transportation home. In no instance shall any student being transported on a regularly scheduled A.M., P.M., or mid-day bus route spend more than one hour on the bus between the time he or she is picked up and dropped off each morning or afternoon, except in situations where inclement winter weather makes it impossible to comply with such time constraints, or in situations where the distance between a child's home and school of attendance makes it impossible to have the child on the bus for one hour or less each morning or afternoon. The route for any individual student whose regular home to school transportation is expected to be more than one hour must be approved by SED Native American Education Unit.
- b. Adjustments to bus routes or transportation services provided to Tuscarora Nation students may have to be made prior to the start of the contract period. Changes in compensation will be

made for such adjustments, in accordance with the contractor's bid proposal and as outlined below.

- c. No change in compensation will be made for transporting children in excess of the number estimated by the "State" if there shall be room for them on existing buses and miles traveled by each affected bus does not increase by more than 10%, as a result of the requirement to transport additional students.
- d. The successful bidder shall work cooperatively with school and/or school district officials and representatives of both the State of New York and the Tuscarora Nation to establish final bus routes and/or modify bus schedules or bus routes, as needed, throughout the course of the contract period, and to solve transportation problems which may arise. All modifications to transportation, requiring an increase in compensation due the contractor must receive the prior approval of the State and may require a contract amendment. In no instance will the State approve the addition of a transportation service which exceeds the scope and quality of transportation services that the Niagara-Wheatfield Central School District provides to resident students of the school district.

General Safety

- a. The contractor shall satisfy the "State" that pupils shall be conveyed safely. The duties and obligations in relation thereto pursuant to this contract shall be performed faithfully by said contractor who shall, at all times, exercise proper supervision over all school bus drivers and vehicles.
- b. The contractor shall comply with all state, county, town, and village rules and regulations governing vehicle traffic, as well as all rules and regulations regarding drivers and safety devices of the New York State Education Department, the New York State Department of Transportation, and the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles.
- c. Each vehicle must be equipped with a two-way radio capable of providing constant communication with the main terminal.
- d. During inclement weather or other emergencies, it shall be the contractor's responsibility to be aware of the need for or non-requirement of service. Transportation is to be provided for nation students every day school is in session in each school district or in session at the school(s) such students attend.
- e. The contractor shall provide an individual or supervisor who shall be responsible for the routing of all school buses and for contacts and communication with parents and school officials regarding student transportation problems. Said supervisor or a designee must arrange to be available during all hours that services are being performed pursuant to the contract.
- f. A contractor shall guarantee that, in the event of a breakdown or accident involving any vehicle being used to transport students pursuant to any contract, a replacement vehicle will be provided by said contractor within 20 minutes of the need for such a replacement vehicle.
- g. Accident Reports: In the event of any accident en route to school involving the operation of a vehicle under the provisions of the contract, the contractor shall immediately notify the schools affected and the district by telephone. As soon as possible, thereafter, a written report shall be prepared by the contractor to the school(s). A list of all students aboard shall be provided by the contractor to the school(s). All accidents must also be reported on a Motor Vehicle 104 Form as required, to the local police authority, any insurance carrier involved, and, if necessary, to the State Education Department and the Department of Transportation. If an accident occurs on the way home, the same procedure shall be followed except that the contractor shall be responsible for also notifying parents of the children involved. The contractor shall also notify officials of the Tuscarora Nation of any

accident and provide a copy of any accident report prepared for school or any other officials to the Tuscarora Nation. All school bus accidents must be reported to the Department of State Education Transportation and Office of Indigenous Education by the end of the next business day, with specific details of accident and injuries.

Safety Practices

Each school bus driver must observe the following rules of safety. Any driver not complying with these rules or any other legal mandate is subject to removal from service under this contract.

- a. **Safety at intersections:** All vehicles operated under this contract shall come to a full stop before crossing the tracks of any railroad or before entering the right-of-way area of any such railroad crossing. They shall also come to a full stop before crossing any state highway. Traffic signs and signals shall be strictly obeyed by all drivers.
- b. **Following traffic:** The driver shall maintain a safe braking distance between his/her bus and the vehicle ahead for full assurance that he/she can stop the bus safely should the vehicle ahead make a sudden stop.
- c. **Stopping:** When stopping, the driver shall check passengers, and traffic following in the rear view mirrors before making a smooth stop. The stop shall be made in a manner so as not to endanger passengers, or place the bus in danger of being struck in the rear by another vehicle.
- d. **Backing:** The driver shall be certain that all backing movements can be done with absolute safety, that there is no child behind the bus, and that there are no vehicles behind the bus in a place where he/she could back into them. The driver should never back up, while on the school property.
- e. **Speed:** No bus shall be driven at a speed greater than that allowed by law. Drivers should always operate the bus at a reasonable and prudent speed, consistent with weather, traffic, and road conditions.
- f. **School Bus Passing Law:** The driver shall not rely on any motorist to observe the School Bus Passing Law but must be so cautious that the children are safe even if a motorist violates the law. It is the duty of each driver to report violations of the School Bus Passing Law.
- g. **Children Leaving the Bus:** No child should be allowed to cross in front of a bus until he/she has reached a point at least ten (10) feet in front of the bus. Students need to follow New York State Safe crossing procedure as described in Safe Routes and Safe Stops.

Emergency Drills on School Buses

- a. The emergency drills on school buses required by Section 3623 of the Education Law shall include practice and instruction in the location, use and operation of the emergency exits, fire extinguishers, first aid equipment, and windows as a means of escape in case of fire or accident. Drills shall also include instruction in safe boarding and exiting procedures with specific emphasis on when and how to approach, board, disembark, and move away from the bus after disembarking. Such instructions shall be given by a member of the school or school district teaching staff. A minimum of three such emergency drills shall be held on each school bus during the school year. The first to be conducted during the first week of the Fall Term, the second between November 1st and December 31st and the third between March 1 and April 30.
- b. No emergency drills shall be conducted when buses are on routes.

Car Seats and Harnesses

- a. When car seats and safety harnesses are required for specific students or children under the age of 4, they shall be provided by the contractor at its expense. All adaptive equipment must be kept in excellent working order.
- b. The contractor will instruct all school bus drivers as to the proper installation of car seats/harnesses and wheelchairs, where required, and insure driver responsibility to properly secure children in them.

Managerial and Supervision

- a. The contractor shall supply a dispatcher or manager acceptable to the State, who shall remain at the bus building or garage during the hours while the buses are in operation.

Assignment

The contract for transportation or any right, title, or interest therein may not be assigned or transferred without the prior written approval of the State.

Knowledge of Contents and Conditions

- a. Each bidder shall be fully familiar with the routes, bus stops, traffic conditions, topography, road conditions, locations of schools, including entrance, driveways, and exits, and with all other physical facts pertinent to the performance of the work.
- b. The submission of a bid by a contractor will be construed as indication that he is fully informed as to the extent and character of the work, labor, or equipment required, and can perform the work or provide the equipment satisfactorily to the full intent of the specifications without any extras. Such bid shall include the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment as required by the work to be done or the services to be rendered. The specifications shall be directly examined by each bidder and should any questions arise with respect to the said specifications or the interpretation of any statement therein contained, the bidder shall immediately request the "State" to interpret or clarify such provisions. Such request shall be in writing and the advice the State provides shall forthwith be sent, by the State in writing to all persons who have requested bidding pamphlets for the purpose of bidding this contract.

Non-collusion

Each bidder is required to state in his bid that the bid is made without any connection with any person making another bid for the same contract, and that it is in all respects fair and without collusion and fraud. Statements herein required must be made on forms provided for this purpose and attached hereto (**see Non-Collusive Bidding Certification in 5.) Submission Documents**).

Award of Contract

- a. Awarding of the contract will be made as soon as all required approvals are in place after the opening of bids.
- b. Bidders are requested to submit proposed costs for five (5) school years (2025-2026, 2026-2027, 2027-2028, 2028-2029 and 2029-2030, including summer school sessions for each school year.

Contract Documents

It is mutually agreed that the Bid Proposal, Bus Route Descriptions and related data are to be attached to and become a part of the transportation contract, which is eventually drawn up by, and signed by authorized representatives of the New York State Education Department.

Payments

- a. Payments to the contractor will be made monthly upon approval of this contract. Vouchers should be filed beginning in October of each school year and ending in September (including the summer months if applicable) to total actual performance based on the rates used in Attachment A. State Aid vouchers to be used for claiming payments will be provided to the contractor by the "State".
- b. The total price on Attachment A will be used for scoring purposes of this IFB; the contract value will be estimated; payments will be based on actual performance using the rates on Attachment A. Any additional routes needed throughout the contract period will use the rates proposed in Attachment A and will be subject to approval by SED and the State Comptroller.

Beginning in October and ending in September of each school year, the contractor will be paid for the preceding month of service based on reported monthly services.

Reports and Audits

The successful bidder may be required to prepare reports which the State deems necessary to monitor and evaluate transportation services provided to nation students. These shall include but are not limited to the following:

- a. By October 1 and February 15 of each school year: A description of each bus route in operation for the semester, including the number of miles traveled on each route and the schools or school buildings each route serves.
- b. The make, model year, mileage and student capacity of the bus serving each route.
- c. The name of the driver and the name of the aide or monitor assigned to the route.
- d. A list of students being transported on each bus route, their home addresses including road and house number or rural route box number and the address of the location where students are picked up or dropped off, if different than the home address.
- e. The contractor will consent to an audit or audits of any and all financial records relating to this contract by the Office of the State Comptroller or State Education Department.

Contract Period

NYSED will award one (1) contract with a term of five (5) years, anticipated to begin September 1, 2025, and to end August 31, 2030.

Subcontracting Limit

Subcontracting will not be allowed for this contract. Subcontracting is defined as non-employee direct personal services and related incidental expenses, including travel.

Staff Changes

The Contractor will maintain continuity of the staff throughout the course of the contract. All changes in staff will be subject to NYSED approval. The replacement staff with comparable skills will be provided at the same or lower rate.

Requirements of Education Law Section 2-d

The Contractor agrees to comply with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and New York State Education Law § 2-d. The NYS Education Department (NYSED) is required to ensure that all contracts with a third-party contractor that receives PII include a Data Privacy and Security Plan, pursuant to Education Law § 2-d and § 121.6 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. For every contract, the Contractor must complete the following or provide a plan that materially addresses its requirements, including alignment with the NIST Cybersecurity Framework, which is the standard for educational agency data privacy and security policies in New York state.

Pursuant to Education Law § 2-d and § 121.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, the NYS Education Department ("NYSED") is required to post information to its website about its contracts with third-party contractors that will receive Student PII and/or Teacher and/or Principal APPR data ("APPR Data"), collectively referred to as PII.

The New York State Education Department's Data Privacy Appendix (Appendix R) is annexed to this IFB, the terms of which are incorporated herein by reference, and shall also be part of the Contract.

Bidders should use the templates and instructions in Appendix R to submit the required DPA EXHIBIT 1 - Contractor's Data Privacy and Security Plan and DPA EXHIBIT 2 - Education Law § 2-d Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security and Supplemental Information for Contracts that Utilize Personally Identifiable Information and return them with their proposal for review.

Cloud Service Provider Compliance

Any Cloud Service Provider (CSP) under consideration must have in place a baseline of data protection security configurations implemented along with documentation that demonstrates annual testing of the same. CSP must also, have a compliance process within their environment to ensure proper access control. The compliance process will encompass auditable access and timely access termination procedures. This applies to any cloud services that contains any NYSED data. This includes but not limited to Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS), Software as a Service (SaaS), and Platform as a Service (PaaS).

Accessibility of Web-Based Information and Applications

Any documents, web-based information and applications, or programming delivered pursuant to this contract or procurement, will comply with New York State Education Department Web Accessibility Policy, [NYSED-WEBACC-001](#), as such policy may be amended, modified or superseded. The policy requires that state agency web-based information, including documents and applications, are accessible to persons with disabilities. Documents, web-based information, and applications must conform to [NYSED-WEBACC-001](#) as determined by quality assurance testing. Such quality assurance testing will be conducted by a NYSED employee or contractor, and the results of such testing must be satisfactory to NYSED before web-based information and applications will be considered an acceptable deliverable under the contract or procurement.

Electronic Processing of Payments

In accordance with a directive dated January 22, 2010, by the Director of State Operations - Office of Taxpayer Accountability, all state agency contracts, grants, and purchase orders executed after February 28, 2010, shall contain a provision requiring that contractors and grantees accept electronic payments.

2.) **Submission**

Documents to be submitted with this proposal

This section details the submission document or documents that are expected to be transmitted by the respondent to the State Education Department in response to this IFB. New York State Education Department shall own all materials, processes, and products (software, code, documentation and other written materials) developed under this contract. Materials prepared under this contract shall be in a form that will be ready for copyright in the name of the New York State Education Department. Any subcontractor is also bound by these terms. The submission will become the basis on which NYSED will judge the respondent's ability to perform the required services as laid out in the IFB.

Project Submission

The proposal submitted in response to this IFB must include the following documents submitted via the [online form](#) in Microsoft Office or editable PDF per the electronic proposal submission procedures outlined above, preferably with each of the following sets of documents uploaded as a single file:

1. Submission Documents/Certifications bearing signatures. Submission Documents should include Attachments B, C, D, and F. Upload into "Submission Documents / Certifications."
2. Cost Proposal/ (use Excel form / Attachment A posted with the IFB). Upload into "Cost Proposal / Budget."
3. Narrative statement indicating type and extent of school bus transportation experience and supporting references of school districts previously or presently serving, together with the details of such service. Upload into "Technical Proposal / Narrative."
4. Data Security and Privacy Plan (Exhibit 1, Exhibit 2 and Supplemental Information). Upload into "Data Security and Privacy Plan."

The proposal must be received by the due date.

Bids should be prepared simply and economically, avoiding the use of elaborate promotional materials beyond those sufficient to provide complete presentation. If supplemental materials are a necessary part of the proposal, the bidder should reference these materials, identifying the document(s) and citing the appropriate section and page(s) to be reviewed.

Bidders should limit aspects that are to be determined only after the award of a contract. No optional deliverables to be provided at an additional cost should be included and will not be considered. Contractual terms, conditions and assumptions are inappropriate for inclusion in the bid.

Any proprietary material considered confidential by the bidder will specifically be so identified, and the basis for such confidentiality will be specifically set forth in the proposal by submitting the form "Request for Exemption from Disclosure Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Law," located in 5) Submission Documents.

Bids

Bidders are requested to submit proposed costs for five (5) school years (2025-2026, 2026-2027, 2027-2028, 2028-2029 and 2029-2030, including summer school sessions) by completing the bid form **ATTACHMENT A**.

Prospective contractors are required to submit a bid for the total scope of transportation services to be provided to Tuscarora Nation students as outlined, or similar, in **ATTACHMENT E**.

Bid prices for all services should be provided for a daily base price of four hours run time and for an additional quarter-hour increment over the base price. The run time is calculated from the first student picked up in the morning until the bus drops off at the last school in the morning and from the time the bus needs to be at the school for dismissal in the afternoon until the last student is dropped off for the day.

The contract will be awarded based on the lowest cost for the five-year total in Attachment A. The total price on Attachment A will be used for scoring purposes of this IFB; the contract value will be estimated; payments will be based on actual performance using the rates on Attachment A. Any additional routes needed throughout the contract period will use the rates proposed in Attachment A and will be subject to approval by SED and the State Comptroller.

The cost of each monitor or shall be listed in **ATTACHMENT A** under “Bus Aides” and shall be in addition to the cost of providing a vehicle and driver.

The cost of the rate of one wheelchair bus shall be listed in **ATTACHMENT A**. The wheelchair bus price will be weighted by 1/5.

PLEASE NOTE: The cost of fourteen (14) Aides/Monitors will be included in the total yearly cost in determining the lowest bidder (ten aides/monitors for the school year and four for summer) will be used for scoring purpose of this IFB. This number is based on one aide/monitor required per bus. In the event the need for any aide/monitor bid under this contract is no longer required during any time during contract term, the contractor shall not be provided reimbursement for said aide/monitor.

All transportation routes and aides/monitors must have prior approval from SED Office of Indigenous Education; individual student transportation time is limited to one hour unless approved by SED.

Note: All Attachments are included in Item 5.) Submission Documents.

Cost Proposal (Attachment A)

The completed Cost Proposal should be labeled **[name of bidder] Cost Proposal – IFB 98 and uploaded into the online form.**

The IFB will be scored based upon the grand total of the 5-year budget summary.

3.) Evaluation Criteria and Method of Award

This section begins with the criteria the agency will use to evaluate bids and closes with the “method of award,” or how the contractor will be selected. This will be followed by various terms and conditions that reflect the specific needs of this project as well as New York State contract guidelines and requirements.

Criteria for Evaluating Bids

All eligible proposals received by the deadline will be reviewed using the following criteria and ratings. Applicants must ensure that all components of this application request have been addressed, the required number of copies has been provided, all forms and assurances have been completed, and the original signatures are included as required.

An evaluation committee will complete a review of all proposals submitted. The committee will review each proposal based upon the submitted proposal and the requirements of the IFB only. Bidders should not assume that committee review members will be familiar with the current program or have any previous experience with the bidder. Appropriate description should be included to inform review committee members about the bidder’s qualifications and capacity to perform all required deliverables.

The committee will review each proposal to determine compliance with the requirements described in the IFB. NYSED retains the right to determine whether any deviation from the requirements of this IFB is substantial in nature and may reject in whole or in part any and all proposals, waive minor irregularities and conduct discussions with all responsible bidders.

The vendor must meet the Mandatory Requirements by submitting the required narrative statement and two references and by signing and returning the Mandatory Requirements Certification Form located in 5.) Submission Documents.

Financial Criteria

The lowest five-year aggregate cost on the Cost Proposal form (Attachment A) is the only financial criterion for awarding this contract.

Method of Award

NYSED will award the contract to the bidder providing the lowest cost among all qualified and responsible bidders that comply with all IFB requirements.

NYSED’s Reservation of Rights

NYSED reserves the right to: (1) reject any or all proposals received in response to the IFB; (2) withdraw the IFB at any time, at the agency’s sole discretion; (3) make an award under the IFB in whole or in part; (4) disqualify any bidder whose conduct and/or proposal fails to conform to the requirements of the IFB; (5) seek clarifications of proposals; (6) use proposal information obtained through site visits, management interviews and the state’s investigation of a bidder’s qualifications, experience, ability or financial standing, and any material or information submitted by the bidder in response to the agency’s request for clarifying information in the course of evaluation and/or selection under the IFB; (7) prior to the bid opening, amend the IFB specifications to correct errors or oversights, or to supply additional information, as it becomes available; (8) prior to the bid opening, direct bidders to submit proposal modifications addressing subsequent IFB amendments; (9) change any of the scheduled dates; (10)

waive any requirements that are not material; (11) negotiate with the successful bidder within the scope of the IFB in the best interests of the state; (12) conduct contract negotiations with the next responsible bidder, should the agency be unsuccessful in negotiating with the selected bidder; (13) utilize any and all ideas submitted in the proposals received; (14) unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, every offer is firm and not revocable for a period of 90 days from the bid opening; (15) require clarification at any time during the procurement process and/or require correction of arithmetic or other apparent errors for the purpose of assuring a full and complete understanding of an offerer's proposal and/or to determine an offerer's compliance with the requirements of the solicitation.

Post Selection Procedures

Upon selection, the successful bidder will receive a proposed contract from NYSED. The selected bidder may be given an opportunity to reduce its cost proposal in accordance with the agency's right to negotiate a final best price. The contents of this IFB, any subsequent correspondence during the proposal evaluation period, and such other stipulations as agreed upon may be made a part of the final contract prepared by NYSED. Successful bidders may be subject to audit and should ensure that adequate controls are in place to document the allowable activities and expenditure of State funds.

Debriefing Procedures

In accordance with section 163 of the NY State Finance Law, NYSED, upon request, must provide a debriefing to any unsuccessful bidder regarding the reasons their proposal was not selected for an award.

1. All unsuccessful bidders may request a debriefing within fifteen (15) calendar days of receiving notice from NYSED of non-award. Bidders may submit a request for debriefing through the [online form](#).
2. Upon receipt of a timely written request from the unsuccessful bidder, NYSED will schedule the debriefing to occur within a reasonable time following receipt of the request. Debriefings will be conducted in person, unless NYSED and the bidder mutually agree to utilize other means, including but not limited to telephone, video-conferencing or other types of electronic communication.
3. The debriefing will include: a) the reasons that the proposal submitted by the unsuccessful bidder was not selected for an award; b) the qualitative and quantitative analysis employed by NYSED in assessing the relative merits of the proposals; c) the application of the selection criteria to the unsuccessful bidder's proposal; and d) when the debriefing is held after the final award, the reasons for the selection of the winning proposal. The debriefing will also provide, to the greatest extent practicable, general advice and guidance to the unsuccessful bidder concerning potential ways that their future proposals could be more responsive.

Contract Award Protest Procedures

Bidders who receive a notice of non-award or disqualification may protest the NYSED award decision subject to the following:

1. The protest must be in writing and must contain specific factual and/or legal allegations setting forth the basis on which the protesting party challenges the contract award by NYSED.

2. The protest must be filed within ten (10) business days of receipt of a debriefing or disqualification letter. The protest letter must be filed with the Contract Administration Unit via [online form](#).
3. The NYSED Contract Administration Unit (CAU) will convene a review team that will include at least one staff member from each of NYSED's Office of Counsel, CAU, and the Program Office. The review team will review and consider the merits of the protest and will decide whether the protest is approved or denied. Counsel's Office will provide the bidder with written notification of the review team's decision within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the protest. The original protest and decision will be filed with OSC when the contract procurement record is submitted for approval and CAU will advise OSC that a protest was filed.
4. The NYSED Contract Administration Unit (CAU) may summarily deny a protest that fails to contain specific factual or legal allegations, or where the protest only raises issues of law that have already been decided by the courts.

Vendor Responsibility

State law requires that the award of state contracts be made to responsible vendors. Before an award is made to a not-for-profit entity, a for-profit entity, a private college or university or a public entity not exempted by the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC), NYSED must make an affirmative responsibility determination. The factors to be considered include legal authority to do business in New York State; integrity; capacity – both organizational and financial; and previous performance. Before an award of \$100,000 or greater can be made to a covered entity, the entity will be required to complete and submit a [Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire](#). School districts, Charter Schools, BOCES, public colleges and universities, public libraries, and the Research Foundation for SUNY and CUNY are some of the exempt entities. A [complete list of exempt entities](#) can be viewed at the Office of the State Comptroller's website.

NYSED recommends that vendors file the required Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire online via the New York State VendRep System. To enroll in and use the New York State VendRep System, see the [VendRep System Instructions](#) or go directly to the [VendRep System on the Office of the State Comptroller's website](#).

Vendors must provide their New York State Vendor Identification Number when enrolling. To request assignment of a Vendor ID or for VendRep System assistance, contact the [Office of the State Comptroller's Help Desk](#) at 866-370-4672 or 518-408-4672 or by email at ITServiceDesk@osc.ny.gov.

Vendors opting to complete and submit a paper questionnaire can obtain the appropriate questionnaire from the [VendRep website](#) or may contact NYSED or the Office of the State Comptroller's Help Desk for a copy of the paper form.

Subcontractors:

For vendors using subcontractors, a Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire and a NYSED vendor responsibility review are required for a subcontractor where:

- the subcontractor is known at the time of the contract award;
- the subcontractor is not an entity that is exempt from reporting to OSC; and
- the subcontract will equal or exceed \$100,000 over the life of the contract.

Note: Bidders must acknowledge their method of filing their questionnaire by checking the appropriate box on the Response Sheet for Bids (5. Submission Documents).

Procurement Lobbying Law

Pursuant to State Finance Law §§139-j and 139-k, this solicitation includes and imposes certain restrictions on communications between the New York State Education Department (“NYSED”) and an Offerer/bidder during the procurement process. An Offerer/bidder is restricted from making contacts from the earliest notice of the solicitation through final award and approval of the Procurement Contract by NYSED and, if applicable, Office of the State Comptroller (“restricted period”) to other than designated staff unless it is a contact that is included among certain statutory exceptions set forth in State Finance Law §139-j(3)(a). Designated staff, as of the date hereof, is identified below. NYSED employees are also required to obtain certain information when contacted during the restricted period and make a determination of the responsibility of the Offerer/bidder pursuant to these two statutes. Certain findings of non-responsibility can result in rejection for contract award and in the event of two findings within a four-year period, the Offerer/bidder is debarred from obtaining governmental Procurement Contracts. Further information about these requirements can be found at [NYSED's Procurement Lobbying Law Policy Guidelines webpage](#).

Designated Contacts for NYSED

Program Office – **Keri Willis**

Contract Administration Unit – **Thomas McBride**

Consultant Disclosure Legislation

Effective June 19, 2006, new reporting requirements became effective for State contractors, as the result of an amendment to State Finance Law §§ 8 and 163. As a result of these changes in law, State contractors will be required to disclose, by employment category, the number of persons employed to provide services under a contract for consulting services, the number of hours worked and the amount paid to the contractor by the State as compensation for work performed by these employees. This will include information on any persons working under any subcontracts with the State contractor.

Chapter 10 of the Laws of 2006 expands the definition of contracts for consulting services to include any contract entered into by a State agency for analysis, evaluation, research, training, data processing, computer programming, engineering, environmental, health, and mental health services, accounting, auditing, paralegal, legal, or similar services.

To enable compliance with the law, State agencies must include in the Procurement Record submitted to OSC for new consultant contracts, the State Consultant Services Contractor’s Planned Employment from Contract Start Date Through the End of the Contract Term (Form A). The completed form must include information for all employees providing service under the contract whether employed by the contractor or a subcontractor. Please note that the form captures the necessary planned employment information ***prospectively from the start date of the contract through the end of the contract term***.

[Form A](#) is available on OSC’s website.

Please note that although this form is not required as part of the bid submission, NYSED encourages bidders to include it in their bid submission to expedite contract execution if the bidder is awarded the contract. Note also that only the form listed above is acceptable.

Chapter 10 of the Laws of 2006 mandates that State agencies must now require State contractors to **report annually** on the employment information described above, including work performed by

subcontractors. The legislation mandates that the annual employment reports are to be submitted by the contractor to the contracting agency, to OSC and to the Department of Civil Service. State Consultant Services Contractor's Annual Employment Report (Form B) is to be used to report the information for all procurement contracts above \$15,000. Please note that, in contrast to the information to be included on Form A, which is a one-time report of planned employment data for the entire term of a consulting contract on a projected basis, ***Form B will be submitted each year the contract is in effect and will capture historical information, detailing actual employment data for the most recently concluded State fiscal year (April 1 – March 31).***

[Form B](#) is available on OSC's website.

For more information, please visit [OSC Guide to Financial Operations](#).

Public Officer's Law Section 73

All bidders must comply with Public Officer's Law Section 73 (4)(a), as follows:

4. (a) No statewide elected official, state officer or employee, member of the legislature, legislative employee or political party chairman or firm or association of which such person is a member, or corporation, ten per centum or more of the stock of which is owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such person, shall (i) sell any goods or services having a value in excess of twenty-five dollars to any state agency, or (ii) contract for or provide such goods or services with or to any private entity where the power to contract, appoint or retain on behalf of such private entity is exercised, directly or indirectly, by a state agency or officer thereof, unless such goods or services are provided pursuant to an award or contract let after public notice and competitive bidding. This paragraph shall not apply to the publication of resolutions, advertisements or other legal propositions or notices in newspapers designated pursuant to law for such purpose and for which the rates are fixed pursuant to law.

(i) The term "state officer or employee" shall mean:

(i) heads of state departments and their deputies and assistants other than members of the board of regents of the university of the state of New York who receive no compensation or are compensated on a per diem basis;

(ii) officers and employees of statewide elected officials;

(iii) officers and employees of state departments, boards, bureaus, divisions, commissions, councils or other state agencies other than officers of such boards, commissions or councils who receive no compensation or are compensated on a per diem basis; and

(iv) members or directors of public authorities, other than multistate authorities, public benefit corporations and commissions at least one of whose members is appointed by the governor, who receive compensation other than on a per diem basis, and employees of such authorities, corporations and commissions.

Review [Public Officer's Law Section 73](#).

NYSED Substitute Form W-9

Any payee/vendor/organization receiving Federal and/or State payments from NYSED must complete the NYSED Substitute Form W-9 if they are not yet registered in the Statewide Financial System centralized vendor file.

The NYS Education Department (NYSED) is using the NYSED Substitute Form W-9 to obtain certification of a vendor's Tax Identification Number in order to facilitate a vendor's registration with the

SFS centralized vendor file and to ensure accuracy of information contained therein. We ask for the information on the NYSED Substitute Form W-9 to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States.

Workers' Compensation Coverage

New York State Workers' Compensation Law (WCL) has specific coverage requirements for businesses contracting with New York State.

PROOF OF COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

Please note – an ACORD form is not acceptable proof of New York State workers' compensation or disability benefits insurance coverage.

Proof of Workers' Compensation Coverage

NYSED must ensure all awardees/contractors who are required to carry workers' compensation insurance have an active policy. NYSED must obtain **one** of the following forms before a contract can be approved:

- **Form C-105.2** – Certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance issued by private insurance carriers, or **Form U-26.3** issued by the State Insurance Fund; or
- **Form SI-12** – Certificate of Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance; or **Form GSI-105.2** Certificate of Participation in Workers' Compensation Group Self-Insurance; or
- **CE-200** – Certificate of Attestation of Exemption from NYS Workers' Compensation and/or Disability Benefits Coverage.

Proof of Disability and Paid Family Leave Benefits Coverage

NYSED must ensure all awardees/contractors who are required to carry Disability and Paid Family Leave benefits insurance have an active policy. NYSED must obtain **one** of the following forms before a contract can be approved:

- **Form DB-120.1** – Certificate of Disability Benefits Insurance; or
- **Form DB-155** – Certificate of Disability Benefits Self-Insurance; or
- **CE-200** – Certificate of Attestation of Exemption from New York State Workers' Compensation and/or Disability Benefits Coverage.

For additional information regarding workers' compensation and disability benefits requirements, please refer to the [New York State Workers' Compensation Board website](#).

Please note that although these forms are not required as part of the bid submissions, NYSED encourages bidders to include them in their bid submission to expedite contract execution if the bidder is awarded the contract. Note also that only the forms listed above are acceptable.

Sales and Compensating Use Tax Certification (Tax Law, § 5-a)

Tax Law § 5-a requires contractors awarded State contracts for commodities or services valued at more than \$100,000 over the full term of the contract to certify to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance ("DTF") that they are registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes, if they made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State

of tangible personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000, measured over a specific period of time. The registration requirement applies if the contractor made a cumulative total of more than \$300,000 in sales during the four completed sales tax quarters which immediately precede the sales tax quarter in which the certification is made. Sales tax quarters are June – August, September – November, December – February, and March – May. In addition, contractors must certify to DTF that each affiliate and subcontractor of such contractor exceeding such sales threshold during a specified period is registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes. Contractors must also certify to the procuring State entity that they filed the certification with the DTF and that it is correct and complete.

The selected bidder must file a properly completed Form ST-220-CA (with NYSED as the Contracting Agency) and Form ST-220-TD (with the DTF). These requirements must be met before a contract may take effect. Further information can be found at the [New York State Department of Taxation and Finance's website](#). Forms are available through these links:

- [ST-220 CA](#)
- [ST-220 TD](#)

Please note that although these forms are not required as part of the bid submissions, NYSED encourages bidders to include them with their bid submissions to expedite contract execution if the bidder is awarded the contract.

4.) **Assurances**

The State of New York Agreement, Appendix A (Standard Clauses for all New York State Contracts), Appendix A-1 (Agency-Specific Clauses), and Appendix R (Data Security and Privacy Plan Provisions) **WILL BE INCLUDED** in the contract that results from this IFB. Vendors who are unable to complete or abide by these assurances should not respond to this request.

The documents listed below are included in **5.) Submission Documents**, which must be signed by the Chief Administrative Officer. Please review the terms and conditions. Certain documents will become part of the resulting contract that will be executed between the successful bidder and the NYS Education Department.

1. Non-Collusion Certification
2. MacBride Certification
3. Certification-Omnibus Procurement Act of 1992
4. Certification Regarding Lobbying; Debarment and Suspension; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements
5. Offerer Disclosure of Prior Non-Responsibility Determinations
6. NYSED Substitute Form W-9 (If bidder is not yet registered in the SFS centralized vendor file.)
7. Iran Divestment Act Certification
8. Sexual Harassment Policy Certification
9. Certification Under Executive Order No. 16

STATE OF NEW YORK AGREEMENT

This AGREEMENT is hereby made by and between the People of the State of New York, acting through Dr. Betty A. Rosa, Commissioner of Education of the State of New York, party of the first part, hereinafter referred to as the (STATE) and the public or private agency (CONTRACTOR) identified on the face page hereof.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the STATE has the authority to regulate and provide funding for the establishment and operation of program services and desires to contract with skilled parties possessing the necessary resources to provide such services; and

WHEREAS, the CONTRACTOR is ready, willing and able to provide such program services and possesses or can make available all necessary qualified personnel, licenses, facilities and expertise to perform or have performed the services required pursuant to the terms of this AGREEMENT;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises, responsibilities and covenants herein, the STATE and the CONTRACTOR agree as follows:

I. Conditions of Agreement

A. This AGREEMENT may consist of successive periods (PERIOD), as specified within the AGREEMENT or within a subsequent Modification Agreement(s) (Appendix X). Each additional or superseding PERIOD shall be on the forms specified by the particular State agency and shall be incorporated into this AGREEMENT.

B. Funding for the first PERIOD shall not exceed the funding amount specified on the face page hereof. Funding for each subsequent PERIOD, if any, shall not exceed the amount specified in the appropriate appendix for that PERIOD.

C. This AGREEMENT incorporates the face pages attached and all of the marked appendices identified on the face page hereof.

D. For each succeeding PERIOD of this AGREEMENT, the parties shall prepare new appendices, to the extent that any require modification, and a Modification Agreement (The attached Appendix X is the blank form to be used). Any terms of this AGREEMENT not modified shall remain in effect for each PERIOD of the AGREEMENT.

To modify the AGREEMENT within an existing PERIOD, the parties shall revise or complete the appropriate appendix form(s). Any change in the amount of consideration to be paid, or change in the term, is subject to the approval of the Office of the State Comptroller. Any other modifications shall be processed in accordance with agency guidelines as stated in Appendix A1.

E. The CONTRACTOR shall perform all services to the satisfaction of the STATE. The CONTRACTOR shall provide services and meet the program objectives summarized in the Program

Workplan (Appendix D) in accordance with: provisions of the AGREEMENT; relevant laws, rules and regulations, administrative and fiscal guidelines; and where applicable, operating certificates for facilities or licenses for an activity or program.

F. If the CONTRACTOR enters into subcontracts for the performance of work pursuant to this AGREEMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall take full responsibility for the acts and omissions of its subcontractors. Nothing in the subcontract shall impair the rights of the STATE under this AGREEMENT. No contractual relationship shall be deemed to exist between the subcontractor and the STATE.

G. Appendix A (Standard Clauses as required by the Attorney General for all State contracts) takes precedence over all other parts of the AGREEMENT.

II. Payment and Reporting

A. The CONTRACTOR, to be eligible for payment, shall submit to the STATE's designated payment office (identified in Appendix C) any appropriate documentation as required by the Payment and Reporting Schedule (Appendix C) and by agency fiscal guidelines, in a manner acceptable to the STATE.

B. The STATE shall make payments and any reconciliations in accordance with the Payment and Reporting Schedule (Appendix C). The STATE shall pay the CONTRACTOR, in consideration of contract services for a given PERIOD, a sum not to exceed the amount noted on the face page hereof or in the respective Appendix designating the payment amount for that given PERIOD. This sum shall not duplicate reimbursement from other sources for CONTRACTOR costs and services provided pursuant to this AGREEMENT.

C. The CONTRACTOR shall meet the audit requirements specified by the STATE.

III. Terminations

A. This AGREEMENT may be terminated at any time upon mutual written consent of the STATE and the CONTRACTOR.

B. The STATE may terminate the AGREEMENT immediately, upon written notice of termination to the CONTRACTOR, if the CONTRACTOR fails to comply with the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT and/or with any laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures affecting this AGREEMENT.

C. The STATE may also terminate this AGREEMENT for any reason in accordance with provisions set forth in Appendix A1.

D. Written notice of termination, where required, shall be sent by personal messenger service or by certified mail, return receipt requested. The termination shall be effective in accordance with the terms of the notice.

E. Upon receipt of notice of termination, the CONTRACTOR agrees to cancel, prior to the effective date of any prospective termination, as many outstanding obligations as possible, and agrees not to incur any new obligations after receipt of the notice without approval by the STATE.

F. The STATE shall be responsible for payment on claims pursuant to services provided and costs incurred pursuant to terms of the AGREEMENT. In no event shall the STATE be liable for expenses and obligations arising from the program(s) in this AGREEMENT after the termination date.

IV. Indemnification

A. The CONTRACTOR shall be solely responsible and answerable in damages for any and all accidents and/or injuries to persons (including death) or property arising out of or related to the services to be rendered by the CONTRACTOR or its subcontractors pursuant to this AGREEMENT. The CONTRACTOR shall indemnify and hold harmless the STATE and its officers and employees from claims, suits, actions, damages and costs of every nature arising out of the provision of services pursuant to this AGREEMENT.

B. The CONTRACTOR is an independent contractor and may neither hold itself out nor claim to be an officer, employee or subdivision of the STATE nor make any claim, demand or application to or for any right based upon any different status.

V. Property

Any equipment, furniture, supplies or other property purchased pursuant to this AGREEMENT is deemed to be the property of the STATE except as may otherwise be governed by Federal or State laws, rules or regulations, or as stated in Appendix A1.

VI. Safeguards for Services and Confidentiality

A. Services performed pursuant to this AGREEMENT are secular in nature and shall be performed in a manner that does not discriminate on the basis of religious belief or promote or discourage adherence to religion in general or particular religious beliefs.

B. Funds provided pursuant to this AGREEMENT shall not be used for any partisan political activity, or for activities that may influence legislation or the election or defeat of any candidate for public office.

C. Information relating to individuals who may receive services pursuant to this AGREEMENT shall be maintained and used only for the purposes intended under the contract and in conformity with applicable provisions of laws and regulations, or specified in Appendix A1.

Appendix A
STANDARD CLAUSES FOR NYS
CONTRACTS

The parties to the attached contract, license, lease, amendment or other agreement of any kind (hereinafter, "the contract" or "this contract") agree to be bound by the following clauses which are hereby made a part of the contract (the word "Contractor" herein refers to any party other than the State, whether a contractor, licensor, licensee, lessor, lessee or any other party):

1. EXECUTORY CLAUSE. In accordance with Section 41 of the State Finance Law, the State shall have no liability under this contract to the Contractor or to anyone else beyond funds appropriated and available for this contract.

2. NON-ASSIGNMENT CLAUSE. In accordance with Section 138 of the State Finance Law, this contract may not be assigned by the Contractor or its right, title or interest therein assigned, transferred, conveyed, sublet or otherwise disposed of without the State's previous written consent, and attempts to do so are null and void. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such prior written consent of an assignment of a contract let pursuant to Article XI of the State Finance Law may be waived at the discretion of the contracting agency and with the concurrence of the State Comptroller where the original contract was subject to the State Comptroller's approval, where the assignment is due to a reorganization, merger or consolidation of the Contractor's business entity or enterprise. The State retains its right to approve an assignment and to require that any Contractor demonstrate its responsibility to do business with the State. The Contractor may, however, assign its right to receive payments without the State's prior written consent unless this contract concerns Certificates of Participation pursuant to Article 5-A of the State Finance Law.

3. COMPTROLLER'S APPROVAL. In accordance with Section 112 of the State Finance Law, if this contract exceeds \$50,000 (or \$75,000 for State University of New York or City University of New York contracts for goods, services, construction and printing, and \$150,000 for State University Health Care Facilities) or if this is an amendment for any amount to a contract which,

as so amended, exceeds said statutory amount, or if, by this contract, the State agrees to give something other than money when the value or reasonably estimated value of such consideration exceeds \$25,000, it shall not be valid, effective or binding upon the State until it has been approved by the State Comptroller and filed in his office. Comptroller's approval of contracts let by the Office of General Services, either for itself or its customer agencies by the Office of General Services Business Services Center, is required when such contracts exceed \$85,000. Comptroller's approval of contracts established as centralized contracts through the Office of General Services is required when such contracts exceed \$125,000, and when a purchase order or other procurement transaction issued under such centralized contract exceeds \$200,000.

4. WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS. In accordance with Section 142 of the State Finance Law, this contract shall be void and of no force and effect unless the Contractor shall provide and maintain coverage during the life of this contract for the benefit of such employees as are required to be covered by the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Law.

5. NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS. To the extent required by Article 15 of the Executive Law (also known as the Human Rights Law) and all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment, nor subject any individual to harassment, because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status, or domestic violence victim status or because the individual has opposed any practices forbidden under the Human Rights Law or has filed a complaint, testified, or assisted in any proceeding under the Human Rights Law. Furthermore, in accordance with Section 220-e of the Labor Law, if this is a contract for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work or for the manufacture, sale or distribution of materials, equipment or supplies, and to the extent that this contract shall be performed within the State of

New York, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall, by reason of race, creed, color, disability, sex, or national origin: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract. If this is a building service contract as defined in Section 230 of the Labor Law, then, in accordance with Section 239 thereof, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or disability: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract. Contractor is subject to fines of \$50.00 per person per day for any violation of Section 220-e or Section 239 as well as possible termination of this contract and forfeiture of all moneys due hereunder for a second or subsequent violation.

6. WAGE AND HOURS PROVISIONS. If this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law or a building service contract covered by Article 9 thereof, neither Contractor's employees nor the employees of its subcontractors may be required or permitted to work more than the number of hours or days stated in said statutes, except as otherwise provided in the Labor Law and as set forth in prevailing wage and supplement schedules issued by the State Labor Department. Furthermore, Contractor and its subcontractors must pay at least the prevailing wage rate and pay or provide the prevailing supplements, including the premium rates for overtime pay, as determined by the State Labor Department in accordance with the Labor Law. Additionally, effective April 28, 2008, if this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law, the Contractor understands and agrees that the filing of payrolls in a manner consistent with Subdivision 3-a of Section 220 of the Labor Law shall be a condition precedent to payment by the State of any State approved sums due and owing for work done upon the project.

7. NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATION. In accordance with Section

139-d of the State Finance Law, if this contract was awarded based upon the submission of bids, Contractor affirms, under penalty of perjury, that its bid was arrived at independently and without collusion aimed at restricting competition. Contractor further affirms that, at the time Contractor submitted its bid, an authorized and responsible person executed and delivered to the State a non-collusive bidding certification on Contractor's behalf.

8. INTERNATIONAL BOYCOTT PROHIBITION.

In accordance with Section 220-f of the Labor Law and Section 139-h of the State Finance Law, if this contract exceeds \$5,000, the Contractor agrees, as a material condition of the contract, that neither the Contractor nor any substantially owned or affiliated person, firm, partnership or corporation has participated, is participating, or shall participate in an international boycott in violation of the federal Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 USC App. Sections 2401 et seq.) or regulations thereunder. If such Contractor, or any of the aforesaid affiliates of Contractor, is convicted or is otherwise found to have violated said laws or regulations upon the final determination of the United States Commerce Department or any other appropriate agency of the United States subsequent to the contract's execution, such contract, amendment or modification thereto shall be rendered forfeit and void. The Contractor shall so notify the State Comptroller within five (5) business days of such conviction, determination or disposition of appeal (2 NYCRR § 105.4).

9. SET-OFF RIGHTS. The State shall have all of its common law, equitable and statutory rights of set-off. These rights shall include, but not be limited to, the State's option to withhold for the purposes of set-off any moneys due to the Contractor under this contract up to any amounts due and owing to the State with regard to this contract, any other contract with any State department or agency, including any contract for a term commencing prior to the term of this contract, plus any amounts due and owing to the State for any other reason including, without limitation, tax delinquencies, fee delinquencies or monetary penalties relative thereto. The State shall exercise its set-off rights in accordance with normal State practices including, in cases of set-

off pursuant to an audit, the finalization of such audit by the State agency, its representatives, or the State Comptroller.

10. RECORDS. The Contractor shall establish and maintain complete and accurate books, records, documents, accounts and other evidence directly pertinent to performance under this contract (hereinafter, collectively, the "Records"). The Records must be kept for the balance of the calendar year in which they were made and for six (6) additional years thereafter. The State Comptroller, the Attorney General and any other person or entity authorized to conduct an examination, as well as the agency or agencies involved in this contract, shall have access to the Records during normal business hours at an office of the Contractor within the State of New York or, if no such office is available, at a mutually agreeable and reasonable venue within the State, for the term specified above for the purposes of inspection, auditing and copying. The State shall take reasonable steps to protect from public disclosure any of the Records which are exempt from disclosure under Section 87 of the Public Officers Law (the "Statute") provided that: (i) the Contractor shall timely inform an appropriate State official, in writing, that said records should not be disclosed; and (ii) said records shall be sufficiently identified; and (iii) designation of said records as exempt under the Statute is reasonable. Nothing contained herein shall diminish, or in any way adversely affect, the State's right to discovery in any pending or future litigation.

11. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND PRIVACY NOTIFICATION. (a) Identification Number(s). Every invoice or New York State Claim for Payment submitted to a New York State agency by a payee, for payment for the sale of goods or services or for transactions (e.g., leases, easements, licenses, etc.) related to real or personal property must include the payee's identification number. The number is any or all of the following: (i) the payee's Federal employer identification number, (ii) the payee's Federal social security number, and/or (iii) the payee's Vendor Identification Number assigned by the Statewide Financial System. Failure to include such number or numbers may delay payment. Where the payee does not have such number or numbers, the payee, on its invoice or Claim for

Payment, must give the reason or reasons why the payee does not have such number or numbers.

(b) Privacy Notification. (1) The authority to request the above personal information from a seller of goods or services or a lessor of real or personal property, and the authority to maintain such information, is found in Section 5 of the State Tax Law. Disclosure of this information by the seller or lessor to the State is mandatory. The principal purpose for which the information is collected is to enable the State to identify individuals, businesses and others who have been delinquent in filing tax returns or may have understated their tax liabilities and to generally identify persons affected by the taxes administered by the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance. The information will be used for tax administration purposes and for any other purpose authorized by law. (2) The personal information is requested by the purchasing unit of the agency contracting to purchase the goods or services or lease the real or personal property covered by this contract or lease. The information is maintained in the Statewide Financial System by the Vendor Management Unit within the Bureau of State Expenditures, Office of the State Comptroller, 110 State Street, Albany, New York 12236.

12. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN. In accordance with Section 312 of the Executive Law and 5 NYCRR Part 143, if this contract is: (i) a written agreement or purchase order instrument, providing for a total expenditure in excess of \$25,000.00, whereby a contracting agency is committed to expend or does expend funds in return for labor, services, supplies, equipment, materials or any combination of the foregoing, to be performed for, or rendered or furnished to the contracting agency; or (ii) a written agreement in excess of \$100,000.00 whereby a contracting agency is committed to expend or does expend funds for the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or renovation of real property and improvements thereon; or (iii) a written agreement in excess of \$100,000.00 whereby the owner of a State assisted housing project is committed to expend or does expend funds for the acquisition, construction, demolition,

replacement, major repair or renovation of real property and improvements thereon for such project, then the following shall apply and by signing this agreement the Contractor certifies and affirms that it is Contractor's equal employment opportunity policy that:

(a) The Contractor will not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on State contracts and will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination. Affirmative action shall mean recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgradings, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation;

(b) at the request of the contracting agency, the Contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the Contractor's obligations herein; and

(c) the Contractor shall state, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.

Contractor will include the provisions of "(a), (b) and (c)" above, in every subcontract over \$25,000.00 for the construction, demolition, replacement, major repair, renovation, planning or design of real property and improvements thereon (the "Work") except where the Work is for the beneficial use of the Contractor. Section 312 does

not apply to: (i) work, goods or services unrelated to this contract; or (ii) employment outside New York State. The State shall consider compliance by a contractor or subcontractor with the requirements of any federal law concerning equal employment opportunity which effectuates the purpose of this clause. The contracting agency shall determine whether the imposition of the requirements of the provisions hereof duplicate or conflict with any such federal law and if such duplication or conflict exists, the contracting agency shall waive the applicability of Section 312 to the extent of such duplication or conflict. Contractor will comply with all duly promulgated and lawful rules and regulations of the Department of Economic Development's Division of Minority and Women's Business Development pertaining hereto.

13. CONFLICTING TERMS. In the event of a conflict between the terms of the contract (including any and all attachments thereto and amendments thereof) and the terms of this Appendix A, the terms of this Appendix A shall control.

14. GOVERNING LAW. This contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York except where the Federal supremacy clause requires otherwise.

15. LATE PAYMENT. Timeliness of payment and any interest to be paid to Contractor for late payment shall be governed by Article 11-A of the State Finance Law to the extent required by law.

16. NO ARBITRATION. Disputes involving this contract, including the breach or alleged breach thereof, may not be submitted to binding arbitration (except where statutorily authorized), but must, instead, be heard in a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of New York.

17. SERVICE OF PROCESS. In addition to the methods of service allowed by the State Civil Practice Law & Rules ("CPLR"), Contractor hereby consents to service of process upon it by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. Service hereunder shall be complete upon Contractor's actual receipt of process or upon the State's receipt of the return thereof by the United States Postal Service as refused or

undeliverable. Contractor must promptly notify the State, in writing, of each and every change of address to which service of process can be made. Service by the State to the last known address shall be sufficient. Contractor will have thirty (30) calendar days after service hereunder is complete in which to respond.

18. PROHIBITION ON PURCHASE OF TROPICAL HARDWOODS. The Contractor certifies and warrants that all wood products to be used under this contract award will be in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and provisions of Section 165 of the State Finance Law, (Use of Tropical Hardwoods) which prohibits purchase and use of tropical hardwoods, unless specifically exempted, by the State or any governmental agency or political subdivision or public benefit corporation. Qualification for an exemption under this law will be the responsibility of the contractor to establish to meet with the approval of the State.

In addition, when any portion of this contract involving the use of woods, whether supply or installation, is to be performed by any subcontractor, the prime Contractor will indicate and certify in the submitted bid proposal that the subcontractor has been informed and is in compliance with specifications and provisions regarding use of tropical hardwoods as detailed in § 165 State Finance Law. Any such use must meet with the approval of the State; otherwise, the bid may not be considered responsive. Under bidder certifications, proof of qualification for exemption will be the responsibility of the Contractor to meet with the approval of the State.

19. MACBRIDE FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRINCIPLES. In accordance with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles (Chapter 807 of the Laws of 1992), the Contractor hereby stipulates that the Contractor either (a) has no business operations in Northern Ireland, or (b) shall take lawful steps in good faith to conduct any business operations in Northern Ireland in accordance with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles (as described in Section 165 of the New York State Finance Law), and shall permit independent monitoring of compliance with such principles.

20. OMNIBUS PROCUREMENT ACT OF 1992.

It is the policy of New York State to maximize opportunities for the participation of New York State business enterprises, including minority- and women-owned business enterprises as bidders, subcontractors and suppliers on its procurement contracts.

Information on the availability of New York State subcontractors and suppliers is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development
Division for Small Business and Technology Development
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12245
Telephone: 518-292-5100

A directory of certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development
Division of Minority and Women's Business Development
633 Third Avenue 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017
646-846-7364
email: mwbusinessdev@esd.ny.gov
[NYS M/WBE Directory](#)

The Omnibus Procurement Act of 1992 (Chapter 844 of the Laws of 1992, codified in State Finance Law § 139-i and Public Authorities Law § 2879(3)(n)-(p)) requires that by signing this bid proposal or contract, as applicable, Contractors certify that whenever the total bid amount is greater than \$1 million:

(a) The Contractor has made reasonable efforts to encourage the participation of New York State Business Enterprises as suppliers and subcontractors, including certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises, on this project, and has retained the documentation of these efforts to be provided upon request to the State;

(b) The Contractor has complied with the Federal Equal Opportunity Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-261), as amended;

(c) The Contractor agrees to make reasonable efforts to provide notification to New York State residents of employment opportunities on this project through listing any such positions with the Job Service Division of the New York State Department of Labor, or providing such notification in such manner as is consistent with existing collective bargaining contracts or agreements. The Contractor agrees to document these efforts and to provide said documentation to the State upon request; and

(d) The Contractor acknowledges notice that the State may seek to obtain offset credits from foreign countries as a result of this contract and agrees to cooperate with the State in these efforts.

21. RECIPROCITY AND SANCTIONS PROVISIONS. Bidders are hereby notified that if their principal place of business is located in a country, nation, province, state or political subdivision that penalizes New York State vendors, and if the goods or services they offer will be substantially produced or performed outside New York State, the Omnibus Procurement Act 1994 and 2000 amendments (Chapter 684 and Chapter 383, respectively, codified in State Finance Law § 165(6) and Public Authorities Law § 2879(5)) require that they be denied contracts which they would otherwise obtain. NOTE: As of May 2023, the list of discriminatory jurisdictions subject to this provision includes the states of South Carolina, Alaska, West Virginia, Wyoming, Louisiana and Hawaii.

22. COMPLIANCE WITH BREACH NOTIFICATION AND DATA SECURITY LAWS. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the New York State Information Security Breach and Notification Act (General Business Law §§ 899-aa and 899-bb and State Technology Law § 208).

23. COMPLIANCE WITH CONSULTANT DISCLOSURE LAW. If this is a contract for consulting services, defined for purposes of this requirement to include analysis, evaluation, research, training, data processing, computer programming, engineering, environmental, health, and mental health services, accounting, auditing, paralegal, legal or similar services, then, in accordance with Section 163 (4)(g) of the State Finance Law (as amended by Chapter 10 of the

Laws of 2006), the Contractor shall timely, accurately and properly comply with the requirement to submit an annual employment report for the contract to the agency that awarded the contract, the Department of Civil Service and the State Comptroller.

24. PROCUREMENT LOBBYING. To the extent this agreement is a “procurement contract” as defined by State Finance Law §§ 139-j and 139-k, by signing this agreement the contractor certifies and affirms that all disclosures made in accordance with State Finance Law §§ 139-j and 139-k are complete, true and accurate. In the event such certification is found to be intentionally false or intentionally incomplete, the State may terminate the agreement by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

25. CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION TO COLLECT SALES AND COMPENSATING USE TAX BY CERTAIN STATE CONTRACTORS, AFFILIATES AND SUBCONTRACTORS.

To the extent this agreement is a contract as defined by Tax Law § 5-a, if the contractor fails to make the certification required by Tax Law § 5-a or if during the term of the contract, the Department of Taxation and Finance or the covered agency, as defined by Tax Law § 5-a, discovers that the certification, made under penalty of perjury, is false, then such failure to file or false certification shall be a material breach of this contract and this contract may be terminated, by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement, if the covered agency determines that such action is in the best interest of the State.

26. IRAN DIVESTMENT ACT. By entering into this Agreement, Contractor certifies in accordance with State Finance Law § 165-a that it is not on the “Entities Determined to be Non-Responsive Bidders/Offerers pursuant to the New York State Iran Divestment Act of 2012” ([“Prohibited Entities List”](#)).

Contractor further certifies that it will not utilize on this Contract any subcontractor that is identified on the Prohibited Entities List. Contractor agrees that should it seek to renew or extend this Contract, it must provide the same certification at

the time the Contract is renewed or extended. Contractor also agrees that any proposed Assignee of this Contract will be required to certify that it is not on the Prohibited Entities List before the contract assignment will be approved by the State.

During the term of the Contract, should the state agency receive information that a person (as defined in State Finance Law § 165-a) is in violation of the above-referenced certifications, the state agency will review such information and offer the person an opportunity to respond. If the person fails to demonstrate that it has ceased its engagement in the investment activity which is in violation of the Act within 90 days after the determination of such violation, then the state agency shall take such action as may be appropriate and provided for by law, rule, or contract, including, but not limited to, imposing sanctions, seeking compliance, recovering damages, or declaring the Contractor in default.

The state agency reserves the right to reject any bid, request for assignment, renewal or extension for an entity that appears on the Prohibited Entities List prior to the award, assignment, renewal or extension of a contract, and to pursue a responsibility review with respect to any entity that is awarded a contract and appears on the Prohibited Entities list after contract award.

27. ADMISSIBILITY OF REPRODUCTION OF CONTRACT. Notwithstanding the best evidence rule or any other legal principle or rule of evidence to the contrary, the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that it waives any and all objections to the admissibility into evidence at any court proceeding or to the use at any examination before trial of an electronic reproduction of this contract, in the form approved by the State Comptroller, if such approval was required, regardless of whether the original of said contract is in existence.

(June 2023)

APPENDIX A-1 AGENCY-SPECIFIC CLAUSES

Payment and Reporting

- A. In the event that Contractor shall receive, from any source whatsoever, sums the payment of which is in consideration for the same costs and services provided to the State, the monetary obligation of the State hereunder shall be reduced by an equivalent amount provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall require such reimbursement where additional similar services are provided and no duplicative payments are received.
- B. For each individual for whom costs are claimed under this agreement, the contractor warrants that the individual has been classified as an employee or as an independent contractor in accordance with 2 NYCRR 315 and all applicable laws including, but not limited to, the Internal Revenue Code, the New York Retirement and Social Security Law, the New York Education Law, the New York Labor Law, and the New York Tax Law. Furthermore, the contractor warrants that all project funds allocated to the proposed budget for Employee Benefits, represent costs for employees of the contractor only and that such funds will not be expended on any individual classified as an independent contractor.

Terminations

- A. The State may terminate this Agreement without cause by thirty (30) days prior written notice. In the event of such termination, the parties will adjust the accounts due and the Contractor will undertake no additional expenditures not already required. Upon any such termination, the parties shall endeavor in an orderly manner to wind down activities hereunder.
- B. SED reserves the right to terminate this Agreement in the event it is found that the certification by the Contractor in accordance with New York State Finance Law §139-k was intentionally false or intentionally incomplete. Upon such finding, SED may exercise its termination right by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the written notification terms of this Agreement.

Responsibility Provisions

- A. General Responsibility Language
The Contractor shall at all times during the Contract term remain responsible. The Contractor agrees, if requested by the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee, to present evidence of its continuing legal authority to do business in New York State, integrity, experience, ability, prior performance, and organizational and financial capacity.
- B. Suspension of Work (for Non-Responsibility)
The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee, in his or her sole discretion, reserves the right to suspend any or all activities under this Contract, at any time, when he or she discovers information that calls into question the responsibility of the Contractor. In the event of such suspension, the Contractor will be given written notice outlining the particulars of such suspension. Upon issuance of such notice, the Contractor must comply with the terms of the suspension order. Contract activity may resume at such time as the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee issues a written notice authorizing a resumption of performance under the Contract.

C. Termination (for Non-Responsibility)

Upon written notice to the Contractor, and a reasonable opportunity to be heard with appropriate SED officials or staff, the Contract may be terminated by the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee at the Contractor's expense where the Contractor is determined by the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee to be non-responsible. In such event, the Commissioner or his or her designee may complete the contractual requirements in any manner he or she may deem advisable and pursue available legal or equitable remedies for breach.

Property

- A. The Contractor shall maintain a complete inventory of all realty, equipment and other non-expendable assets including, but not limited to, books, paintings, artifacts, rare coins, antiques and other collectible items purchased, improved or developed under this agreement.

Inventories for non-expendable assets must be submitted with the final expenditure report. In addition to or as part of whatever rights the State may have with respect to the inspection of the Contractor, the State shall have the right to inspect the inventory without notice to the Contractor.

The Contractor shall not at any time sell, trade, convey or otherwise dispose of any non-expendable assets having a market value in excess of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) at the time of the desired disposition without the express permission of the State. The Contractor may seek permission in writing by certified mail to the State.

The Contractor shall not at any time use or allow to be used any non-expendable assets in a manner inconsistent with the purposes of this agreement.

- B. If the Contractor wishes to continue to use any of the non-expendable assets purchased with the funds available under this agreement upon the termination of this agreement, it shall request permission from the State in writing for such continued use within twenty-five (25) days of the termination of this agreement. The Contractor's request shall itemize the non-expendable assets for which continued use is sought. The State may accept, reject or accept in part such request. If the request for continued use is allowed to any degree, it shall be conditioned upon the fact that said equipment shall continue to be used in accordance with the purposes of this agreement.

If after the State grants permission to the Contractor for "continued use" as set forth above the non-expendable assets are not used in accordance with the purposes of this agreement, the State in its discretion may elect to take title to such assets and may assert its right to possession upon thirty (30) days prior written notice by certified mail to the Contractor. The State upon obtaining such non-expendable assets may arrange for their further use in the public interest as it in its discretion may decide.

- C. Upon termination of this agreement, the State in its discretion may elect to take title and may assert its right to possession of any non-expendable assets upon thirty (30) days prior written notice by certified mail to the Contractor. The State's option to elect to take title shall be triggered by the termination of this agreement or by the State's rejection of continued use of non-expendable assets by the Contractor as set forth herein. The State upon obtaining such non-expendable assets may arrange for their further use in the public interest as it in its discretion may decide.
- D. The terms and conditions set forth herein regarding non-expendable assets shall survive the expiration or termination, for whatever reason, of this agreement.

Safeguards for Services and Confidentiality

- A. Any copyrightable work produced pursuant to said agreement shall be the sole and exclusive property of the New York State Education Department. The material prepared under the terms of this agreement by the Contractor shall be prepared by the Contractor in a form so that it will be ready for copyright in the name of the New York State Education Department. Should the Contractor use the services of consultants or other organizations or individuals who are not regular employees of the Contractor, the Contractor and such organization or individual shall, prior to the performance of any work pursuant to this agreement, enter into a written agreement, duly executed, which shall set forth the services to be provided by such organization or individual and the consideration therefor. Such agreement shall provide that any copyrightable work produced pursuant to said agreement shall be the sole and exclusive property of the New York State Education Department and that such work shall be prepared in a form ready for copyright by the New York State Education Department. A copy of such agreement shall be provided to the State.
- B. Required Web Accessibility of Delivered Documents and Applications. If applicable, all documentation, applications development, or programming delivered pursuant to the contract or procurement, will comply with New York State Education Department IT Policy NYSED-WEBACC-001, Web Accessibility Policy, which requires that documents, web-based information and applications are accessible to persons with disabilities. All delivered documentation and applications must conform to NYSED-WEBACC-001 as determined by quality assurance testing. Such quality assurance testing will be conducted by NYSED employee or contractor and the results of such testing must be satisfactory to NYSED before documents and applications will be considered a qualified deliverable under the contract or procurement.
- C. All reports of research, studies, publications, workshops, announcements, and other activities funded as a result of this proposal will acknowledge the support provided by the State of New York.
- D. This agreement cannot be modified, amended, or otherwise changed except by a writing signed by all parties to this contract.
- E. No failure to assert any rights or remedies available to the State under this agreement shall be considered a waiver of such right or remedy or any other right or remedy unless such waiver is contained in a writing signed by the party alleged to have waived its right or remedy.
- F. Expenses for travel, lodging, and subsistence shall be reimbursed at the per diem rate in effect at the time for New York State Management/Confidential employees.
- G. No fees shall be charged by the Contractor for training provided under this agreement.
- H. Partisan Political Activity and Lobbying. Funds provided pursuant to this Agreement shall not be used for any partisan political activity or for activities that may influence legislation or the election or defeat of any candidate for public office.
- I. Nothing herein shall require the State to adopt the curriculum developed pursuant to this agreement.
- J. This agreement, including all appendices, is, upon signature of the parties and the approval of the Attorney General and the State Comptroller, a legally enforceable contract. Therefore, a signature on behalf of the Contractor will bind the Contractor to all the terms and conditions stated therein.

The parties to this agreement intend the foregoing writing to be the final, complete, and exclusive expression of all the terms of their agreement.

Certifications

- A. Contractor certifies that it has met the disclosure requirements of State Finance Law §139-k and that all information provided to the State Education Department with respect to State Finance Law §139-k is complete, true and accurate.
- B. Contractor certifies that it has not knowingly and willfully violated the prohibitions against impermissible contacts found in State Finance Law §139-j.
- C. Contractor certifies that no governmental entity has made a finding of non-responsibility regarding the Contractor in the previous four years.
- D. Contractor certifies that no governmental entity or other governmental agency has terminated or withheld a procurement contract with the Contractor due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information.
- E. Contractor affirms that it understands and agrees to comply with the procedures of the STATE relative to permissible contacts as required by State Finance Law §139-j (3) and §139-j (6)(b).
- F. Contractor certifies that it is in compliance with NYS Public Officers Law, including but not limited to, §73(4)(a).

Notices

Any written notice or delivery under any provision of this AGREEMENT shall be deemed to have been properly made if sent by certified mail, return receipt requested to the address(es) set forth in this Agreement, except as such address(es) may be changed by notice in writing. Notice shall be considered to have been provided as of the date of receipt of the notice by the receiving party.

Miscellaneous

- A. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the New York State Information Security Breach and Notification Act (General Business Law Section 899-aa; State Technology Law Section 208). Contractor shall be liable for the costs associated with such breach if caused by Contractor's negligent or willful acts or omissions, or the negligent or willful acts or omissions of Contractor's agents, officers, employees or subcontractors.
- B. If required by the Office of State Comptroller ("OSC") Bulletin G-226 and State Finance Law §§ 8 and 163, Contractor agrees to submit an initial planned employment data report on Form A and an annual employment report on Form B. State will furnish Form A and Form B to Contractor if required.
- C. The initial planned employment report must be submitted at the time of approval of this Agreement. The annual employment report on Form B is due by May 15th of each year and covers actual employment data performed during the prior period of April 1st to March 31st. Copies of the report will be submitted to the NYS Education Department, OSC and the NYS Department of Civil Service at the addresses below.

By mail: NYS Office of the State Comptroller
Bureau of Contracts
110 State Street, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12236
Attn: Consultant Reporting
By fax: (518) 474-8030 or (518) 473-8808

Reports to DCS are to be transmitted as follows:

By mail: NYS Department of Civil Service
Office of Counsel
Alfred E. Smith Office Building
Albany, NY 12239

Reports to NYSED are to be transmitted as follows:

By mail: NYS Education Department
Contract Administration Unit
Room 505 W EB
Albany, NY 12234
By fax: (518) 408-1716

- C. Consultant Staff Changes. If this is a contract for consulting services, Contractor will maintain continuity of the consultant team staff throughout the course of the contract. All changes in staff will be subject to STATE approval. The replacement consultant(s) with comparable skills will be provided at the same or lower hourly rate.
- D. Order of Precedence. In the event of any discrepancy, disagreement, conflict or ambiguity between the various documents, attachments and appendices comprising this contract, they shall be given preference in the following order to resolve any such discrepancy, disagreement, conflict or ambiguity:
1. Appendix A - Standard Clauses for all State Contracts
 2. State of New York Agreement
 3. Appendix A-1 - Agency Specific Clauses
 4. Appendix X - Sample Modification Agreement Form (where applicable)
 5. Appendix A-3 - Minority/Women-owned Business Enterprise Requirements (where applicable)
 6. Appendix B - Budget
 7. Appendix C - Payment and Reporting Schedule
 8. Appendix R – Security and Privacy Mandates (where applicable)
 9. Appendix D - Program WorkPlan

Revised 5/23/22

Appendix R

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S DATA PRIVACY APPENDIX

ARTICLE I: DEFINITIONS

As used in this Data Privacy Appendix ("DPA"), the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. **Access:** The ability to view or otherwise obtain, but not copy or save, Student Data and/or APPR Data arising from the on-site use of an information system or from a personal meeting.
2. **APPR Data:** Personally Identifiable Information from the records of an Educational Agency relating to the annual professional performance reviews of classroom teachers or principals that is confidential and not subject to release under the provisions of Education Law §§ 3012-c and 3012-d.
3. **Breach:** The unauthorized Access, acquisition, Disclosure or use of Student Data or APPR Data that is (a) accomplished in a manner not permitted by New York State and federal laws, rules, and regulations, or in a manner that compromises its security or privacy, (b) executed by or provided to a person not authorized to acquire, access, use, or receive it, or (c) a Breach of Contractor's or Subcontractor's security that leads to the accidental or unlawful alteration, destruction, loss of, Access to or Disclosure of Student Data or APPR Data.
4. **Commercial or Marketing Purpose:** The Disclosure, sale, or use of Student Data for the purpose of directly or indirectly receiving remuneration, including the Disclosure, sale, or use of Student Data for advertising purposes, or the Disclosure, sale, or use of Student Data to develop, improve, or market products or services to Students.
5. **Disclose or Disclosure:** The intentional or unintentional communication, release, or transfer of Student Data and/or APPR Data by any means, including oral, written, or electronic.
6. **Education Record:** An education record as defined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and its implementing regulations, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and 34 C.F.R. Part 99, respectively.
7. **Educational Agency:** As defined in Education Law § 2-d, a school district, board of cooperative educational services, school, or the New York State Education Department ("NYSED").
8. **Eligible Student:** A Student who is eighteen years of age or older.
9. **Encrypt or Encryption:** As defined in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 Security Rule at 45 CFR § 164.304, encrypt means the use of an algorithmic process to transform Personally Identifiable Information into an

unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable form in which there is a low probability of assigning meaning without use of a confidential process or key.

- 10. Information:** Student Data and APPR Data from an Educational Agency that is Disclosed or made available to the Contractor pursuant to this contract with NYSED to which this DPA is attached and incorporated.
- 11. NIST Cybersecurity Framework:** The U.S. Department of Commerce National Institute for Standards and Technology Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity Version 1.1.
- 12. Parent:** A parent, legal guardian, or person in parental relation to the Student.
- 13. Personally Identifiable Information (PII):** Personally Identifiable Information, as defined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and its implementing regulations, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and 34 C.F.R. Part 99, (§ 99.3), and Teacher or Principal APPR Data.
- 14. Release:** Shall have the same meaning as Disclose.
- 15. School:** As defined in Education Law § 2-d, any (a) public elementary or secondary school, including a charter school; (b) universal pre-kindergarten program authorized pursuant to Education Law § 3602-e; (c) an approved provider of preschool special education; (d) any other publicly funded pre-kindergarten program; (e) a school serving children in a special act school district as defined in Education Law § 4001; (f) an approved private school for the education of students with disabilities; (g) a State-supported school subject to the provisions of Article 85 of the Education Law; or (h) a State-operated school subject to the provisions of Articles 87 or 88 of the Education Law.
- 16. Services:** Services provided by Contractor pursuant to this contract with NYSED to which this DPA is attached and incorporated.
- 17. Student:** Any person attending or seeking to enroll in an Educational Agency.
- 18. Student Records:** An education record as defined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and its implementing regulations, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and 34 C.F.R. Part 99, respectively.
- 19. Student Data:** PII from Student Records of an Educational Agency and PII regarding a Student provided to the Contractor by the Student or the Student's Parent.
- 20. Subcontractor:** Contractor's non-employee agents, consultants, volunteers, including student interns, and/or any natural person or entity funded through this contract who is engaged in the provision of Services pursuant to an agreement with or at the direction of the Contractor.

ARTICLE II: PRIVACY AND SECURITY OF INFORMATION

1. Compliance with Law.

When providing Services pursuant to this contract, Contractor may have Access to or receive Disclosure of Information that is regulated by one or more New York and/or federal laws and regulations, among them, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and

Privacy Act ("FERPA") at 12 U.S.C. § 1232g (34 CFR Part 99); Children's Online Privacy Protection Act ("COPPA") at 15 U.S.C. §§ 6501-6502 (16 CFR Part 312); Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment ("PPRA") at 20 U.S.C. § 1232h (34 CFR Part 98); the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA") at 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq. (34 CFR Part 300); New York Education Law § 2-d; and the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education at 8 NYCRR Part 121. Contractor agrees to maintain the confidentiality and security of Information in accordance with (a) applicable New York, federal and local laws, rules, and regulations, and (b) NYSED's Data Privacy and Security Policy. Contractor further agrees that neither the Services provided nor the manner in which such Services are provided shall violate New York, federal and/or local laws, rules, and regulations, or NYSED's Data Privacy and Security Policy.

2. Authorized Use.

Contractor agrees and understands that Contractor has no property, licensing, or ownership rights or claims to Information Accessed by or Disclosed to Contractor for the purpose of providing Services, and Contractor shall not use such Information for any purpose other than to provide the Services. Contractor will ensure that its Subcontractors agree and understand that neither the Subcontractor nor Contractor has any property, licensing or ownership rights or claims to Information Accessed by or Disclosed to Subcontractor for the purpose of assisting Contractor in providing Services.

3. Contractor's Data Privacy and Security Plan.

Contractor shall adopt and maintain administrative, technical, and physical safeguards, measures, and controls to manage privacy and security risks and protect Information in a manner that complies with New York State, federal and local laws, rules, and regulations, and the NYSED policies. Education Law § 2-d requires that Contractor provide NYSED with a Data Privacy and Security Plan that outlines the safeguards, measures, and controls, that the Contractor will employ, including how the Contractor will implement such safeguards, measures, and controls, to comply with (a) the terms of this DPA, (b) all applicable state, federal and local data privacy and security requirements, (c) the parents bill of rights for data privacy and security that is attached hereto and incorporated herein as DPA Exhibit 2, and (d) applicable NYSED policies. Contractor's Data Privacy and Security Plan is attached to and incorporated in this DPA as Exhibit 1.

4. NYSED's Data Privacy and Security Policy

State law and regulation require NYSED to adopt a data privacy and security policy that complies with Part 121 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and aligns with the NIST Cyber Security Framework. Contractor shall comply with NYSED's Data Privacy and Security Policy located at <http://www.nysed.gov/data-privacy-security/nysed-data-privacy-and-security-policy> and other applicable NYSED

policies and agrees to contractually require its Subcontractors to comply with NYSED's Data Privacy and Security Policy.

5. Right of Review and Audit.

Upon NYSED's request, Contractor shall provide NYSED with copies of its policies and related procedures that pertain to the protection of Information. In addition, NYSED may require Contractor to undergo an audit of its privacy and security safeguards, measures, and controls as they pertain to alignment with the requirements of New York State laws and regulations, NYSED's policies applicable to Contractor, and alignment with the NIST Cybersecurity Framework. Any audit required by NYSED must be performed by an independent third party at Contractor's expense and the audit report must be provided to NYSED. In lieu of being subject to a required audit, Contractor may provide NYSED with an industry standard independent audit report of Contractor's privacy and security practices that was issued no more than twelve months before the date that NYSED informed Contractor that it required Contractor to undergo an audit.

6. Contractor's Employees and Subcontractors.

- (a) Access to or Disclosure of Information shall only be provided to Contractor's employees and Subcontractors who need to know the Information to provide the Services and such Access and/or Disclosure of Information shall be limited to the extent necessary to provide such Services. Contractor shall ensure that all such employees and Subcontractors comply with the terms of this DPA.
- (b) Contractor must ensure that each Subcontractor performing Services where the Subcontractor will have Access to and/or receive Disclosed Information is contractually bound by a written agreement that includes confidentiality and data security obligations equivalent to, consistent with, and no less protective than, those found in this DPA.
- (c) Contractor shall examine the data privacy and security measures of its Subcontractors. If at any point a Subcontractor fails to materially comply with the requirements of this DPA, Contractor shall: (i) notify NYSED, (ii) as applicable, remove such Subcontractor's Access to Information; and (iii) as applicable, retrieve all Information received or stored by such Subcontractor and/or ensure that Information has been securely deleted or securely destroyed in accordance with this DPA. In the event there is an incident in which Information held, possessed, or stored by the Subcontractor is compromised, unlawfully Accessed, or unlawfully Disclosed, Contractor shall follow the Data Breach reporting requirements set forth in Section 11 of this DPA.
- (d) Contractor shall take full responsibility for the acts and omissions of its employees and Subcontractors.

- (e) Other than Contractor's employees and Subcontractors who have a need to know the Information, Contractor must not provide Access to or Disclose Information to any other party unless such Disclosure is required by statute, court order or subpoena, and Contractor notifies NYSED of the court order or subpoena no later than the time the Information is Disclosed, unless such Disclosure to NYSED is expressly prohibited by the statute, court order or subpoena. Notification shall be made in accordance with the Notice provisions of this contract and shall also be provided to the Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, NYS Education Department, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12234.
- (f) Contractor shall ensure that its Subcontractors know that they cannot provide Access to or Disclose Information to any other party unless such Access or Disclosure is required by statute, court order or subpoena. If a Subcontractor is required to provide Access to or Disclose Information pursuant to a court order or subpoena, the Subcontractor shall, unless prohibited by statute, court order or subpoena, notify Contractor no later than two (2) days before any Information is Accessed or Disclosed. Upon receipt of notice from a Subcontractor, Contractor shall provide notice to NYSED no later than the time that the Subcontractor is scheduled to provide Access or Disclose the Information.

7. Training.

Contractor shall ensure that all its employees and Subcontractors who have Access to or will receive Information will be trained on the federal and state laws governing confidentiality of such Information prior to receipt.

8. Data Return and Destruction of Data.

- (a) Contractor is prohibited from retaining Disclosed Information or continuing to Access Information, including any copy, summary, or extract of Information, on any storage medium (including, without limitation, hard copies and storage in secure data centers and/or cloud-based facilities) beyond the term of this contract unless such retention is expressly authorized for a prescribed period by this contract, necessary for purposes of facilitating the transfer of Disclosed Information to NYSED, or expressly required by law. As applicable, upon expiration or termination of this contract, Contractor shall transfer the Disclosed Information to NYSED in a format and manner agreed to by the Parties.
- (b) When the purpose that necessitated Contractor's Access to and/or Disclosure of Information has been completed or Contractor's authority to have Access to Information or retain Disclosed Information has expired, Contractor shall ensure that, as applicable, (1) all privileges providing Access to Information are revoked, and (2) all Information (including without

limitation, all hard copies, archived copies, electronic versions, electronic imaging of hard copies) retained by Contractor or its Subcontractors and/or all Information maintained on behalf of Contractor or its Subcontractors in a secure data center and/or cloud-based facilities is securely deleted and/or destroyed in a manner that does not allow it to be retrieved or retrievable, read or reconstructed. Hard copy media must be shredded or destroyed such that Information cannot be read, or otherwise reconstructed, and electronic media must be cleared, purged, or destroyed such that the Information cannot be retrieved. Only the destruction of paper Information, and not redaction, will satisfy the requirements for data destruction. Redaction is specifically excluded as a means of data destruction.

- (c) Contractor shall provide NYSED with a written certification of, as applicable, (1) revocation of Access to Information granted by Contractor and/or its Subcontractors, and (2) the secure deletion and/or secure destruction of Information held by the Contractor or Subcontractors to the contract at the address for notifications set forth in this contract.
- (d) To the extent that Contractor and/or its Subcontractors continue to be in possession of any de-identified data (i.e., data that has had all direct and indirect identifiers removed), Contractor agrees that it will not attempt to re-identify de-identified data and/or transfer de-identified data to any person or entity, except as provided in subsection (a) of this section and that it will contractually prohibit its Subcontractors from the same.

9. Commercial or Marketing Use Prohibition.

Contractor agrees that it will not sell, use, or Disclose Student Data for a Commercial or Marketing Purpose and that it will contractually prohibit its Subcontractors from the same.

10. Encryption.

Contractor shall use industry standard security measures including encryption protocols that comply with New York law and regulations to preserve and protect Information. Contractor must encrypt Information at rest and in transit in accordance with applicable New York laws and regulations.

11. Breach.

Contractor shall promptly notify NYSED of any Breach of Information, regardless of whether Contractor or a Subcontractor suffered the Breach, without delay and in the most expedient way possible, but in no circumstance later than seven (7) calendar days after discovery of the Breach. Notifications shall be made in accordance with the notice provisions of this contract and shall also be provided to the office of the Chief Privacy Officer, NYS Education Department 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12234, and must, include a description of the Breach which includes the date of

the incident and the date of discovery, the types of Information affected, and the number of records affected; a description of Contractor's investigation; and the name of a point of contact. Violations of the requirement to notify NYSED shall be subject to a civil penalty pursuant to Education Law § 2-d. The Breach of certain Information protected by Education Law § 2-d may subject the Contractor to additional penalties.

12. Cooperation with Investigations.

Contractor and its Subcontractors will cooperate with NYSED, and law enforcement where necessary, in any investigations into a Breach. Any costs incidental to the required cooperation or participation of the Contractor will be the sole responsibility of the Contractor if such Breach is attributable to Contractor or its Subcontractors.

13. Notification to Individuals.

Where a Breach of Information occurs that is attributable to Contractor and/or its Subcontractors, Contractor shall pay for or promptly reimburse NYSED the full cost of NYSED's notification to Parents, Eligible Students, teachers, and/or principals, in accordance with Education Law § 2-d and 8 NYCRR Part 121. NYSED will be reimbursed by Contractor within 30 days of a demand for payment under this section.

14. Termination.

The confidentiality and data security obligations of Contractor under this DPA shall survive any termination of this contract to which this DPA is attached but shall terminate upon Contractor's certifying that it and its' Subcontractors, as applicable (a) no longer have the ability to Access any Information provided to Contractor pursuant to this contract to which this DPA is attached and/or (b) that Contractor and its' Subcontractors have destroyed all Disclosed Information provided to Contractor pursuant to this contract to which this DPA is attached.

ARTICLE III: PARENT AND ELIGIBLE STUDENT PROVISIONS

1. Parent and Eligible Student Access.

Education Law § 2-d and FERPA provide Parents and Eligible Students the right to inspect and review their child's or the Eligible Student's Student Data stored or maintained by NYSED. To the extent Student Data is held by Contractor pursuant to the Contract, Contractor shall respond within thirty (30) calendar days to NYSED's requests for access to Student Data necessary for NYSED to facilitate such inspection and review by a Parent or Eligible Student, and shall facilitate corrections, as necessary. If a Parent or Eligible Student contacts Contractor or a Subcontractor directly to review any of the Student Data held by Contractor or a Subcontractor pursuant to the Contract, Contractor shall refer the Parent or Eligible Student to NYSED and notify NYSED.

2. Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security.

As required by Education Law § 2-d, the Parents Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security and the Supplemental Information for this contract is attached to and incorporated in this DPA as Exhibit 2 Contractor understands and agrees that, as an agreement with a third-party contractor who will receive Access to and/or Disclosure of Student Data, Education Law § 2-d requires NYSED to post Exhibit 2 to its website.

EXHIBIT 1 - Contractor's Data Privacy and Security Plan

Pursuant to Education Law § 2-d and § 121.6 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, NYSED is required to ensure that all contracts with a third-party contractor that has Access to or receives Information include a Data Privacy and Security Plan. For every contract, the Contractor must complete the following or provide a plan that materially addresses its requirements, including alignment with the NIST Cybersecurity Framework, which is the standard for educational agency data privacy and security policies in New York state. **While this plan is not required to be posted to NYSED's website, contractors should nevertheless ensure that they do not include information that could compromise the security of their data and data systems.**

1. Contractor Name:
2. Outline how you will implement the data privacy requirements of this Contract.
3. Outline how you will implement the security requirements of this Contract by specifying the administrative, operational, and technical safeguards and practices that you have in place to protect the information provided to you under this Contract.
 - (a) Explain how your Data Privacy and Security Policy aligns with the NIST CSF and [NYSED's Data Privacy and Security Policy](#).
4. Address the training received by your employees and any Subcontractors engaged in the provision of services under the Contract on the federal and state laws that govern privacy and the confidentiality of Information.
5. Outline how you will ensure that your employees and any Subcontractors are bound by written agreement to the requirements of this contract.
6. Specify how you will manage any data privacy and security incidents that implicate Information, including a description of the plans you have in place to identify data Breaches, unauthorized Access to Information and unauthorized Disclosure of Information, to meet your obligation to report such incidents to the NYSED.

7. Describe your activities upon the expiration of the Contract as they relate to:

(a) notifying NYSED of its right to have the Disclosed Information and any data created using the Disclosed Information transitioned to NYSED and the process of transitioning that data to NYSED;

(b) your secure destruction practices and how you will certify to NYSED that all Access to Disclosed Information and, if applicable any data created or generated using the Disclosed Information has been revoked by you and, as applicable, your Subcontractors, and

(c) that all Disclosed Information, and if applicable any data created or generated using the Disclosed Information has been securely destroyed by you and your Subcontractors.

8. Describe your use of Generative AI, if any, to fulfill your obligations under the Contract.

(a) Is Generative AI being used to fulfill your obligations under the Contract? If yes, describe how generative AI is being used.

i) what are your procedures for maintaining the confidentiality of NYSED data provided to you pursuant to the Contract;

ii) please explain how the generative AI is trained, without the inclusion of NYSED data so that it can evolve;

iii) please explain your procedures for clients and customers to report AI bias and hallucinations;

iv) please explain your procedures for correcting hallucinations; and

v) please explain how you mitigate AI bias.

(b) If no, describe any plans to incorporate generative AI into the provision of service pursuant to the Contract.

9. Are cloud services being utilized to fulfill your obligations under this Contract?

(a) If yes, describe what cloud services (i.e. AWS; Azure; Google) and how you plan to maintain the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of Disclosed Information provided to you pursuant to the Contract.

i) Provide an overview of the Cloud Service Provider's (CSP) Disaster Recovery (DR) Process (All agreements should establish terms for DR, and the CSP must demonstrate its ability to fulfill the terms.)

ii) Provide an overview of the Cloud Service Provider's (CSP) Access Control Policy (Required identity and access management policies, practices, and technologies to ensure authorization, secure authentication, role-based access, auditable access, and timely access termination.)

iii) Provide an overview of the Cloud Service Provider's (CSP) Data Protection Policy (A documented baseline of security configurations implemented that demonstrates annual testing of the same.)

(b) If no, describe any plans to use cloud services to fulfill your obligations under this Contract.

EXHIBIT 2 - Education Law § 2-d Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security and Supplemental Information for Contracts that Utilize Personally Identifiable Information

Parents (including legal guardians or persons in parental relationships) and Eligible Students (students 18 years and older) can expect the following:

1. A Student's Personally Identifiable Information ("Student PII") cannot be sold or released for any Commercial or Marketing purpose. Student PII, as defined by Education Law § 2-d and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), includes direct identifiers such as a student's name or identification number, parent's name, or address; and indirect identifiers such as a student's date of birth, which when linked to or combined with other information can be used to distinguish or trace a student's identity. Please see FERPA's regulations at 34 CFR § 99.3 for a more complete definition.
2. The right to inspect and review the complete contents of the student's education record stored or maintained by an educational agency. This right may not apply to Parents of an Eligible Student.
3. State and federal laws such as Education Law § 2-d; the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education at 8 NYCRR Part 121, FERPA at 12 U.S.C. § 1232g (34 CFR Part 99); Children's Online Privacy Protection Act ("COPPA") at 15 U.S.C. §§ 6501-6502 (16 CFR Part 312); Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment ("PPRA") at 20 U.S.C. § 1232h (34 CFR Part 98); and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA") at 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq. (34 CFR Part 300) protect the confidentiality of Student PII.
4. Safeguards associated with industry standards and best practices including, but not limited to, encryption, firewalls and password protection must be in place when Student PII is stored or transferred.
5. A complete list of all student data elements collected by New York State Education Department ("NYSED") is available at www.nysed.gov/data-privacy-security/student-data-inventory and by writing to: Chief Privacy Officer, New York State Education Department, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234.
6. The right to have complaints about possible breaches and unauthorized disclosures of Student PII addressed. Complaints should be submitted to the NYS Education Department at <https://www.nysed.gov/data-privacy-security/parents-and-students-file-privacy-complaint>, by mail to: Chief Privacy Officer, New York State Education Department, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234; by email to privacy@nysed.gov; or by telephone at 518-474-0937.
7. To be notified in accordance with applicable laws and regulations if Student PII is either unlawfully accessed or unlawfully disclosed.
8. NYSED workers that have access to or receive disclosure of Student PII will receive training on applicable state and federal laws, policies, and safeguards associated with industry standards and best practices that protect PII.

9. NYSED contracts with vendors that receive Student PII will address statutory and regulatory data privacy and security requirements.

Supplemental Information

Pursuant to Education Law § 2-d and § 121.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, NYSED is required to post information to its website about its contracts with third-party contractors that will be provided Access to or receive Disclosure of Student Data and/or APPR Data.

1. Name of Contractor:

2. Purpose of Contract:

3. Contract Term:

Contract Start Date:

Contract End Date:

4. Type(s) of Data that Contractor will be provided Access to or Disclosure of:

Student Data ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPR Data ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. For what purpose is Student Data or APPR Data being used?

6. Subcontractor use and written agreement requirement:

Will Contractor be using Subcontractors? ☐ Yes ☐ No

By certifying below, Contractor agrees that it will not utilize Subcontractors without a written contract that requires the Subcontractors to adhere to, at a minimum, materially similar data protection obligations imposed on the Contractor by state and federal laws and regulations and this contract.

7. Data Transition and Secure Destruction

By certifying below, Contractor agrees that the confidentiality and data security obligations under this DPA will survive the expiration or termination of this Contract but shall terminate upon Contractor's certifying, that Contractor and its Subcontractors:

- Are unable to Access any Disclosed Information provided to Contractor pursuant to this Contract; and
- Securely transfer Disclosed Student Data and/or APPR Data to NYSED, or at NYSED's option and written discretion, a successor contractor in a format agreed to by the Parties; **and**
- Securely destroy Disclosed Student Data and APPR Data.

8. Challenges to Data Accuracy

By certifying below, Contractor agrees that parents, eligible students, teachers, or principals who seek to challenge the accuracy of Student Data or APPR Data will be referred to NYSED and if a correction to data is deemed necessary, NYSED will notify Contractor. Contractor further agrees to facilitate such corrections within 21 days of receiving NYSED's written request.

9. Secure Storage and Data Security

Please indicate where Student Data and/or APPR Data will be stored:

- ☐ Yes ☐ No Using a cloud or infrastructure owned and hosted by a third party.
- ☐ Yes ☐ No Using Contractor owned and hosted solution.
- ☐ Yes ☐ No Other:

10. Encryption Requirement

By certifying below, Contractor agrees that Student Data and APPR Data will be encrypted while in motion and at rest.

11. Contractor Certification

Contractor certifies that it will comply with the above described requirements, and require its Subcontractors to comply with, applicable State and Federal laws, regulations and NYSED policies.

Contractor's Name

Signature

Printed Name

Title

Date