



University of South Carolina
 Purchasing Department
 1600 Hampton Street, 6th floor
 Columbia, SC 29208
 Telephone: (803) 777-4115

Request for Quotation

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THIS IS NOT AN ORDER

Quotation must be received No Later Than:	Send quotation to above address Attention of:	Quotation Number:	Date
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Print company name and address:

Please quote your lowest delivered price of the items(s) listed below. The Purchasing Department reserves the right to reject any or all quotes and to waive any or all technicalities.

1. If an item cannot be furnished, indicate by **NO QUOTE**.
2. All quotes must be signed by the vendor's representative and terms noted, failure to comply with this instruction may result in disqualification of the quote.
3. **FAXED QUOTES ACCEPTABLE.** FAX # (803) 777-2032

Federal I.D. or Social Security No. _____ SC Minority Certification Number (If Applicable) _____

Submitted By (Print Name) _____ Signature _____ Telephone _____

Item No.	Quantity and Unit	Description of Commodity or Services	Unit Price	Total Price

GENERAL CONDITIONS

DEFAULT: In case of default by the Contractor, the University of South Carolina reserves the right to purchase any or all items in default in the open market, charging the Contractor with any additional costs. The defaulting Contractor shall not be considered a responsible bidder until the assessed charge has been satisfied.

All amendments to and interpretation of this RFQ shall be in writing. The procurement officer shall not be legally bound by any amendment or interpretation that is not in writing.

Any contract entered into by the University of South Carolina or its agencies resulting from this quotation shall be subject to cancellation at the end of any fiscal or appropriated year unless otherwise provided by law.

Payment will be made in accordance with Section 11-35-45 of the South Carolina Consolidated Procurement Code and Disbursement Regulations. Delay in receiving invoices, as well as errors and omissions on the invoices, will be considered just cause for withholding payment without losing discount privileges. The University reserves the right to withhold payment or make such deductions as may be necessary to protect the University from loss or damage because of defective work, claims, and damages or to pay for repair of correction of materials furnished hereunder.

Quoted prices must remain firm for a period of thirty days beyond the Request for Quotation deadline. Unit prices will govern over extended prices unless otherwise stated.

The University of South Carolina shall consider payment discounts in the award of this contract when such discounts are for thirty days or more after final inspection and acceptance of contract requirements. Payment discounts for less than thirty days are encouraged but shall not be a factor in award determination. Please state your discount terms using the above referenced information as the University's position on the matter.

All services offered must be guaranteed to meet and comply with the requirements all the specifications, terms and conditions indicated or referred to.

The award will be made in accordance with Section 11-35-1520 of the South Carolina Consolidated Procurement Code.

The University reserves the right to reject any and all quotations and to cancel the solicitation; waive any and all technicalities; the University reserves the right to reject any quotation in which the delivery time indicated to be of substantial length to cause disruption and/or delay in operation for which the item(s) is/are intended; ambiguous quotations which are uncertain as to terms, delivery, quantity or compliance with specifications may be rejected.

The successful contractor assumes sole responsibility and shall hold harmless the University of South Carolina, its directors, officers, employees and agents from and against any and all claims, actions or liabilities of any nature which may be asserted against them by third parties in connection with the performance of the successful bidder, its directors, officers, employees and agents under this agreement. The University of South Carolina agrees to accept responsibility for claims, actions or liabilities resulting from negligent acts of its employees occurring within the scope of their employment which may be asserted against them by third parties in connection with the performance of the University of South Carolina, its members, directors, officers, employees and agents under this agreement.

Contractor agrees not to refer to award of this contract in commercial advertising in such a manner to state or imply that the products or service provided are endorsed or preferred by the user.

Upon award of a contract under this quotation, the person, partnership, association or corporation to whom the award is made must comply with the laws of South Carolina that require such person or entity to be authorized and/or licensed to do business in this State. Notwithstanding the fact that applicable statutes may be exempt or exclude the successful quoter from requirements that it be authorized and/or licensed to do business in this State, by submission of this signed quote, the quoter agrees to subject itself to the jurisdiction and process of the courts of the

State of South Carolina as to all matters and disputes arising or to arise under the contract and the performance thereof, including any questions as to the liability for taxes, licenses or fees levied by the State.

Termination: Subject to the provisions below, the contractor may be terminated for any reason by the University providing a thirty-day advance notice in writing is given to the contractor.

Termination for Convenience: In the event that this contract is terminated or cancelled upon request and for the convenience of the University may negotiate reasonable termination costs, if applicable.

Termination for Cause: Termination by the University for cause, default, or negligence on the part of the Contractor shall be excluded from the foregoing provisions; termination costs, if any, shall not apply. The thirty day advance notice requirement is waived and the default provision in this bid shall apply.

HIPAA Law: The Contractor agrees that to the extent that some or all of the activities within the scope of this Contract are subject to the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act of 1996, P.L. 104-91, as amended (“HIPAA”), or its implementing regulations, it will comply with the HIPAA requirements and will execute such agreements and practices as the University of South Carolina may require to ensure compliance. Additional information may be viewed at: <http://www.sc.edu/hipaa/>

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

LICENSES, PERMITS, INSURANCE: All costs for required licenses, permits and insurance shall be borne by the Bidder.

The University of South Carolina requires all contractual activities to be performed in a manner that is consistent with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, rules, rulings and ordinances. These include, but are not limited to: the Occupational safety and Health Act, The Environmental Protection Act, The South Carolina Hazardous Waste Management Act.

IMPORTANT – Please Note

Vendors, we MUST have your Federal ID # (company) or Social Security # (individual) before processing any invoices for payment. Failure to provide this information will result in delay of payments until this information is received. Please include this information with your quote.

PREFERENCES

PREFERENCES - A NOTICE TO VENDORS (SEP. 2009): On June 16, 2009, the South Carolina General Assembly rewrote the law governing preferences available to in-state vendors, vendors using in-state subcontractors, and vendors selling in-state or US end products. This law appears in Section 11-35-1524 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. A summary of the new preferences is available at www.procurement.sc.gov/preferences. **ALL THE PREFERENCES MUST BE CLAIMED AND ARE APPLIED BY LINE ITEM, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AWARD IS MADE BY ITEM OR LOT. VENDORS ARE CAUTIONED TO CAREFULLY REVIEW THE STATUTE BEFORE CLAIMING ANY PREFERENCES. THE REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY HAVE CHANGED. IF YOU REQUEST A PREFERENCE, YOU ARE CERTIFYING THAT YOUR OFFER QUALIFIES FOR THE PREFERENCE YOU'VE CLAIMED. IMPROPERLY REQUESTING A PREFERENCE CAN HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.** [11-35-1524(E)(4)&(6)]

PREFERENCES - RESIDENT CONTRACTOR PREFERENCE (SEP 2009): To qualify for the RCP, you must maintain an office in this state. An office is a nonmobile place for the regular transaction of business or performance of a particular service which has been operated as such by the bidder for at least one year before the bid opening and during that year the place has been staffed for at least fifty weeks by at least two employees for at least thirty five hours a week each. In addition, you must, at the time you submit your bid, directly employ, or have a documented commitment with, individuals domiciled in South Carolina that will perform services expressly required by the solicitation and your total direct labor cost for those individuals to provide those services must exceed fifty percent of your total bid price. [11-35-1524(C)(1)(iii)] Upon request by the procurement officer, you must identify the persons domiciled in South Carolina that will perform the services involved in the procurement upon which you rely in qualifying for the preference, the services those individuals are to perform, and documentation of the your labor cost for each person identified. If requested, your failure to provide this information promptly will be grounds to deny the preference (and, potentially, for other enforcement action).

PREFERENCES - RESIDENT SUBCONTRACTOR PREFERENCE (SEP 2009): To qualify for this preference, You must meet the following requirements. (1) You must -- at the time you submit your bid -- have a documented commitment from a single proposed first tier subcontractor to perform some portion of the services expressly required by the solicitation. (2) The subcontractor -- at the time you submit your bid -- must directly employ, or have a documented commitment with, individuals domiciled in South Carolina that will perform services expressly required by the solicitation and the total direct labor cost to the subcontractor for those individuals to provide those services exceeds, as applicable, either twenty percent for a 2% preference or forty percent of bidder's total bid price for a 4% preference. (3) You must identify the subcontractor that will perform the work, the work the subcontractor is to perform, and your factual basis for concluding that the subcontractor's work constitutes the required percentage of the work to be performed in the procurement. [11-35-1524(D)] You can stack this preference, i.e., earn another 2% or 4% preference for each additional qualifying subcontractor, but the preference is capped. [11-35-1524(D)(4), (E)(7)] Upon request by the procurement officer, you must identify the persons domiciled in South Carolina that are to perform the services involved in the procurement upon which you rely in qualifying for the preference, the services those individuals are to perform, the employer of those persons, your relationship with the employer, and documentation of the subcontractor's labor cost for each person identified. If requested, your failure to provide this information promptly will be grounds to deny the preference (and, potentially, for other enforcement action). **YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THE PREFERENCE UNLESS YOU SPECIFY WHETHER YOUR ARE CLAIMING THE 2% OR 4% PREFERENCE AND YOU PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY ITEM (3) ABOVE.**

SUBCONTRACTOR SUBSTITUTION PROHIBITED - RESIDENT SUBCONTRACTOR PREFERENCE (SEP 2009): If you receive an award as a result of the subcontractor preference, you may not substitute any business for the subcontractor upon which you relied to qualify for the preference, unless first approved in writing by the procurement officer. If you violate this provision, the State may terminate your contract for cause and you may be debarred. In addition, the procurement officer may require you to pay the State an amount equal to twice the

difference between the price paid by the State and the price offered by the next lowest bidder, unless the substituted subcontractor qualifies for the preference. [11-35-1524(D)(5)(c)]

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATION – GENERAL (JAN 2006): The contractor shall provide and pay for all materials, tools, equipment, labor and professional and non-professional services, and shall perform all other acts and supply all other things necessary, to fully and properly perform and complete the work. The contractor must act as the prime contractor and assume full responsibility for any subcontractor's performance. The contractor will be considered the sole point of contact with regard to all situations, including payment of all charges and the meeting of all other requirements.

LICENSES AND PERMITS (JAN 2006): During the term of the contract, the Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining, and maintaining in good standing, all licenses (including professional licenses, if any), permits, inspections and related fees for each or any such licenses, permits and /or inspections required by the State, county, city or other government entity or unit to accomplish the work specified in this solicitation and the contract.

RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES (JAN 2006): Neither party is an employee, agent, partner, or joint venturer of the other. Neither party has the right or ability to bind the other to any agreement with a third party or to incur any obligation or liability on behalf of the other party.

MAXIMUM CONTRACT PERIOD – ESTIMATED (JAN 2006): Starting date: [April 1, 2013 End date: March 31, 2018] Dates provided are estimates only. Any resulting contract will begin on the date specified in the notice of award. See clause entitled "Term of Contract – Effective Date / Initial Contract Period".

TERM OF CONTRACT – EFFECTIVE DATE / INITIAL CONTRACT PERIOD (JAN 2006): The effective date of this contract is the first day of the Maximum Contract Period as specified on the final statement of award. The initial term of this agreement is one year from the effective date. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the final statement of award.

TERM OF CONTRACT – OPTION TO RENEW: At the end of the initial term, and at the end of each renewal term, this contract shall automatically renew for a period of one year, unless contractor receives notice that the state elects not to renew the contract at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of renewal. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the Purchase Order.

SCOPE OF WORK / SPECIFICATIONS

DELIVERY / PERFORMANCE LOCATION – PURCHASE ORDER: After award, all deliveries shall be made and all services provided to the location specified by the University of South Carolina in its purchase order.

Contractor will be responsible to furnish all labor and equipment to perform an interior plant maintenance contract at the USC Russell House on the Columbia, SC main campus, complying with the enclosed description and/or specifications and conditions.

NOTE: Planters will be supplied by USC.

NON-MANDATORY SITE VISIT: A site visit will be held at the following date, time and location. The University assumes no responsibility for any conclusions or interpretations made by the contractor based on the information made available at the site visit. Nor does the University assume responsibility for any understanding reached or representation made concerning conditions which can affect the work by any of its officers or agents before the execution of this contract, unless that understanding or representation is expressly stated in this contract.

Date and Time: Thursday, February 7, 2013; 10:00 AM

Location: USC Russell House
1st Floor Lobby
1400 Greene Street
Columbia, SC 29208

Deadline for Questions: Friday, February 8, 2013 10:00 AM

NOTE: *A potential bidder's failure to attend an advertised pre-bid conference will not excuse its responsibility for estimating properly the difficulty and cost of successfully performing the work, or for proceeding to successfully perform the work without additional expense to the State.*

Specifications

1. All plants shall be inspected for soil moisture levels and replenished as necessary to provide adequate moisture for proper growing requirements, on a weekly or as needed basis.
2. All plants shall be trimmed as often as necessary for good maintenance and continual healthy appearance.
3. Contractor shall remove debris from the soil surface and add soil or mulch as needed.
4. Plants are to be rotated relative to any predominate light source in order to maintain an attractive shape throughout the year. Light meter readings shall be taken as requested if the plants look below standard. The contractor shall, at his/her own expense, with the owner's approval, adjust plant types if light meter readings indicate inadequate or

excessive amounts of light for the plants specified. Any plant which dies, discolors, or is deemed unacceptable by USC will be replaced at the Contractor's expense.

5. All foliage shall be kept clean and free of dust. The plant leaves will be cleaned with water and/or special cleaning solutions and polished as necessary to keep a healthy shining appearance at all times. Material safety data sheets must be provided for any chemical utilized.
6. All indoor foliage shall be fertilized as necessary throughout the year to maintain vigorous and healthy plants, with fertilizers being supplied by the contractor.
7. All foliage shall be sprayed as often as required to keep plant materials free from insects and pests. The Contractor, as needed, will supply all insecticides and required sprays. All sprays are to be OSHA approved, and safe for indoor use and harmless to humans, carpeting, and interior furnishings. Material safety data sheets must be provided for any chemicals utilized.
8. All plants used for replacements are to be of hand selected, superior quality and guaranteed. Any plants which fail to meet quality standards will be replaced with plants of the original or comparable quality as previously installed. All plants shall be subject to inspection and approval by the University's representative.
9. Contractor is responsible for the repair, replacement and cleaning of any soiled, stained, damaged, surfaces to interior of the Russell House caused by the plants, plant watering or chemicals utilized and not related to daily operations by USC personnel.
10. Contractor shall have sufficient staff to service this account with certified technicians under the direct supervision of a certified professional.
11. Contractor's staff shall wear a uniform clearly identifying the name of the company.

Safety Precautions

The Contractor shall be responsible for the safety and health of all workers on this project and shall comply with all applicable provisions of OSHA.

Working Hours

All work shall be performed during hours in a manner so that it does not interfere with the normal routine of the building or endanger property or personnel.

MINORITY PARTICIPATION (JAN 2006)

Is the bidder a South Carolina Certified Minority Business? Yes NO

Is the bidder a Minority Business certified by another governmental entity? Yes NO

If so, please list the certifying governmental entity: _____

Will any of the work under this contract be performed by a SC certified Minority Business as a subcontractor? Yes NO

If so, what percentage of the total value of the contract will be performed by a SC certified Minority Business as a subcontractor? Yes NO

Will any of the work under this contract be performed by a minority business certified by another governmental entity as a subcontractor? Yes NO

If so, what percentage of the total value of the contract will be performed by a minority business certified by another governmental entity as a subcontractor? Yes NO

If a certified Minority Business is participating in this contract, please indicate all categories for which the Business is certified:

- Traditional minority
- Traditional minority, but female
- Women (Caucasian females)
- Hispanic minorities
- DOT referral (Traditional minority)
- DOT referral (Caucasian female)
- Temporary certification
- SBA 8 (a) certification referral
- Other minorities (Native American, Asian, etc.)

(If more than one minority contractor will be utilized in the performance of this contract, please provide the information above for each minority business.)

BID SCHEDULE

Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Description	Unit Price	Extended Price
1	12	Months	Furnish all labor and equipment to perform an interior plant maintenance contract at the USC Russell House	\$_____/mo	\$_____/annually

Resident Contractor Preference _____
 Resident Sub-Contractor Preference (2%) _____ Number of Sub-Contractors _____
 Resident Sub-Contractor Preference (4%) _____ Number of Sub-Contractors _____

Note: The service preferences do not apply to a bid for an item of work by the bidder if the annual price of the bidder’s work exceeds \$50,000 or the total potential price of the bidder’s work exceeds \$500,000. [11-35-1524(E)(3)]

Please refer to the preference clauses listed in the additional conditions of this solicitation to ensure that you qualify to select the above preferences.

Bidder is to submit the following for preferences requested above:

- 1) Identify the subcontractor to perform the work:
- 2) Identify the work the subcontractor is to perform:
- 3) Bidder’s factual basis for concluding that the subcontractor’s work constitutes the required percentage of the work to be performed in the procurement.