



TANEY COUNTY MISSOURI

Purchasing Department 132 David Street / P. O. Box 1630
Forsyth, Missouri 65653

SOLICITATION TITLE: Independent Auditing Services
RFB #202111-493

SOLICITATION TYPE:

- () = Full / Formal Bid for Products *or* Materials *ONLY*.
- () = Full / Formal Bid for Products *and* Services.
- () = Full / Formal Bid for *Services ONLY*.
- () = Full / Formal Request for Proposals.
- () = Full / Formal Request for Qualifications.

SCHEDULE & DEADLINES

November 13, 2021 – December 13, 2021

Bid Release Date / Advertising Period

December 3, 2021 at 2:00 P.M.

Deadline For Submitting Questions

December 13, 2021 at 5:00 P.M.

Closing Date / Time

December 15, 2021 at 9:30 A.M.

Opening Date / Time

Responding Vendor / Company Name

City / State

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Commodity Title: INDEPENDENT AUDITING SERVICES
PLEASE MARK YOUR ENVELOPE "SEALED BID #202111-493"
RETURN ONE (1) ORIGINAL & THREE (3) HARD COPIES.

Bid Submission

Location / Mail Address: Taney County Purchasing Department (Second Floor)
P. O. Box 1630 (PO Box MUST be used for U.S.P.S. delivery.)
132 David St. (Physical Address MUST be used for Courier delivery.)
Forsyth, MO 65653

Bid Opening

Location / Address: Taney County Commission Hearing Room (Old Courthouse)
Forsyth, MO 65653

The undersigned certifies their authority to bind this company in an agreement to supply the products, or services, in accordance with all terms, conditions, and pricing specified herein or to offer a "No Bid." Type or print information below. **Bidder is REQUIRED** to complete, sign and return this form with their submittal to our solicitation as well as initial **all pages**. *An authorized signature and email address, printed clearly is mandatory, lack thereof *may* result in a determination of "Non-Responsive" and disqualify from participation.

_____		_____	
Company Name		Authorized Person (Print)	
_____		_____	
Address		*Signature	
_____		_____	
City / County / State / Zip		Title	
_____		_____	
Telephone #	Fax #	Date	Tax ID #
_____		_____	
*E-mail (MUST be legible.)		Entity Type (Corporation, LLC, Sole Proprietor, Partnership)	

INTRODUCTION & BASIC PROCESSING INFORMATION:

A formal invitation for bid is utilized when any total purchase estimate exceeds \$12,000. The County also uses this method when the life of a term and supply contract is valued more than \$12,000. A complete bid request package will contain well-defined standard technical specifications for the nature of the service or product(s) requested. A formal closing date and time is specified. The Bidder must comply with this requirement in order to be considered for award.

The Purchasing Department is responsible for the bid opening at the time and place noted in this solicitation. If a Vendor wants a copy of the bid tabulation they must include a direct email address, not website, in order to receive results. Obviously sealed bids cannot be emailed so they must either be delivered by hand, courier, or U.S.P.S. (Please note U.S.P.S. concerns as listed in item #1.3 on the following page.)

All formal invitations for bid are handled by the Taney County Purchasing Department. However, technical requirements and product specifications are the responsibility of the specific requesting department as listed in sections #2 & #3.

Read ALL solicitation documents closely - immediately upon receipt. Note any/all special dates and submit your response as soon as possible. See Items 1.21-1.27 for the process to submit questions. Pay close attention to the terms *must, will, shall, should or may*.

Section #1 includes instructions, conditions, guidelines, requirements and other key factors that must be understood. Using the checkmark system here will assist Vendors in participating correctly and limit the possibility of their response being disqualified due to a technicality. **Use a checkmark (✓), in the box adjacent to the section number, in order to acknowledge each of the following items.** We have found this method improves communications, limits the need for questions and thus Addendum, and helps to avoid other areas of confusion.

Section 1. INSTRUCTIONS AND GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.1

Delivery of: *Sealed Responses*, subject to Instructions and General Conditions and any special conditions set forth herein, will be received at the Taney County Purchasing Office until the solicitation closing date and time indicated herein for furnishing the County with goods, and or, services as detailed within the following pages.

1.2

Closing: *Sealed Responses* must be delivered before “Closing Date / Time” as listed on page one, to the Taney County Purchasing Department as listed on page two.

1.3

United States Postal Service WARNING: Because there is no mail delivery service at our offices, we **strongly** discourage Bidders from using the U.S.P.S. If a Bidder elects to use the United States Postal Service, do **NOT** send “return receipt requested” on our end, as we are not staffed appropriately to wait in line at the Post Office *when their counter is open* to sign for a bid response package. IN ADDITION, The Post Office only recognizes our P.O. Box address. Other delivery services require our physical address. Both addresses are listed on page #2. It is the Bidder’s responsibility, not the County, nor the Post Office, to ensure responses are delivered in a timely fashion, to the Purchasing Department. Courier or hand delivery works the best.

1.4

Late Packages: The County will not accept any response received after the listed closing date/time. Late arrivals are considered “NON-RESPONSIVE”. They will not be opened or returned.

1.5

Opening: Bids will be opened publicly at “Opening Date / Time”, per page one, and read aloud. All responses will be considered public information as soon as they are opened and become a part of the public record to be released to any person or firm who formally requests a copy.

1.6

Award / Timeline: Recommendation for award will be made formally to the Taney County Commission as soon as possible after a complete departmental review. Updates may be sent via email should the award process become delayed for any reason. (10 days or more.)

1.7

Withdrawals: Responses may be withdrawn on written request from the Bidder at the address shown in this request prior to the time of acceptance of the response. Once a response is opened, and accepted, it can only be withdrawn by order of the Taney County Commission.

1.8

Sealed & Marked: Responses must be submitted in a sealed envelope identified with the bid number and dates of closing & opening. List the bid number on the outside of the box or envelope and note “*Response to Request for Bid enclosed*” with a return name & address. No fax or electronic transmitted responses will be accepted. Make sure your package indicates “BID”, with the BID NUMBER - on the final outside surface of your package.

1.9

No Bid: If you elect not to submit a response, return the No Bid Response Form in section #5 of this package, and note your reason. (Optional). An email is preferred for a "No Bid" response.

1.10

Bidder Expenses: This County is not responsible for any expenses which Bidders may incur in estimating, inspecting, nor preparing information to respond to this solicitation.

1.11

Presentations / Inspections: The County reserves the right to conduct personal interviews or require presentations, inspections, of *or* from any / all Bidders prior to selection. The County will not be liable for any costs incurred by the Bidder in connection with such interviews, presentations, or inspections. (i.e. travel accommodations, etc.)

1.12

Bid Term: All Responses submitted shall be binding, and remain firm for ninety (90) calendar days following the opening, unless otherwise indicated. Pricing / Costs submitted within this response must be honored within that set timeframe. Bidders should not respond unless certain on this point. Submitted pricing to this request, once opened, cannot be changed for any reason. Any such changes, by law, will disqualify that full response.

1.13

Bid Rejection: The Taney County Commission reserves the right to reject any or all responses when such rejection is in the best interest of the County.

1.14

Multiple Awards: Responses may be awarded to one company or multiple companies; when such award is deemed in the best interest of the County.

1.15

Payment Terms: Taney County standard payment terms are *Net 30* after receipt of an invoice. We can not, and will not, agree to any other payment terms. Once products, or services, are received and accepted Taney County will process payment in full. Invoices need to be issued, and mailed, correctly, to the requesting department - not Purchasing.

1.16

Requests for credit applications are not necessary and will – in most cases – not be processed. Requests for deposits are not necessary and will not be accepted.

1.17

Any award agreement shall take effect upon the approval by the Taney County Commission.

1.18

Alterations: Any alterations, changes, lining out, or margin notes to any items within these instructions may result in said response being disqualified.

1.19

Direct Email Address: An email address **MUST** be provided in order to receive award results. (Not a website.) We do not use U.S.P.S. for results only email. Final award results will be emailed to all responding Vendors. Please do not call for results.

1.20

Results are always posted at: www.taneycounty.org

1.21

All questions for this solicitation must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. on Friday, December 3, 2021. Questions must be emailed to the department point of contact listed within this request as well as copied (cc) to the Purchasing Director at: nikki.lawrence@taneycountymo.gov

1.22

Aside from routine processing questions, if it becomes necessary to revise any part of this solicitation due to a significant question received which could impact specifications; a written Addendum will be issued to explain any new / necessary modifications.

1.23

Any /all solicitation impacting questions, causing the need for modifications, will be combined into one written Addendum with answers and explanations to cover any / all new issues.

1.24

Any necessary Addendum is valid only if in writing and issued by the Taney County Purchasing Department.

1.25

Any necessary Addendum will be emailed as close as possible to the day following the deadline listed in item #1.21 above, to all parties who had previously been part of the original DBI (Direct Bid Invitation email), or had made email contact during the open questioning timeframe.

1.26

When an Addendum is necessary it is a formal / legal process which Bidders are required to formally respond to. Follow the instructions as indicated in detail on the Addendum itself.

1.27

Any necessary Addendum will also be posted on the Taney County website attached at the end of the solicitation there. An indication in red, placed at the end of the affected bid, will alert website visitors as to the presence of an Addendum – if / when one is needed.

1.28

Award of Contract: The County reserves the right to award to more than one (1) supplier. Multiple awards may be made on the basis of a primary, secondary, and tertiary supplier. The primary supplier shall furnish the County's requirements until such time as the County determines that it is in the best interest of the County to seek performance from the secondary supplier, then tertiary supplier. The County's decision will be based upon the ability of the primary source to supply acceptable goods or services within the County's time requirements. The County's decision to utilize the secondary and tertiary sources shall be final and conclusive. In addition, the resulting contract from this solicitation will be considered "Non-Exclusive". The County reserves the right to obtain service, or product(s), from other suppliers. Always acting in the best interest of Taney County Missouri.

1.29

Agreement: The entire contents of response documents submitted by the successful Bidder to this request shall include all bid documents and will become a part of any contract award as a result of this solicitation. These signed documents will be binding. Bidder shall initial all pages where the document denotes "Bidder's Initials: ____" at the bottom of each page after completing each page. Any responses not complying with this condition may be considered non-responsive. The Awarded Vendor(s), of this request, will follow up with a written agreement draft, working with our Legal Services Department, and oversee completion of that process to the mutual satisfaction of all parties working in harmony with this signed response.

1.30

Our standard *Sample* agreement currently being used by Taney County, in most cases, is attached here to assist. It is not necessary to fill in the blanks of said "*Sample*". This sample is for reference purposes only. The County reserves the right to use other agreement versions should our Legal Services Department decide another version would better serve the needs of Taney County Missouri as they pertain to those requested within this solicitation.

1.31

Response Content: In order to enable direct comparison of competing responses, Bidders must submit responses in strict conformity to the requirements stated herein. Failure to adhere to all requirements may result in Bidder's Response being disqualified as non-responsive. All responses must be submitted using the forms provided herein. Every question should be answered. If not applicable, the section should contain "N/A."

1.32

Advice of Award: The County's Responses, Bid Tabulations, and Bid Award information may be viewed on our website at www.taneycounty.org. (Purchasing Department Page.)

1.33

Response Clarification: The County reserves the right to request additional written or oral information from Bidders in order to obtain clarification of their responses.

1.34

Rejection or Correction of Responses: The County reserves the right to reject any or all responses. Minor irregularities or informalities in any response which are immaterial or inconsequential in nature, neither affected by law nor at substantial variance with bid conditions, may be waived at our discretion whenever it is determined to be in the best interest of Taney County Missouri.

1.35

Evaluation Process: The County's sole purpose in the evaluation process is to determine from among the responses received which one is best suited to meet the County's needs at the lowest possible cost. Any final analysis does not imply that one Bidder is superior to another, but simply that in our judgment the Contractor selected appears to offer the best overall solution for our current and anticipated needs at the lowest possible cost.

1.36

Acceptability: The County reserves the sole right to determine whether goods and/or services offered are acceptable for County use.

1.37

Sunshine Laws: Per (Section 610.026 RSMo.) concerning public documents, all responses to this request will be considered public information as soon as they are opened and become a part of public record releasable to any person or firm that requests it. Requests for copies, of responses, must be made through the Taney County Clerk's Office (417-546-7202) requiring a Public Service Request Form (PSR). By law charges for time spent as well as a cost per page apply. Payment for copying fees is required prior to the making of copies.

Section 2. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Taney County Purchasing Department is accepting and reviewing all responses to this RFB for Independent Auditing Services for the Taney County Auditor's Office, at the best and lowest cost to the County.

- 2.1 The successful firm shall audit the general-purpose financial statements of Taney County as of and for the year ending December 31, 2021. The audit will result in the rendering of the auditor's opinion of the financial statements prepared by the County. If the auditor's opinion is other than unqualified, the reasons for qualifying the opinion, disclaiming the opinion or rendering an adverse opinion will be furnished to the County on a timely basis. The successful respondent shall furnish all labor, materials, and equipment necessary to perform the work required.
- 2.2 Anticipated Project Schedule: The anticipated schedule for completing this project should include a pre-audit planning meeting, a schedule for field work, and presentation of the management letter to the Taney County Commission. During the pre-audit planning meeting a final schedule will be developed and agreed to by both parties. Both parties will be required to adhere to this schedule. Changes or deviations from the schedule are not allowed unless authorized by the Taney County Auditor in writing.
- 2.3 All funds and account groups of the County shall be audited in accordance with applicable generally accepted auditing standards; the standards for financial audits and contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the provisions of OMB Circular A-133, and any other applicable professional standards.
- 2.4 A copy of the previous year's audits, performed by the Independent Auditor are available in the County Clerk's Office through a Public Service Request.
- 2.5 For questions concerning ALL listed specifications, or ALL technical questions, the below "Department Point of Contact" MUST be contacted:

David Clark, Taney County Auditor,
417-546-7215 (off) / 417-545-0709 (cell)
david.clark@taneycountymo.gov

Section 3 and 4. SPECIFICATIONS & STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please check (✓) off the appropriate box to indicate compliance or not. The County will always look for 100% COMPLIANCE. These "SPECIFICATION" and "STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS" are absolutely critical to all County solicitations. We suggest that if after reviewing each of the following items if any potential participant feels they are not able to comply with ALL - they should probably not submit a bid response to our solicitation. All "D" check (✓) marks will be considered very strongly toward disqualification. Check every item. Any blank item in this section will be considered non-responsive and may disqualify.

C = Comply with item. (In some cases this will serve as a simple acknowledgement.)

D = Do not / cannot comply with item.

3. SPECIFICATIONS:

- | C | D | |
|---|---|--|
| — | — | 3.1 Minimum Respondent Qualifications:
- Respondents must be independent certified public accountants, licensed in the State of Missouri.
- Respondents must have qualified personnel with governmental accounting background, experience in MAS90 (or software capability to get data from MAS90), and be familiar with GASB. |
| — | — | 3.2 Contractor Responsibilities:
- Prepare a detailed management letter of County issues with recommendations for improvement in internal controls, accounting systems, and procedures. This letter shall be issued under separate cover and presented to the Taney County Auditor.
- To obtain and compile component unit information and insure that same is appropriately presented in the general purpose financial statements; to prepare footnotes and other required supplementary disclosures, subject to County Auditor approval.
- Prepare and complete the data collection form SF-SAC for remittance to the Single Audit Clearing House. |
| — | — | 3.3 Insurance:
-The respondent shall purchase and maintain in force, at its own expense, such insurances that will protect the respondent and County from claims which may arise out of or result from the respondents execution of the work, whether such execution be by himself, his employees, agents, or by anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable. The insurance shall be such as to fully cover the County and the general public from any and all claims for injury and damage resulting by any actions on the part of the respondent or their agents and employees as enumerated above. Respondent shall provide the County proof of this coverage. |
| — | — | 3.4 Cost:
-Audit including all required reports 2021: \$_____ single audit cost if required \$_____
-Renewable for: 2022 \$_____ 2023 \$_____ 2024 \$_____ 2025 \$_____ |
| — | — | 3.5 Proposal Format:
-The format should include a title page, RFP number, firm name, firm address, phone number, and contact person. |
| — | — | 3.6 Proposal Content:
-At a minimum the proposal should contain a history of the firm, office which will serve as the managing office, a statement of understanding of the work to be done, a description of the audit approach, staff whom will be performing the audit and their credentials, and experience of both the auditing staff and of the firm itself. |
| — | — | 3.6 Tax Exemption:
-Must not include Federal Excise Tax or Sales and Use Taxes in Bid Process, as law exempts the County from them. |

5. **NO BID RESPONSE FORM:** Completion of this short form is optional and is included within our solicitations as an additional "tool" to assist us overall in improving future solicitation processes. If you, or your company, has decided not to participate by not offering a bid, please complete the below form and return it to the Purchasing Department via email. Thank you...

RFB #202111-493 Independent Auditing Services

Business Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Contact Person:	
Date:	
Reason(s) for not Bidding:	

6. FINAL MANDATORY COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST:

By using the below table as a checklist you will help to insure that your bid is fully compliant before you seal it for submission. **Your full bid response needs to comply with all of the below listed requirements or it may not be included for consideration. Use a checkmark (✓) next to each item to avoid leaving out required information or missing an instruction which could cause your response to be disqualified.** Please call me, at my office as listed right below, or email me with any questions pertaining to these requirements or any other written instructions.

Nikki Lawrence, Director of Purchasing
 Office: 417-546-7281 / FAX: 417-546-3931
nikki.lawrence@taneycountymo.gov

The below requirements apply to every form of solicitation we let out.

(✓) = Acknowledged below item with intent to comply.

- ___ **6.1 The County will not accept any late bids. Late packages will not be opened or returned.**
- ___ **6.2 No fax or electronic transmitted bids will be accepted. Bid responses received via fax will disqualify that Vendor from any participation in this bid.**
- ___ **6.3 Please include a current/signed W-9, even if we have one on file, form with your company information. Taney County Accounts Payable Department cannot process payment(s) without a current W9. The name and address on your W9 will be used as the formal name/address on any subsequent Agreement post award.**
- ___ **6.4 Remember to sign the bid sheet as this is mandatory. Missing signature WILL disqualify.**
- ___ **6.5 Un-readable responses, including an unreadable email address, WILL disqualify.**
- ___ **6.6 Three COMPLETE copies of the bid response, with your original, are REQUIRED. Please indicate copies versus original. One sided copies ONLY. A double-sided response is not considered an acceptable "legal" document for our purposes.**

AGREEMENT (*Sample*)
for
Independent Auditing Services

THIS AGREEMENT dated the _____ day of _____ 202_ is made between Taney County, Missouri, a political subdivision of the State of Missouri, (hereinafter "County") and _____ (hereinafter "Contractor").

NOW, THEREFORE IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual considerations and obligations of the parties contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. Contract Documents. The contract documents to this Agreement to provide Independent Auditing Services ("Services") shall include the Contractor's bid response to County's Request For Bid #202111-493 and any applicable addenda which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. Service or product data, specifications and literature submitted may be permanently maintained in the County Purchasing Office. In the event of a conflict between any of the foregoing Contract Documents, and this Agreement, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall prevail and control.

2. Contract Price. Services provided under this Agreement shall not exceed the price as quoted in the attached bid response for fiscal year ending December 31, 2021, except that in the event expenditures of federal awards for the year ended December 31, 2021, exceed \$750,000, a single audit in accordance with the Uniform Guidance will be required and there will be an additional fee of \$3,500 for those procedures. In the event of renewal of this Agreement, the parties agree that the Price subsequent fiscal years shall be governed by the RFB.

3. Contract Duration. This agreement shall commence on the date it is fully executed and extend for a period of one (1) year thereafter, subject to the provisions for termination specified below. This agreement may be renewed for fiscal years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 on the same terms and conditions as set forth in the Contract Documents and this Agreement, by providing notice of the intent to renew to Contractor no later than December 1 of the fiscal year subject to the pricing clauses as agreed to, and offered by the Contractor's bid response. This agreement may be renewed thereafter on a month to month basis for up to six months in the event the County is unable to re-bid and award a new contract prior to full expiration.

4. Billing and Payment. All billing shall be invoiced with specific department information and include bid reference #202111-493 for tracking. Billings and invoices may only include the prices provided for via this Agreement. No additional fees or extra services not included, or taxes, shall be included as additional charges in excess of the charges in this Agreement or the Contract Documents. The County agrees to pay all correct statements within thirty days of receipt; Contractor agrees to honor any cash or prompt payment discounts, if any are available, when County makes payment as provided therein. In the event of a billing dispute, the County reserves the right to withhold payment on the disputed amount.

5. Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto and their successors and assigns for so long as this Agreement remains in full force and effect.

