

BERGEN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The Bergen Municipal Employee Benefits Fund ("Fund") is soliciting proposals through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.4 et seq. for the below listed professional service for a contract that will run for twenty four months from the date of appointment.

Sealed RFP responses will be received by Emily Koval, Account Manager on June 28, 2018 at 3:00P.M. at 9 Campus Drive, Suite 216, Parsippany, NJ 07054 at which time and place responses will be opened for:

Attorney

The firm(s) selected will be required to enter into a contract agreement prepared by the Bergen Municipal Employee Benefits Fund. The firm(s) selected will be notified of the acceptance of its proposal via award of a contract(s) by the Commission on or about January 1, 2019.

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

Through this Request for Proposal (RFP), the Fund seeks to engage a vendor as Attorney.

**ALL REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED
NO LATER THAN 3:00 P.M. ON JUNE 28, 2018 TO:**

Emily Koval, Executive Director
ATTORNEY
RFP RESPONSE
9 Campus Drive, Suite 216
Parsippany, NJ 07054

NAME OF FUND: BERGEN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

CONTACT PERSON: Emily Koval

TITLE: Account Manager

MAILING ADDRESS: 9 Campus Drive, Suite 216
Parsippany, NJ 07054

TELEPHONE #: (201)518-7028

E-MAIL ADDRESS (inquiries only): emilyk@permainc.com

- Attach price proposal/fee schedule for the following:
 - o 2019
 - o 2020
 - o 2021

- Include the documents requested within this document.

SIGNED BY: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATED: _____

MANDATORY CONTENTS OF PROPOSAL

In its proposal, the firm must include the following:

- 1) Contact Information: Provide the name and address of the firm, the name, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of the individual responsible for the preparation of the proposal.
- 2) An executive summary of not more than three pages identifying and substantiating why the vendor is best qualified to provide the requested services.
- 3) A staffing plan listing those persons who will be assigned to the engagement if the vendor is selected, including the designation of the person who would be the vendor's officer responsible for all services required under the engagement. This portion of the proposal should include the relevant resume information for the individuals who will be assigned. This information should include, at a minimum, a description of the person's relevant professional experience, years and type of experience, and number of years with the vendor.
- 4) A description of the vendor's experience in performing services of the type described in this RFP. Specifically identify client size and specific examples of similarities with the scope of services required under this RFP.
- 5) A description of resources of the vendor (i.e., background, location, experience, staff resources, financial resources, other resources, etc.).
- 6) The location of the office, if other than the vendor's main office, at which the vendor proposes to perform services required under this RFQ. Describe your presence in New Jersey. Specifically, the vendor must state in its proposal whether or not the vendor is registered as a business enterprise with the New Jersey Commerce and Economic Growth Commission New Jersey's Set-Aside Program.
- 7) Provide references including the contact names, titles and phone numbers.
- 8) In its proposal, the vendor must identify any existing or potential conflicts of interest, and disclose any representation of parties or other relationships that might be considered a conflict of interest with regard to this engagement, or the Fund.

INTERVIEW

The Fund reserves the right to interview any or all of the applicants submitting a proposal. Although interviews may take place, the proposal should be comprehensive and complete on its face. The Fund reserves the right to request clarifying information subsequent to submission of the proposal.

PROCESS

All proposals will be reviewed to determine responsiveness. Non-responsive proposals will be rejected without evaluation. For vendors that satisfy the minimum requirements, the Fund will evaluate proposals based on the following evaluation criteria and weighting:

- a. Organizational Management, Stability and Ownership (10%)
- b. Expertise as an Attorney (15%)
- c. Experience in health joint insurance funds with similar services (20%)
- d. Ability to comply with the required standards of the RFP (15%)
- e. Results collected from provided references (10%)
- f. Fee Proposal (30%)

SELECTION CRITERIA AND CONTRACT

The Fund will select the vendor deemed most advantageous to the Commission, price and other factors considered. The contract between the Fund and the selected vendor(s) shall be comprised of the standard form of contract issued by the Fund, this RFP, any clarifications or addenda thereto, and the selected vendor's proposal.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Selected vendor must be able to provide evidence of the following insurance coverage listing the Fund as an Additional Named Insured:

INSURANCE. Except as elsewhere provided herein, SERVICE PROVIDER shall provide, at its own cost and expense, proof of the following insurance to the FUND:

- A. Workers' Compensation: Statutory - \$100,000/\$500,000/\$100,000 - employers' liability.
- B. General Liability: Minimum limit of liability, per occurrence, for bodily injury of \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000 CSL for bodily injury, property damage, and personal injury.
- C. Automobile Liability: \$1,000,000 covering all owned/non-owned, and hired automobiles.
- D. Professional Liability Insurance: A minimum limit of liability of \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000 aggregate.

Failure by the SERVICE PROVIDER to supply such written evidence shall result in default.

SCOPE OF SERVICES - Attorney

The following scope of services will be required by the vendor for the position of Attorney.

ATTORNEY

SERVICES. During the term of this Agreement, the SERVICE PROVIDER agrees to provide the following services:

- A. To provide legal advice to the FUND's Executive Committee.
- B. To recommend to the FUND's Executive Committee, attorneys to handle claims against the FUND or the member municipalities where the FUND is obligated to provide a defense, and to supervise the work of such attorneys who shall not be a member of the same law firm.
- C. To provide reports to the FUND's Executive Committee on such matters and at such times as the FUND's Executive Committee may direct.
- D. Assist the Executive Director/Administrator, Program Manager, and the Claims Service Company in the analysis of claims with periodic reports to the FUND's Executive Committee with such recommendations as may, in the opinion of the attorney, assist in the orderly administration of claims and claim appeals.
- E. Coordinate the handling of litigated claims with the Claims Service Company and with attorneys approved by the FUND.
- F. Perform such other services as may be required by the FUND's Executive Committee, Executive Director/Administrator, the FUND Bylaws, any applicable Excess Fund's Bylaws, the Risk Management Plan and/or the statutes or regulations pertaining to the FUND. Where and when authorized as a separate matter, represent the Fund in such administrative, legislative or judicial proceedings as may be requested.
- G. Unless the Commissioner of Insurance otherwise permits, the SERVICE PROVIDER shall handle, to conclusion, all claims and other obligations incurred during the contract period.

H. SERVICE PROVIDER shall comply with the applicable data transmission, security, and privacy requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, Public Law 104-191, including but not limited to, the requirements set forth (and as outlined) in Attachment 1, Business Associate Contract Provisions, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE (N.J.S.A. 52:32-44)

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44 as amended, all vendors or companies providing responses for requested proposals, should submit with their response package a copy of their "New Jersey Business Registration Certificate" as issued by the Department of Treasury of the State of New Jersey.

The Fund requests that all respondents for this proposal submit a current New Jersey Business Registration Certificate with the proposal.

Failure to provide the New Jersey Business Registration Certification prior to the award of contract, will be cause for the rejection of the entire proposal.

Goods, Services and Construction Contracts

N.J.S.A. 52:32-44 imposes the following requirements on contractors and all subcontractors:

A contractor shall provide the contracting agency with the business registration of the contractor and that of any named subcontractor prior to the time a contract, purchase order, or other contracting document is awarded or authorized. At the sole option of the contracting agency, the requirement that a contractor provide proof of business registration may be fulfilled by the contractor providing the contracting agency sufficient information for the contracting agency to verify proof of registration of the contractor, or named subcontractors, through a computerized system maintained by the State.

A subcontractor named in a RFP or other proposal made by a contractor to a contracting agency shall provide a copy of its business registration to any contractor who shall provide it to the contracting agency pursuant to the provisions of subsection b. of this section. No contract with a subcontractor shall be entered into by any contractor under any contract with a contracting agency unless the subcontractor first provides the contractor with proof of a valid business registration. For RFPs and requests for proposals, the contracting agency must retain the proof of business registration in the file where documents relating to the contract are maintained. For all other contracts, proofs of business registration shall be maintained in an alphabetical file.

The contractor shall maintain and submit to the contracting agency a list of subcontractors and their addresses that may be updated from time to time during the course of the contract performance. A complete and accurate list shall be submitted before final payment is made for goods provided or services rendered or for construction of a construction project under the contract. A contracting agency shall not be responsible for a contractor's failure to comply with this subsection.

A contractor or a contractor with a subcontractor that has entered into a contract with a contracting agency, and each of their affiliates, shall collect and remit to the Director of the Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury the use tax due pursuant to the "Sales and Use Tax Act," P.L.1966, c.30 (C.54:32B-1 et seq.) on all their taxable sales of tangible personal property delivered into this State.

BERGEN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

Mandatory Antidiscrimination Provision

N.J.S.A. 10:2-1

The contractor agrees that:

a. In the hiring of persons for the performance of work under this contract or any subcontract hereunder, or for the procurement, manufacture, assembling or furnishing of any such materials, equipment, supplies or services to be acquired under this contract, no contractor, nor any person acting on behalf of such contractor or subcontractor, shall, by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation or sex, discriminate against any person who is qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates;

b. No contractor, subcontractor, nor any person on his behalf shall, in any manner, discriminate against or intimidate any employee engaged in the performance of work under this contract or any subcontract hereunder, or engaged in the procurement, manufacture, assembling or furnishing of any such materials, equipment, supplies or services to be acquired under such contract, on account of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation or sex;

c. There may be deducted from the amount payable to the contractor by the contracting public agency, under this contract, a penalty of \$ 50.00 for each person for each calendar day during which such person is discriminated against or intimidated in violation of the provisions of the contract; and

d. This contract may be canceled or terminated by the contracting public agency, and all money due or to become due hereunder may be forfeited, for any violation of this section of the contract occurring after notice to the contractor from the contracting public agency of any prior violation of this section of the contract.

Chapter 271
Political Contribution Disclosure Form
 (Contracts that Exceed \$17,500.00)
 Ref. N.J.S.A. 19:44-20.26

The undersigned, being authorized and knowledgeable of the circumstances, does hereby certify that _____ **(Business Entity)** has made the following **reportable** political contributions to any elected official, political candidate or any political committee as defined in N.J.S.A. 19:44-20.26 during the twelve (12) months preceding this award of contract:

Reportable Contributions

<u>Date of Contribution</u>	<u>Amount of Contribution</u>	<u>Name of Recipient Elected Official/ Committee/Candidate</u>	<u>Name of Contributor</u>

The Business Entity may attach additional pages if needed.

No Reportable Contributions (Please check (✓) if applicable.)

I certify that _____(Business Entity) made no reportable contributions to any elected official, political candidate or any political committee as defined in N.J.S.A. 19:44-20.26.

Certification

I certify, that the information provided above is in full compliance with Public Law 2005 – Chapter 271.

Name of Authorized Agent _____

Signature _____ **Title** _____

Business Entity _____

C. 271 POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM

Contractor Instructions

Business entities (contractors) receiving contracts from a public agency are subject to the provisions of P.L. 2005, c. 271, s.2 (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26). This law provides that 10 days prior to the award of such a contract, the contractor shall disclose contributions to:

- any State, county, or municipal committee of a political party
- any legislative leadership committee*
- any continuing political committee (a.k.a., political action committee)
- any candidate committee of a candidate for, or holder of, an elective office:
 - of the public entity awarding the contract
 - of that county in which that public entity is located
 - of another public entity within that county
 - or of a legislative district in which that public entity is located or, when the public entity is a county, of any legislative district which includes all or part of the county

The disclosure must list reportable contributions to any of the committees that exceed \$300 per election cycle that were made during the 12 months prior to award of the contract. See N.J.S.A. 19:44A-8 and 19:44A-16 for more details on reportable contributions.

N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26 itemizes the parties from whom contributions must be disclosed when a business entity is not a natural person. This includes the following:

- individuals with an “interest” ownership or control of more than 10% of the profits or assets of a business entity or 10% of the stock in the case of a business entity that is a corporation for profit
- all principals, partners, officers, or directors of the business entity or their spouses
- any subsidiaries directly or indirectly controlled by the business entity
- IRS Code Section 527 New Jersey based organizations, directly or indirectly controlled by the business entity and filing as continuing political committees, (PACs).

When the business entity is a natural person, “a contribution by that person’s spouse or child, residing therewith, shall be deemed to be a contribution by the business entity.” [N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26(b)] The contributor must be listed on the disclosure.

Any business entity that fails to comply with the disclosure provisions shall be subject to a fine imposed by ELEC in an amount to be determined by the Commission which may be based upon the amount that the business entity failed to report.

The enclosed list of agencies is provided to assist the contractor in identifying those public agencies whose elected official and/or candidate campaign committees are affected by the disclosure requirement. It is the contractor’s responsibility to identify the specific committees to which contributions may have been made and need to be disclosed. The disclosed information may exceed the minimum requirement.

The enclosed form, a content-consistent facsimile, or an electronic data file containing the required details (along with a signed cover sheet) may be used as the contractor’s submission and is disclosable to the public under the Open Public Records Act.

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY -- DIVISION OF PURCHASE AND PROPERTY
DISCLOSURE OF INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES IN IRAN**

Quote Number:

Bidder/Offeror:

PART 1: CERTIFICATION

BIDDERS MUST COMPLETE PART 1 BY CHECKING EITHER BOX.

FAILURE TO CHECK ONE OF THE BOXES WILL RENDER THE PROPOSAL NON-RESPONSIVE.

Pursuant to Public Law 2012, c. 25, any person or entity that submits a bid or proposal or otherwise proposes to enter into or renew a contract must complete the certification below to attest, under penalty of perjury, that neither the person or entity, nor any of its parents, subsidiaries, or affiliates, is identified on the Department of Treasury's Chapter 25 list as a person or entity engaging in investment activities in Iran. The Chapter 25 list is found on the Division's website at <http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/pdf/Chapter25List.pdf>. Bidders must review this list prior to completing the below certification. **Failure to complete the certification will render a bidder's proposal non-responsive.** If the Director finds a person or entity to be in violation of law, s/he shall take action as may be appropriate and provided by law, rule or contract, including but not limited to, imposing sanctions, seeking compliance, recovering damages, declaring the party in default and seeking debarment or suspension of the party

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX:

I certify, pursuant to Public Law 2012, c. 25, that neither the bidder listed above nor any of the bidder's parents, subsidiaries, or affiliates is listed on the N.J. Department of the Treasury's list of entities determined to be engaged in prohibited activities in Iran pursuant to P.L. 2012, c. 25 ("Chapter 25 List"). I further certify that I am the person listed above, or I am an officer or representative of the entity listed above and am authorized to make this certification on its behalf. **I will skip Part 2 and sign and complete the Certification below.**

OR

I am unable to certify as above because the bidder and/or one or more of its parents, subsidiaries, or affiliates is listed on the Department's Chapter 25 list. I will provide a detailed, accurate and precise description of the activities in Part 2 below and sign and complete the Certification below. Failure to provide such will result in the proposal being rendered as non-responsive and appropriate penalties, fines and/or sanctions will be assessed as provided by law.

PART 2: PLEASE PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES IN IRAN

You must provide a detailed, accurate and precise description of the activities of the bidding person/entity, or one of its parents, subsidiaries or affiliates, engaging in the investment activities in Iran outlined above by completing the boxes below.

EACH BOX WILL PROMPT YOU TO PROVIDE INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS. PLEASE PROVIDE THOROUGH ANSWERS TO EACH QUESTION. IF YOU NEED TO MAKE ADDITIONAL ENTRIES, CLICK THE "ADD AN ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES ENTRY" BUTTON.

Name	<input type="text"/>	Relationship to Bidder/Offeror	<input type="text"/>
Description of Activities	<input type="text"/>		
Duration of Engagement	<input type="text"/>	Anticipated Cessation Date	<input type="text"/>
Bidder/Offeror Contact Name	<input type="text"/>	Contact Phone Number	<input type="text"/>

ADD AN ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES ENTRY

Certification: I, being duly sworn upon my oath, hereby represent that the foregoing information and any attachments thereto to the best of my knowledge are true and complete. I acknowledge: that I am authorized to execute this certification on behalf of the bidder; that the State of New Jersey is relying on the information contained herein and that I am under a continuing obligation from the date of this certification through the completion of any contracts with the State to notify the State in writing of any changes to the information contained herein; that I am aware that it is a criminal offense to make a false statement or misrepresentation in this certification, and if I do so, I am subject to criminal prosecution under the law and that it will constitute a material breach of my agreement(s) with the State, permitting the State to declare any contract(s) resulting from this certification void and unenforceable.

Full Name (Print):

Signature:

Do Not Enter PIN as a Signature

Title:

Date:

NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT

Re: RFP Proposal for BERGEN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND

STATE OF _____

ss:

COUNTY OF _____

I, _____ of the City of _____

in the County of _____ and the State of _____

of full age, being duly sworn according to law on my oath depose and say that:

I am _____ (Position in Company)

of the firm of _____ and the Vendor making the Proposal for the above names contract, and that I executed the said Proposal with full authority so to do; that I have not, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, discussed any or all parts of this proposal with any potential Vendor, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free, competitive RFP in connection with the above named RFP, and that all statements contained in said Proposal and in this affidavit are true and correct, and made with full knowledge that the Fund relies upon the truth of the statements contained in said Proposal and in the statements contained in this affidavit in awarding the contract for the said RFP.

I further warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure such contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except bona fide employees of bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by

(Print Name of Contractor)

Subscribed and sworn to: _____
(SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR)

before me this _____ day of _____, _____
Day Month Year

NOTARY PUBLIC SIGNATURE

Print Name of Notary Public

My commission expires _____, _____, _____ **- Seal -**
Month Day Year

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP
(OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATION)
N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2 (P.L. 1977, c.33, as amended by P.L. 2016, c.43)

This Statement Shall Be Included with All Proposal Submissions

Name of Business: _____

Address of Business: _____

Name of person completing this form: _____

N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2:

"No corporation, partnership, or limited liability company shall be awarded any contract nor shall any agreement be entered into for the performance of any work or the furnishing of any materials or supplies, unless prior to the receipt of the proposal, or accompanying the proposal of said corporation, said partnership, or said limited liability company there is submitted a statement setting forth the names and addresses of all stockholders in the corporation who own 10 percent or more of its stock, of any class, or of all individual partners in the partnership who own a 10 percent or greater interest therein, or of all members in the limited liability company who own a 10 percent or greater interest therein, as the case may be.

If one or more such stockholder or partner or member is itself a corporation or partnership or limited liability company, the stockholders holding 10 percent or more of that corporation's stock, or the individual partners owning 10 percent or greater interest in that partnership, or the members owning 10 percent or greater interest in that limited liability company, as the case may be, shall also be listed. The disclosure shall be continued until names and addresses of every non-corporate stockholder, and individual partner, and member, exceeding the 10 percent ownership criteria established in this act, has been listed.

To comply with this section, a Vendor with any direct or indirect parent entity which is publicly traded may submit the name and address of each publicly traded entity and the name and address of each person that holds a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest in the publicly traded entity as of the last annual filing with the federal Securities and Exchange Commission or the foreign equivalent, and, if there is any person that holds a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest, also shall submit links to the websites containing the last annual filings with the federal Securities and Exchange Commission or the foreign equivalent and the relevant page numbers of the filings that contain the information on each person that holds a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest."

This Ownership Disclosure Certification form shall be completed, signed and notarized.

Failure of the proposer to submit the required information is cause for automatic rejection of the proposal

Part I

Check the box that represents the type of business organization:

- Sole Proprietorship (skip Parts II and III, sign and notarize at the end)
- Non-Profit Corporation (skip Parts II and III, sign and notarize at the end)
- Partnership Limited Partnership Limited Liability Partnership
- Limited Liability Company
- For-profit Corporation (including Subchapters C and S or Professional Corporation)
- Other (be specific): _____

Part II

- I certify that the list below contains the names and addresses of all stockholders in the corporation who own 10 percent or more of its stock, of any class, or of all individual partners in the partnership who own a 10 percent or greater interest therein, or of all members in the limited liability company who own a 10 percent or greater interest therein, as the case may be.

OR

- I certify that no one stockholder in the corporation owns 10 percent or more of its stock, of any class, or no individual partner in the partnership owns a 10 percent or greater interest therein, or that no member in the limited liability company owns a 10 percent or greater interest therein, as the case may be.

Sign and notarize the form below, and, if necessary, complete the list below. (Please attach additional sheets if more space is needed):

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Part III - Any Direct or Indirect Parent Entity Which is Publicly Traded:

“To comply with this section, a Vendor with any direct or indirect parent entity which is publicly traded may submit the name and address of each publicly traded entity and the name and address of each person that holds a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest in the publicly traded entity as of the last annual filing with the federal Securities and Exchange Commission or the foreign equivalent, and, if there is any person that holds a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest, also shall submit links to the websites containing the last annual filings with the federal Securities and Exchange Commission or the foreign equivalent and the relevant page numbers of the filings that contain the information on each person that holds a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest.”

Pages attached with name and address of each publicly traded entity as well as the name and address of each person that holds a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest.

OR

Submit here the links to the Websites (URLs) containing the last annual filings with the federal Securities and Exchange Commission or the foreign equivalent.

AND

Submit here the relevant page numbers of the filings containing the information on each person holding a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest.

Subscribed and sworn before me this ___ day of _____, 20_____.

(Notary Public)

My Commission expires:

(Affiant)

(Print name of affiant and title if applicable)

(Corporate Seal if a Corporation)

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990
Equal Opportunity for Individuals with Disability

The contractor and the Fund (hereafter "owner") do hereby agree that the provisions of Title 11 of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (the "Act") (42 U.S.C. S121 01 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities in all services, programs, and activities provided or made available by public entities, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant there unto, are made a part of this contract. In providing any aid, benefit, or service on behalf of the owner pursuant to this contract, the contractor agrees that the performance shall be in strict compliance with the Act. In the event that the contractor, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors violate or are alleged to have violated the Act during the performance of this contract, the contractor shall defend the owner in any action or administrative proceeding commenced pursuant to this Act. The contractor shall indemnify, protect, and save harmless the owner, its agents, servants, and employees from and against any and all suits, claims, losses, demands, or damages, of whatever kind or nature arising out of or claimed to arise out of the alleged violation. The contractor shall, at its own expense, appear, defend, and pay any and all charges for legal services and any and all costs and other expenses arising from such action or administrative proceeding or incurred in connection therewith. In any and all complaints brought pursuant to the owner's grievance procedure, the contractor agrees to abide by any decision of the owner which is rendered pursuant to said grievance procedure. If any action or administrative proceeding results in an award of damages against the owner, or if the owner incurs any expense to cure a violation of the ADA which has been brought pursuant to its grievance procedure, the contractor shall satisfy and discharge the same at its own expense.

The owner shall, as soon as practicable after a claim has been made against it, give written notice thereof to the contractor along with full and complete particulars of the claim, If any action or administrative proceeding is brought against the owner or any of its agents, servants, and employees, the *owner shall* expeditiously forward or have forwarded to the contractor every demand, complaint, notice, summons, pleading, or other process received by the owner or its representatives.

It is expressly agreed and understood that any approval by the owner of the services provided by the contractor pursuant to this contract will not relieve the contractor of the obligation to comply with the Act and to defend, indemnify, protect, and save harmless the owner pursuant to this paragraph.

It is further agreed and understood that the owner assumes no obligation to indemnify or save harmless the contractor, its agents, servants, employees and subcontractors for any claim which may arise out of their performance of this Agreement. Furthermore, the contractor expressly understands and agrees that the provisions of this indemnification clause shall in no way limit the contractor's obligations assumed in this Agreement, nor shall they be construed to relieve the contractor from any liability, nor preclude the owner from taking any other actions available to it under any other provisions of the Agreement or otherwise at law.

MANDATORY AFFIRMATIVE ACTION LANGUAGE

PROCUREMENT, PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE CONTRACTS

P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27)

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

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation. The contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that such applicants are recruited and employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will send to each labor union or representative or workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer advising the labor union or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this act and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, agrees to comply with the regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to P.L. 1975, c. 127, as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to attempt in good faith to employ minority and female workers consistent with the applicable county employment goals prescribed by N.J.A.C. 17:27 5.2 promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to P.L. 1975, c. 127, as amended and supplemented from time to time or in accordance with a binding determination of the applicable county employment goals determined by the Affirmative Action Office pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17 27 5.2 promulgated by the 'Treasurer pursuant to P.L. 1975, c. 127, as amended and supplemented from time to time.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to inform in writing appropriate recruitment agencies in the area, including employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that a personnel testing conforms with the principles of job related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation, and conform with the applicable employment goals, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The contractor and its subcontractors shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Affirmative Action Office as may be requested by the office from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Affirmative Action Office for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to Subchapter 10 of the Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 17:27).

MAINTENANCE OF CONTRACT RECORDS - (N.J.A.C. 17:44-2.2)

Relevant records of private vendors or other persons entering into contracts with covered entities are subject to audit or review by OSC pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:15C-14(d).

The contractor/vendor to whom a contract has been awarded, shall maintain all documentation related to products, transactions or services under this contract for a period of five years from the date of final payment. Such records shall be made available to the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller upon request.

FALSE MATERIAL REPRESENTATION - (N.J.S.A. 2C:21-34-97(b))

A person commits a crime if the person knowingly makes a material representation that is false in connection with the negotiation, award or performance of a government contract. If the contract amount is for \$25,000.00 or above, the offender is guilty of a crime of the second degree. If the contract amount exceeds \$2,500.00, but is less than \$25,000.00, the offender is guilty of a crime of the third degree. If the contract amount is for \$2,500.00 or less, the offender is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

INTERPRETATIONS AND ADDENDA (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-21(c) (2))

No interpretation of the meaning of the specifications will be made to any vendor orally. Every request for such interpretations should be made in writing to the Fund and must be received at least ten (10) business days, not including Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, prior to the date fixed for the opening of RFPs to be given consideration. Any and all interpretations and any supplemental instructions will be distributed in the form of written addenda to the specifications. The addenda will be provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-21(c) (2) to all potential vendors by certified mail or certified fax no later than seven (7) days, Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays prior to the date for acceptance of the RFPs. All addenda so issued shall become part of the contract document.