REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
(RFP)

Issue Date: July 29, 2003
Title: Collection Services, Financial
Issuing Agency: Commonwealth of Virginia
Longwood University
Materiel Management Dept. Room #218
201 High Street
Farmville, Virginia 23909

Using Agency and/or Longwood University
Cashiering & Student Accounts
Location where work Farmville, Virginia 23909
Will be performed:


Sealed Proposals Will Be Received no later than September 15, 2003 at 2:00 PM, local time for Furnishing The Goods/Services Described Herein And Then Opened In Public.

All Inquiries for Information should be directed To: Mr. James E. Simpson, Director, Materiel Management Office, (434) 395-2093.

IF PROPOSALS ARE MAILED, SEND DIRECTLY TO ISSUING AGENCY SHOWN ABOVE. IF PROPOSALS ARE HAND DELIVERED, DELIVER TO: MATERIEL MANAGEMENT OFFICE, BRISTOW BUILDING, CORNER MAIN (U.S. BUSINESS 15) AND REDFORD STREETS, ROOM #218, FARMVILLE, VIRGINIA 23909.

In Compliance With This Request For Proposals And To All The Conditions Imposed Therein And Hereby Incorporated By Reference, The Undersigned Offers And Agrees To Furnish The Services In Accordance With The Attached Signed Proposal Or As Mutually Agreed Upon By Subsequent Negotiation.

Name and Address of Firm:

___________________________________  Date:_________________________
___________________________________  By:___________________________
___________________________________   Signature in Ink
___________________________________  ______________________________
FEI/FIN No._________________________   Name Typed or Printed

Telephone No.(_____)________________
Fax No.(_____)____________________
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This public body does not discriminate against faith-based organizations in accordance with the Code of Virginia, 11-35.1 or against a bidder or offeror because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment
I. PURPOSE: The intent and purpose of this Request for Proposals is a request for sealed proposals from qualified individuals and/or organizations experienced in providing Collection Services of Accounts Receivables referred by Longwood University, an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, hereafter referred to as the University. The accounts receivable are a result of loans made to students, bad checks, fines, overpayments, and services rendered by Longwood University. THE UNIVERSITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO AWARD TO UP TO FOUR (4) CONTRACTORS.

II. STATEMENT OF NEEDS:

A. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Contractor shall accept for collection unpaid accounts that Longwood University refers for collection, and maintain licenses, as permitted by law, and in states necessary to collect these accounts. Contractor shall maintain the confidentiality of all accounts placed for collection.

2. Contractor shall understand fully the Federal Regulations for Perkins loans and comply with all regulations. The Contractor shall provide the Attestation Audit Letter annually and shall attach the current Attestation Audit Letter for the 2001 and 2002 years as well as financial statements for the same years with this bid.

3. Contractor shall promptly undertake, through proper and lawful means, the collection of all accounts referred by the University without regard to the amount. Contractor shall not, under any circumstances, use any threats, intimidation, or harassment of debtor in the collection of accounts or violate any guidelines established by the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

4. Contractor shall agree to remain in compliance with all current and future provisions of the Fair Debt Collection Practice Act, Consumer Credit Protection Act, National Defense Education Act of 1958, Title II, and the Public Health Service Act Titles VII, and VIII.

5. In the event a claim, complaint, or legal process is filed arising exclusively out of Contractor’s performance, alleging threats, intimidation, harassment, deception, or any other improper act or practice in violation of any federal or state consumer oriented act and the University, its agents, officers, or employees is alleged to be actually or contingently liable, the Contractor shall defend such claim, complaint, or legal process and to hold harmless the University, its agents, officers, or employees, for any judgment recovered. Said provision will not apply in the event the University’s own acts amount to a violation of the above stated Federal or State consumer oriented acts.
6. Contractor shall remit to the University the net total of funds collected for the University by the tenth (10) day of each month during the term of this agreement with the exception of the funds collected for Federal Perkins Loans. Federal Perkins loan account collections will be remitted directly to the billing agent designated by Longwood University. Contractor will provide separate payments as well as separate monthly accounting statements of all payments received and credited during said period. University agrees to remit collection fees to Contractor in the event payments are made directly to the University or the Billing Agent.

7. Contractor shall provide a customer service representative specifically to Longwood University. The Contractor shall provide the University and the debtors with a toll free phone number.

8. Upon request by the University, Contractor shall accept cancellations, deferments, or postponements and no fees shall be charged to the University for Contractor assistance in obtaining and processing such.

9. Contractor shall have no authority to file suit on any account referred by University. Contractor shall make every effort to collect accounts prior to making suit recommendations.

10. Contractor shall suspend action either temporarily or permanently on any accounts referred for collection upon notification by University. Contractor has no authority to settle any account balance, and University will provide written approval on any accounts the University agrees to compromise.

11. University will have performed appropriate written demands informing the debtor of the consequences of his failure to make payments prior to turning accounts over to the Contractor.

12. Contractor shall implement thorough collection procedures in the attempt to achieve a maximum recovery of debts. Such procedures are to include a reasonable number of telephone calls along with a reasonable number of mail efforts. Skip tracing procedures shall be used wherever necessary. Legal action shall be recommended when all other efforts fail and the account will be returned to the University. Reasonable asset location will be performed by Contractor to satisfy judgments.

13. Contractor shall report to at least one national credit bureau an individual’s account affecting the debtor’s credit rating, with the exception of the Longwood University Federal Perkins loans. (The Perkins loans are reported to the credit bureau by AMS Servicing Group, our Perkins loan billing servicer). The accounts shall be placed with a credit bureau within sixty (60) days of placement with the Contractor. Contractor will make the necessary corrections when an account is reported in error.

14. The Contractor shall not share in funds collected by Longwood University as a result of exercising authority for the Commonwealth Debt right of set-off granted by the Code of Virginia. Longwood University will notify the Contractor of any set-off monies received.
15. Accounts with no collections shall remain with the Contractor for no longer than twelve (12) months and will be returned to Longwood by the collection agency. Extensions may be granted if justified by the Contractor and approved by Longwood University.

16. Longwood University contracts with a billing agent, AMS Servicing Group. The Contractor shall interface with AMS Servicing Group in collection of Federal Perkins Loan accounts using their links to Datalink and Document Direct. The service will be at no additional cost to Longwood University.

17. The Contractor shall establish an individual account for each collection category Longwood University may designate.

18. Contractor shall maintain a fidelity bond in the amount of one hundred thousand ($100,000) dollars; said bond being for the benefit of the University. Contractor will notify the University of the name of the bonding company, and if any change occurs in the bond, Contractor will notify University of said change.

19. If the Contractor offers a conference or workshop, they will provide Longwood University with one free registration fee.
III. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

A. 1. RFP Response: In order to be considered for selection, offerors must submit a complete response to this RFP. One (1) original and (4) copies of each proposal must be submitted to the issuing agency. No other distribution of the proposal shall be made by the offeror.

a. Proposals shall be signed by an authorized representative of the offeror. All information requested should be submitted. Failure to submit all information requested may result in the purchasing agency requiring prompt submission of missing information and/or giving a lowered evaluation of the proposal. Proposals which are substantially incomplete or lack key information may be rejected by the purchasing agency. Mandatory requirements are those required by law or regulation or are such that they cannot be waived and are not subject to negotiation.

b. Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Emphasis should be placed on completeness and clarity of content.

c. Proposals should be organized in the order in which the requirements are presented in the RFP. All pages of the proposal should be numbered. Each paragraph in the proposal should reference the paragraph number of the corresponding section of the RFP. It is also helpful to cite the paragraph number, subletter, and repeat the text of the requirement as it appears in the RFP. If a response covers more than one page, the paragraph number and subletter should be repeated at the top of the next page. The proposal should contain a table of contents which cross references the RFP requirements. Information which the offeror desires to present that does not fall within any of the requirements of the RFP should be inserted at an appropriate place or be attached at the end of the proposal and designated as additional material. Proposals that are not organized in this manner risk elimination from consideration if the evaluators are unable to find where the RFP requirements are specifically addressed.

d. As used in this RFP, the terms “must”, “shall”, “should”, and “may” identify the criticality of requirements. “Must” and “shall” identify requirements whose absence will have a major negative impact on the suitability of the proposed solution. Items labeled as “should” or “may” are highly desirable, although their absence will not have a large impact and would be useful, but are not necessary. Depending on the overall response to the RFP, some individual “must” and “shall” items may not be fully satisfied, but it is the intent to satisfy most, if not all, “must” and “shall” requirements. The inability of an Offeror to satisfy a “must” or “shall” requirement does not automatically remove that Offeror from consideration; however, it may seriously affect the overall rating of the Offerors’ proposal.

e. Each copy of the proposal should be bound or contained in a single volume where practical. All documentation submitted with the proposal should be contained in that single volume.

f. Ownership of all data, materials, and documentation originated and prepared for the State pursuant to the RFP shall belong exclusively to the State and be subject to public inspection in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Trade secrets or proprietary information submitted by an offeror shall not be subject to public disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; however, the offeror must invoke the protections of § 11-52D of the Code of Virginia, in writing, either before or at the time the data or other material is submitted. The written notice must specifically identify the data or materials to be protected and state the reasons why protection is necessary. The
proprietary or trade secret material submitted must be identified by some distinct method such as highlighting or underlining and must indicate only the specific words, figures, or paragraphs that constitutes trade secret or proprietary information. The classification of an entire proposal document, line item prices, and/or total proposal prices as proprietary or trade secrets is not acceptable and will result in rejection of the proposal.

3. **Oral Presentation**: Offerors who submit a proposal in response to this RFP may be required to give an oral presentation of their proposal to the agency. This provides an opportunity for the offeror to clarify or elaborate on the proposal. This is a fact finding and explanation session only and does not include negotiation. The issuing agency will schedule the time and location of these presentations. Oral presentations are an option of the purchasing agency and may or may not be conducted.

B. **SPECIFIC PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS**:

“Proposals should be as thorough and detailed as possible so that the (Longwood University) may properly evaluate your capabilities to provide the required goods/services. Offerors are required to submit the following items as a complete proposal:"

1. Return the RFP and all addenda acknowledgments, if any, signed and filled out as required.

2. Offeror Data Sheet, included as an attachment to the RFP, and other specific items or data requested in the RFP.

3. A written narrative statement to include:
   a. Experience in providing the goods/services described herein.
   b. Names, qualifications and experience of personnel to be assigned to the project.
   c. Resumes of staff to be assigned to the project.

4. Specific plans for providing the proposed goods/services including:
   a. List of proposed equipment/goods/etc. including operating parameters, illustrations, etc.
   b. What, when and how the service will be performed.
   c. Time frame for completion (if not otherwise specified by the agency in the statement of needs).

5. Proposed Price. Indicate in the pricing schedule, Section VI of the RFP, if provided.
IV. EVALUATION AND AWARD CRITERIA: Proposals shall be evaluated by Longwood University using the following criteria.

A. EVALUATION CRITERIA:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOR SERVICES</th>
<th>POINT VALUE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Qualifications and experience of offerors in providing the services.</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>2. References from other clients</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>3. Specific plans or methodology to be used to perform the services</td>
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<td>4. Price</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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AWARD OF CONTRACT:

Selection shall be made of two or more offerors deemed to be fully qualified and best suited among those submitting proposals on the basis of the evaluation factors included in the Request for Proposals, including price, if so stated in the Request for Proposals. Negotiations shall be conducted with the offerors so selected. Price shall be considered, but need not be the sole determining factor. After negotiations have been conducted with each offeror so selected, the agency shall select the offeror, which, in its opinion, has made the best proposal, and shall award the contract to that offeror. The Commonwealth may cancel this Request for Proposals or reject proposals at any time prior to an award, and is not required to furnish a statement of the reasons why a particular proposal was not deemed to be the most advantageous (Code of Virginia, 11-65D). Should the Commonwealth determine in writing and in its sole discretion that only one offeror is fully qualified, or that one offeror is clearly more highly qualified than the others under consideration, a contract may be negotiated and awarded to that offeror. The award document will be a contract incorporating by reference all the requirements, terms and conditions of the solicitation and the contractor’s proposal as negotiated.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

Informal Communications: From the date of receipt of this Request for Proposal by each offeror until a binding contractual agreement exists with the selected offeror(s) and all other offerors have been notified, or when the institution rejects all proposals, informal communications regarding this procurement shall cease. Informal communications shall include but not be limited to: (1) requests from offerors to any departments at the institution (with the exception of the designated institution Materiel Management Office) for information, comments, speculation, etc., regarding the RFP, responses or process; and (2) requests from any departments of the institution (with the exception of the designated institution Materiel Management authority) for information, comments, speculation, etc., regarding the RFP, responses or process.
Formal Communications:

Nature of Communication: From the date of receipt of this Request for Proposal by each offeror until a binding contractual agreement exists with the selected offeror or when Longwood College rejects all proposals, all communications between the institution and the offeror will be formal or as requested by the institution’s Materiel Management Office. Address all inquiries to Jim Simpson at (434) 395-2093.

Adherence to Provisions: Any failure to adhere to the provisions set forth above may result in the rejection of any offeror’s proposal or in the cancellation of this Request for Proposals.

Revisions/Additions to RFP: Revisions or additions to this Request for Proposal shall be at the sole discretion of Longwood University. In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of this Request for Proposal, revisions will be mailed by the Materiel Management Office to all offerors to whom the initial Request for Proposal was mailed or by whom the initial Request for Proposal was requested.
VI. PRICING SCHEDULE:

Contractor shall provide collection services for Longwood University at the fees bid below:

I. FEE FOR ALL ACCOUNTS (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FEDERAL PERKINS LOANS WITH THE PROMISSORY NOTE PROVISIONS LIMITING THE COLLECTION COST TO TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT) WITHOUT REGARD TO DOLLAR AMOUNT OR ORDER OF PLACEMENT:

_____________%

II. FEE FOR FEDERAL PERKINS LOANS WITH THE PROMISSORY NOTE PROVISIONS LIMITING THE ENTIRE COLLECTION COST TO TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%) OF THE UNPAID PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST:

_____________%

SAID FEES SHALL BE THE SOLE CONSIDERATION PAID THE CONTRACTOR. THE UNIVERSITY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY COST OR expense INCURRED BY THE CONTRACTOR IN THE COLLECTION OF ACCOUNTS.
VII. DATA SHEET

TO BE COMPLETED BY VENDOR:

1. QUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS: The Offeror must have the capability and capacity in all respects to fully satisfy all of the contractual requirements.

2. YEARS IN BUSINESS: Indicate the length of time you have been in business providing this type of service:

__________________ Years ____________________ Months

SPECIFICALLY STATE THE LENGTH OF TIME YOU HAVE BEEN COLLECTING ACCOUNTS

__________________ Years ____________________ Months

3. REFERENCES: Indicate below a listing of at least four (4) recent or present contracts with educational institutions for whom you have provided this type of service. Include the date service was furnished and the name, address and telephone number of the person the Agency has your permission to contact.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Person and Phone Number</th>
<th>Period of Contract</th>
<th>Recovery %</th>
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4. Please list the names of any professional organization memberships:

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
5. Please list our options/methods of placing accounts (ex: paper, email, Fax, etc.)

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

6. Do you communicate via e-mail and/or website available to the debtors as well as the University?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

7. Has your company been purchased/merged within the last five years or do you have plans to purchase or merge with another company?

________________________________________________________________________
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8. Has your company been cited for any audit exceptions within the last five years? Has the company had ANY litigation issues? If so, please explain.

________________________________________________________________________
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9. Does your agency allow ten days for checks to process before remitting the funds to the University in order to avoid sending us funds that may be returned due to non-sufficient funds, stop payments etc? If this is not your usual procedure, will you implement that procedure for Longwood University?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

CONTRACTOR LICENSE REQUIREMENTS: By my signature on this solicitation, I certify that this firm/individual is properly licensed for providing the services specified herein:
A. **VENDORS MANUAL:** This solicitation is subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Vendors Manual and any changes or revisions thereto, which are hereby incorporated into this contract in their entirety. A copy of the manual is normally available for review at the purchasing office and is accessible on the Internet at www.dgs.state.va.us/dps under “Manuals.”

B. **APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS:** This solicitation and any resulting contract shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the Commonwealth. The contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.

C. **ANTI-DISCRIMINATION:** By submitting their (bids/proposals), (bidders/offerors) certify to the Commonwealth that they will conform to the provisions of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, as well as the Virginia Fair Employment Contracting Act of 1975, as amended, where applicable, the Virginians With Disabilities Act, the Americans With Disabilities Act and §2.2-4311 of the *Virginia Public Procurement Act* (VPPA). If the award is made to a faith-based organization, the organization shall not discriminate against any recipient of goods, services, or disbursements made pursuant to the contract on the basis of the recipients religion, religious belief, refusal to participate in a religious practice, or on the basis of race, age, color, gender or national origin and shall be subject to the same rules as other organizations that contract with public bodies to account for the use of the funds provided; however, if the faith-based organization segregates public funds into separate accounts, only the accounts and programs funded with public funds shall be subject to audit by the public body. (*Code of Virginia, § 2.2-4343.1 E*).

In every contract over $10,000 the provisions in 1. and 2. below apply:

1. During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

   a. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

   b. The contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, will state that such contractor is an equal opportunity employer.

   c. Notices, advertisements and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting these requirements.

2. The contractor will include the provisions of 1. above in every subcontract or purchase order over $10,000, so that the provisions will be
binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

D. **ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING:** By submitting their (bids/proposals), (bidders/offerors) certify that their (bids/proposals) are made without collusion or fraud and that they have not offered or received any kickbacks or inducements from any other (bidder/offeror), supplier, manufacturer or subcontractor in connection with their (bid/proposal), and that they have not conferred on any public employee having official responsibility for this procurement transaction any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services or anything of more than nominal value, present or promised, unless consideration of substantially equal or greater value was exchanged.

E. **IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986:** By submitting their (bids/proposals), (bidders/offerors) certify that they do not and will not during the performance of this contract employ illegal alien workers or otherwise violate the provisions of the federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

F. **DEBARMENT STATUS:** By submitting their (bids/proposals), (bidders/offerors) certify that they are not currently debarred by the Commonwealth of Virginia from submitting bids or proposals on contracts for the type of goods and/or services covered by this solicitation, nor are they an agent of any person or entity that is currently so debarred.

G. **ANTITRUST:** By entering into a contract, the contractor conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the Commonwealth of Virginia all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may now have or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, relating to the particular goods or services purchased or acquired by the Commonwealth of Virginia under said contract.

H. **MANDATORY USE OF STATE FORM AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR IFBs AND RFPs**

Bids may be cause for rejection of the bid; however, the Commonwealth reserves the right to decide, on a case by case basis, in its sole discretion, whether to reject such a bid as nonresponsive. As a precondition to its acceptance, the Commonwealth may, in its sole discretion, request that the bidder withdraw or modify nonresponsive portions of a bid which do not affect quality, quantity, price, or delivery. No modification of or addition to the provisions of the contract shall be effective unless reduced to writing and signed by the parties.

1. **(For Invitation for Bids:)** Failure to submit a bid on the official state form provided for that purpose shall be a cause for rejection of the bid. Modification of or additions to any portion of the Invitation for Bids may be cause for rejection of the bid; however, the Commonwealth reserves the right to decide, on a case by case basis, in its sole discretion, whether to reject such a bid as nonresponsive. As a precondition to its acceptance, the Commonwealth may, in its sole discretion, request that the bidder withdraw or modify nonresponsive portions of a bid which do not affect quality, quantity, price, or delivery. No modification of or addition to the provisions of the contract shall be effective unless reduced to writing and signed by the parties.

2. **(For Request For Proposals:)** Failure to submit a proposal on the official state form provided for that purpose may be a cause for rejection of the proposal. Modification of or additions to the General Terms and Conditions of the solicitation may be cause for rejection of the proposal; however, the Commonwealth reserves the right to decide, on a case by case basis, in its sole discretion, whether to reject such a proposal.
I. CLARIFICATION OF TERMS: If any prospective (bidder/offeror) has questions about the specifications or other solicitation documents, the prospective (bidder/offeror) should contact the buyer whose name appears on the face of the solicitation no later than five working days before the due date. Any revisions to the solicitation will be made only by addendum issued by the buyer.

J. PAYMENT:

To Prime Contractor:

a. Invoices for items ordered, delivered and accepted shall be submitted by the contractor directly to the payment address shown on the purchase order/contract. All invoices shall show the state contract number and/or purchase order number; social security number (for individual contractors) or the federal employer identification number (for proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations).

b. Any payment terms requiring payment in less than 30 days will be regarded as requiring payment 30 days after invoice or delivery, whichever occurs last. This shall not affect offers of discounts for payment in less than 30 days, however.

c. All goods or services provided under this contract or purchase order, that are to be paid for with public funds, shall be billed by the contractor at the contract price, regardless of which public agency is being billed.

d. The following shall be deemed to be the date of payment: the date of postmark in all cases where payment is made by mail, or the date of offset when offset proceedings have been instituted as authorized under the Virginia Debt Collection Act.

e. Unreasonable Charges. Under certain emergency procurements and for most time and material purchases, final job costs cannot be accurately determined at the time orders are placed. In such cases, contractors should be put on notice that final payment in full is contingent on a determination of reasonableness with respect to all invoiced charges. Charges which appear to be unreasonable will be researched and challenged, and that portion of the invoice held in abeyance until a settlement can be reached. Upon determining that invoiced charges are not reasonable, the Commonwealth shall promptly notify the contractor, in writing, as to those charges which it considers unreasonable and the basis for the determination. A contractor may not institute legal action unless a settlement cannot be reached within thirty (30) days of notification. The provisions of this section do not relieve an agency of its prompt payment obligations with respect to those charges which are not in dispute (Code of Virginia, § 2.2-43 63).

2. To Subcontractors:

a. A contractor awarded a contract under this solicitation is hereby obligated:

(1) To pay the subcontractor(s) within seven (7) days of the contractor’s receipt of payment from the Commonwealth for the proportionate share of the payment received for work performed by the subcontractor(s) under the contract; or

(2) To notify the agency and the subcontractor(s), in writing, of the contractor’s intention to withhold payment and the reason.

b. The contractor is obligated to pay the subcontractor(s) interest at the rate of one percent per month (unless otherwise provided under the terms of the contract) on all amounts owed by the contractor that remain unpaid seven (7) days following receipt of payment from the Commonwealth, except for amounts withheld as stated in (2) above. The date of mailing of any payment by U. S. Mail is deemed to be payment to the addressee. These provisions apply to each sub-tier contractor performing under
the primary contract. A contractor’s obligation to pay an interest charge to a subcontractor may not be construed to be an obligation of the Commonwealth.

K. **PRECEDENCE OF TERMS:** Paragraphs A-J of these General Terms and Conditions shall apply in all instances. In the event there is a conflict between any of the other General Terms and Conditions and any Special Terms and Conditions in this solicitation, the Special Terms and Conditions shall apply.

L. **QUALIFICATIONS OF (BIDDERS/OFFERORS):** The Commonwealth may make such reasonable investigations as deemed proper and necessary to determine the ability of the (bidder/offeror) to perform the services/furnish the goods and the (bidder/offeror) shall furnish to the Commonwealth all such information and data for this purpose as may be requested. The Commonwealth reserves the right to inspect (bidder’s/offor’s) physical facilities prior to award to satisfy questions regarding the (bidder’s/offor’s) capabilities. The Commonwealth further reserves the right to reject any (bid/proposal) if the evidence submitted by, or investigations of, such (bidder/offeror) fails to satisfy the Commonwealth that such (bidder/offeror) is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to provide the services and/or furnish the goods contemplated therein.

M. **TESTING AND INSPECTION:** The Commonwealth reserves the right to conduct any test/inspection it may deem advisable to assure goods and services conform to the specifications.

N. **ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT:** A contract shall not be assignable by the contractor in whole or in part without the written consent of the Commonwealth.

O. **CHANGES TO THE CONTRACT:** Changes can be made to the contract in any of the following ways:

1. The parties may agree in writing to modify the scope of the contract. An increase or decrease in the price of the contract resulting from such modification shall be agreed to by the parties as a part of their written agreement to modify the scope of the contract.

2. The Purchasing Agency may order changes within the general scope of the contract at any time by written notice to the contractor. Changes within the scope of the contract include, but are not limited to, things such as services to be performed, the method of packing or shipment, and the place of delivery or installation. The contractor shall comply with the notice upon receipt. The contractor shall be compensated for any additional costs incurred as the result of such order and shall give the Purchasing Agency a credit for any savings. Said compensation shall be determined by one of the following methods:
   a. By mutual agreement between the parties in writing; or
   b. By agreeing upon a unit price or using a unit price set forth in the contract, if the work to be done can be expressed in units, and the contractor accounts for the number of units of work performed, subject to the Purchasing Agency’s right to audit the contractor’s records and/or to determine the correct number of units independently; or
   c. By ordering the contractor to proceed with the work and keep a record of all costs incurred and savings realized. A markup for overhead and profit may be allowed if provided by the contract. The same markup shall be used for determining a decrease in price as the result of savings realized. The contractor shall present the Purchasing Agency with all vouchers and records of expenses incurred and savings realized. The Purchasing Agency shall have the right to audit the records of the contractor as it deems necessary to determine costs or savings. Any claim for an adjustment in price under this provision must be asserted by written notice to the Purchasing Agency within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written order from the Purchasing Agency. If the parties fail to
agree on an amount of adjustment, the question of an increase or decrease in the contract price or
time for performance shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures for resolving disputes
provided by the Disputes Clause of this contract or, if there is none, in accordance with the disputes
provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Vendors Manual. Neither the existence of a claim nor a
dispute resolution process, litigation or any other provision of this contract shall excuse the contractor
from promptly complying with the changes ordered by the Purchasing Agency or with the
performance of the contract generally.

P. DEFAULT: In case of failure to deliver goods or services in accordance with the contract terms and
conditions, the Commonwealth, after due oral or written notice, may procure them from other sources
and hold the contractor responsible for any resulting additional purchase and administrative costs.
This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies which the Commonwealth may have.

Q. TAXES: Sales to the Commonwealth of Virginia are normally exempt from State sales tax. State
sales and use tax certificates of exemption, Form ST-12, will be issued upon request. Deliveries
against this contract shall usually be free of Federal excise and transportation taxes. The
Commonwealth’s excise tax exemption registration number is 54-73-0076K.

R. USE OF BRAND NAMES: Unless otherwise provided in this solicitation, the name of a certain
brand, make or manufacturer does not restrict (bidder/offerors) to the specific brand, make or
manufacturer named, but conveys the general style, type, character, and quality of the article desired.
Any article which the public body, in its sole discretion, determines to be the equal of that specified,
considering quality, workmanship, economy of operation, and suitability for the purpose intended,
shall be accepted. The (bidder/offeror) is responsible to clearly and specifically identify the product
being offered and to provide sufficient descriptive literature, catalog cuts and technical detail to
enable the Commonwealth to determine if the product offered meets the requirements of the
solicitation. This is required even if offering the exact brand, make or manufacturer specified.
Normally in competitive sealed bidding only the information furnished with the bid will be
considered in the evaluation. Failure to furnish adequate data for evaluation purposes may result in
declaring a bid nonresponsive. Unless the (bidder/offeror) clearly indicates in its (bid/proposal) that
the product offered is an equal product, such (bid/proposal) will be considered to offer the brand name
product referenced in the solicitation.

S. TRANSPORTATION AND PACKAGING: By submitting their (bids/proposals), all
(bidders/offerors) certify and warrant that the price offered for FOB destination includes only the
actual freight rate costs at the lowest and best rate and is based upon the actual weight of the goods to
be shipped. Except as otherwise specified herein, standard commercial packaging, packing and
shipping containers shall be used. All shipping containers shall be legibly marked or labeled on the
outside with purchase order number, commodity description, and quantity.

T. INSURANCE: By signing and submitting a bid or proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or
offeror certifies that if awarded the contract, it will have the following insurance coverages at the time
the contract is awarded. For construction contracts, if any subcontractors are involved, the
subcontractor will have workers’ compensation insurance in accordance with §§ 2.2-4332 and 65.2-800 et seq. of the Code of Virginia. The bidder or offeror further certifies that the contractor and any
subcontractors will maintain these insurance coverages during the entire term of the contract and that
all insurance coverages will be provided by insurance companies authorized to sell insurance in
Virginia by the Virginia State Corporation Commission.
1. Worker’s Compensation - Statutory requirements and benefits.
2. Employers Liability - $100,000.
3. Commercial General Liability - $500,000 combined single limit. Commercial General Liability
   is to include Premises/Operations Liability, Products and Completed Operations Coverage, and
   Independent Contractor’s Liability or Owner’s and Contractor’s Protective Liability. The

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Commonwealth of Virginia must be named as an additional insured when requiring a Contractor to obtain Commercial General Liability coverage.
(Note to Agency/Institution: When the requirement is for parking facilities and garages for motor vehicle maintenance contracts, the forgoing sentence should be changed to read: These coverages are to include Products, Completed Operations Coverage and Garagekeeper’s Liability.)

4. Automobile Liability - $500,000 - Combined single limit. (Only used if motor vehicle is to be used in the contract.)

**NOTE:** In addition, various Professional Liability/Errors and Omissions coverages are required when soliciting those services as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession/Service</th>
<th>Limits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>$1,000,000 per occurrence, $3,000,000 aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>$2,000,000 per occurrence, $6,000,000 aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asbestos Design, Inspection or Abatement Contractors</td>
<td>$1,000,000 per occurrence, $3,000,000 aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Practitioner (to include Dentists, Licensed Dental Hygienists, Optometrists, Registered or Licensed Practical Nurses, Pharmacists, Doctors, Podiatrists, Chiropractors, Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, Clinical Psychologists, Clinical Social Workers, Professional Counselors, Hospitals, or Health Maintenance Organizations)</td>
<td>$1,700,000 per occurrence, $3,000,000 aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance/Risk Management</td>
<td>(Increased limit effective July 1, 2003) $1,000,000 per occurrence, $3,000,000 aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape/Architecture</td>
<td>$500,000 per occurrence, $1,000,000 aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>$1,000,000 per occurrence, $5,000,000 aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Engineer</td>
<td>$2,000,000 per occurrence, $6,000,000 aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveying</td>
<td>$100,000 per occurrence, $300,000 aggregate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**U. ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD:** Upon the award or the announcement of the decision to award a contract over $30,000 as a result of this solicitation, the purchasing agency will publicly post such notice on the DGS/DPS eVA website ([www.eva.state.va.us](http://www.eva.state.va.us)) for a minimum of 10 days and on the Longwood University Public Posting Board, Bristow Building and on the Longwood University website ([www.longwood.edu/purchasing](http://www.longwood.edu/purchasing)) for a minimum of 10 days.

**V. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE:** During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees to (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the contractor’s employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the contractor’s workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor that the contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) include the provisions of the foregoing clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over $10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.
For the purposes of this section, “drug-free workplace” means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific contract awarded to a contractor in accordance with this chapter, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the contract.

W. NONDISCRIMINATION OF CONTRACTORS: A bidder, offeror, or contractor shall not be discriminated against in the solicitation or award of this contract because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, faith-based organizational status, any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment or because the bidder employs ex-offenders unless the state agency, department or institution has made a written determination that employing ex-offenders on the specific contract is not in its best interest. If the award of this contract is made to a faith-based organization and an individual, who applies for or receives goods, services, or disbursements provided pursuant to this contract objects to the religious character of the faith-based organization from which the individual receives or would receive the goods, services, or disbursements, the public body shall offer the individual, within a reasonable period of time after the date of his objection, access to equivalent goods, services, or disbursements from an alternative provider.

X. eVA BUSINESS-TO-GOVERNMENT VENDOR REGISTRATION: The eVA Internet electronic procurement solution, web site portal www.eva.state.va.us, streamlines and automates government purchasing activities in the Commonwealth. The portal is the gateway for vendors to conduct business with state agencies and public bodies. All vendors desiring to provide goods and/or services to the Commonwealth shall participate in the eVA Internet e-procurement solution either through the eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service or eVA Premium Vendor Registration Service, and complete the Ariba Commerce Services Network registration. All bidders or offerors must register in eVA; failure to register will result in the bid/proposal being rejected.

a. eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service: $25 Annual Fee plus a Transaction Fee of 1% per order received. The maximum transaction fee is $500 per order. eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service includes electronic order receipt, vendor catalog posting, on-line registration, and electronic bidding, as they become available.

b. eVA Premium Vendor Registration Service: $200 Annual Fee plus a Transaction Fee of 1% per order received. The maximum transaction fee is $500 per order. eVA Premium Vendor Registration Service includes all benefits of the eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service plus automatic email or fax notification of solicitations and amendments, and ability to research historical procurement data, as they become available.
IX. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. **ADVERTISING:** In the event a contract is awarded for supplies, equipment, or services resulting from this bid/proposal, no indication of such sales or services to Longwood University shall be used in product literature or advertising. The contractor shall not state in any of its advertising or product literature that the Commonwealth of Virginia or any agency or institution of the Commonwealth has purchased or uses its products or services.

2. **AUDIT:** The contractor shall retain all books, records, and other documents relative to this contract for five (5) years after final payment, or until audited by the Commonwealth of Virginia, whichever is sooner. The agency, its authorized agents, and/or state auditors shall have full access to and the right to examine any of said materials during said period.

3. **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS:** It is understood and agreed between the parties herein that the agency shall be bound hereunder only to the extent of the funds available or which may hereafter become available for the purpose of this agreement.

4. **AWARD: FOR REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS:**

   Awards are made to the Offeror whose proposal best meets the evaluation and negotiation criteria. Unit prices, extensions and grand total must be shown. In case of arithmetic errors, the unit price shall govern. If cash discount for prompt payment is offered, it must be clearly shown in the space provided. The **Proposal Price Schedule must be itemized.** Longwood University reserves the right to reject any and all bids in whole or in part, to waive any informality, and to delete items prior to making an award.

5. **CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT:** The purchasing agency reserves the right to cancel and terminate any resulting contract, in part or in whole, without penalty, upon 60 days written notice to the contractor. In the event the initial contract period is for more than 12 months, the resulting contract may be terminated by either party, without penalty, after the initial 12 months of the contract period upon 60 days written notice to the other party. Any contract cancellation notice shall not relieve the contractor of the obligation to deliver and/or perform on all outstanding orders issued prior to the effective date of cancellation.

6. **MINORITY/WOMEN OWNED BUSINESSES SUBCONTRACTING AND REPORTING:** Where it is practicable for any portion of the awarded contract to be subcontracted to other suppliers, the contractor is encouraged to offer such business to minority and/or women-owned businesses. Names of firms may be available from the buyer and/or from the Division of Purchases and Supply. When such business has been
subcontracted to these firms and upon completion of the contract, the contractor agrees to furnish the purchasing office the following information: name of firm, phone number, total dollar amount subcontracted and type of product/service provided.

7. **IDENTIFICATION OF BID/PROPOSAL ENVELOPE:** If a special label is not furnished, the signed bid/proposal should be returned in a separate envelope or package, sealed and identified as follows:

   From: 
   Name of Bidder/Offeror  
   Due Date: 
   Time: 

   Street or Box Number 
   IFB No./RFP. No. 

   City, State, Zip Code  
   IFB/RFP Title 

   Name of Contract/Purchase Officer or Buyer: __________________________

   The envelope should be addressed as directed on the label or Page 1 of the solicitation.

   If a bid/proposal is not contained in a sealed envelope with the label or properly addressed, the bidder/offeror takes the risk that the envelope, even if marked as described above, may be inadvertently opened and the information compromised which may cause the bid or proposal to be disqualified. Proposals/proposals may be hand delivered to the designated location in the office issuing the solicitation. Nor other correspondence or other Proposals/proposals should be placed in the envelope.

8. **Longwood University shall not discriminate because of the race, religion, color, sex, age, disability, or national origin of the bidder, offeror, or contractor** (Code of Virginia, § 11-44). **Longwood University shall also not discriminate against faith-based organizations.** (Code of Virginia § 11-41/02.)

9. **LATE PROPOSALS:** To be considered for selection Proposals must be received in the Materiel Management office by the designated date and hour. The official time used in the receipt of Proposals is that time on the automatic time stamp machine in the Materiel Management Office. Proposals received in the Materiel Management Office after the date and hour designated are automatically disqualified and will not be considered. The University is not responsible for delays in the delivery of mail by the U. S. Postal Service, private couriers, or the intradepartmental University Mail System. It is the sole responsibility of the Bidder to insure that its proposal reaches the Materiel Management Office by the designated date and hour. Parking is difficult, plan to arrive early. If a bidder requires ADA accommodations to deliver Proposals, please contact the Materiel Management office ten days prior to solicitation opening.
10. **NEGOTIATION WITH LOWEST BIDDER:** Unless all Proposals are cancelled or rejected, the Commonwealth reserves the right granted by § 11-53 of the *Code of Virginia* to negotiate with the lowest responsive, responsible bidder to obtain a contract price within the funds available to the agency whenever such low bid exceeds the agency’s available funds. For the purpose of determining when such negotiations may take place, the term “available funds” shall mean those funds which were budgeted by the agency for this contract prior to the issuance of the written Invitation for Proposals. Negotiations with the low bidder may include both modifications of the bid price and the Scope of Work/Specifications to be performed. The agency shall initiate such negotiations by written notice to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder that its bid exceeds the available funds and that the agency wishes to negotiate a lower contract price. The times, places, and manner of negotiating shall be agreed to by the agency and the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

11. **RFP ACCEPTANCE PERIOD:** Any proposal resulting from this solicitation shall be valid for 90 days. Offeror may, however, withdraw the bid up to 10 days after receipt of proposal. After the 10 day period, the conditions of the proposals remain in effect. If a proposal is not withdrawn at that time it remains in effect until an award is made or the solicitation is canceled. Any proposal in which the Offeror shortens the acceptance period may be rejected.

11. **CONFIDENTIALITY:** The contractor assures that information and data obtained as to personal facts and circumstances related to the University will be collected and held confidential, during and following the term of this agreement, and will not be divulged without the individual’s and the agency’s written consent. Any information to be disclosed, except to the agency, must be in summary, statistical, or other form which does not identify particular individuals. Contractors and their employees working on this project might be required to sign a confidentiality statement.

12. **EXTENSION OF CONTRACT:** At the sole discretion of the Commonwealth, and at a reasonable time (approximately 90 days) prior to its expiration date, this contract may be extended annually upon mutual agreement for a period of four one year renewals. The contract has an optional four (4) one-year renewals.
X. **Types of Debt Submitted**

Perkins  
Tuition and Fee  
Library  
Telecom  
Institutional Loans  
Parking Fines

In the future we hope to categorize:

Damages  
Returned Checks and Fees