

# TIPS VENDOR AGREEMENT

Between \_\_\_\_\_ and  
(Company Name)

**THE INTERLOCAL PURCHASING SYSTEM (TIPS)  
For  
RFP 170306 Technology Solutions, Products and Services**

## General Information

The Vendor Agreement (“Agreement”) made and entered into by and between The Interlocal Purchasing System (hereinafter referred to as “TIPS” respectfully) a government cooperative purchasing program authorized by the Region 8 Education Service Center, having its principal place of business at 4845 US Hwy 271 North, Pittsburg, Texas 75686. This Agreement consists of the provisions set forth below, including provisions of all Attachments referenced herein. In the event of a conflict between the provisions set forth below and those contained in any Attachment, the provisions set forth shall control.

The vendor Agreement shall include and incorporate by reference this Agreement, the terms and conditions, special terms and conditions, any agreed upon amendments, as well as all of the sections of the solicitation as posted, including any addenda and the awarded vendor’s proposal. Once signed, if an awarded vendor’s proposal varies or is unclear in any way from the TIPS Agreement, TIPS, at its sole discretion, will decide which provision will prevail. Other documents to be included are the awarded vendor’s proposals, task orders, purchase orders and any adjustments which have been issued. If deviations are submitted to TISP by the proposing vendor as provided by and within the solicitation process, this Agreement may be amended to incorporate any agreed deviations.

The following pages will constitute the Agreement between the successful vendors(s) and TIPS. Bidders shall state, in a separate writing, and include with their proposal response, any required exceptions or deviations from these terms, conditions, and specifications. If agreed to by TIPS, they will be incorporated into the final Agreement.

## Definitions

**PURCHASE ORDER** is the TIPS member’s approval providing the authority to proceed with the negotiated delivery order under the Agreement. Special terms and conditions as agreed to between the vendor and TIPS member will be added as addendums to the PO. Items such as certificate of insurance, bonding requirements, small or disadvantaged business goals are some of the addendums possible.

# Terms and Conditions

## Freight

All quotes to members shall provide a line item for cost for freight or shipping regardless if there is a charge or not. If no charge for freight or shipping, indicate by stating "No Charge" or "\$0" or other similar indication.

## Warranty Conditions

All supplies equipment and services shall include manufacturer's minimum standard warranty unless otherwise agreed to in writing. Vendor shall be an authorized dealer, distributor or manufacturer for all products. All equipment proposed shall be new unless clearly stated in writing.

## Customer Support

The Vendor shall provide timely and accurate customer support to TIPS members. Vendors shall respond to such requests within one (1) working day after receipt of the request. Vendor shall provide training regarding products and services supplied by the Vendor unless otherwise clearly stated in writing at the time of purchase. (Unless training is a line item sold or packaged and must be purchased with product.)

## Agreements

**All Agreements and agreements** between Vendors and TIPS Members shall strictly adhere to the statutes that are set forth in the Uniform Commercial Code as most recently revised.

**Agreements for purchase** will normally be put into effect by means of a purchase order(s) executed by authorized agents of the participating government entities.

**Davis Bacon Act** requirements will be met when Federal Funds are used for construction and/or repair of buildings.

## Tax exempt status

A taxable item sold, leased, rented to, stored, used, or consumed by any of the following governmental entities is exempted from the taxes imposed by this chapter:(1) the United States; (2) an unincorporated instrumentality of the United States; (3) a corporation that is an agency or instrumentality of the United States and is wholly owned by the United States or by another corporation wholly owned by the United States;(4) the State of Texas; (5) a Texas county, city, special district, or other political subdivision; or (6) a state, or a governmental unit of a state that borders Texas, but only to the extent that the other state or governmental unit exempts or does not impose a tax on similar sales of items to this state or a political subdivision of this state. Texas Tax Code § 151.309.

## **Assignments of Agreements**

No assignment of Agreement may be made without the prior written approval of TIPS. Payment can only be made to the awarded Vendor or vendor assigned dealer.

## **Disclosures**

1. Vendor affirms that he/she has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor or service to a public servant in connection with this Agreement.
2. Vendor shall attach, in writing, a complete description of any and all relationships that might be considered a conflict of interest in doing business with participants in the TIPS program.
3. The vendor affirms that, to the best of his/her knowledge, the offer has been arrived at independently, and is submitted without collusion with anyone to obtain information or gain any favoritism that would in any way limit competition or give an unfair advantage over other vendors in the award of this Agreement.

## **Renewal of Agreements**

The Agreement with TIPS is for one (1) year with an option for renewal for additional consecutive years as provided in the solicitation. Total term of Agreement can be up to the number of years provided in the solicitation, if sales are reported through the Agreement and both parties agree.

## **Automatic Renewal Clauses Incorporated in Awarded Vendor Agreements with TIPS Members Resulting from the Solicitation and with the Vendor Named in this Agreement.**

No Agreement for goods or services with a TIPS member by the awarded vendor named in this Agreement that results from the solicitation award named in this Agreement, may incorporate an automatic renewal clause with which the TIPS member must comply. All renewal terms incorporated in an Agreement by the vendor with the TIPS member shall only be valid and enforceable when the vendor receives written confirmation by purchase order or executed Agreement issued by the TIPS member for any renewal period. The purpose of this clause is to avoid a TIPS member inadvertently renewing an Agreement during a period in which the governing body of the TIPS member has not properly appropriated and budgeted the funds to satisfy the Agreement renewal. This term is not negotiable and any Agreement between a TIPS member and a TIPS awarded vendor with an automatic renewal clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.

## **Shipments**

The Vendor shall ship ordered products within a commercially reasonable time after the receipt of the order. If a product cannot be shipped within that time, the Vendor shall notify TIPS and

the requesting entity as to why the product has not shipped and shall provide an estimated shipping date, if applicable. TIPS or the requesting entity may cancel the order if estimated shipping time is not acceptable.

### **Invoices**

The Vendor or vendor assigned dealer shall submit invoices, to the TIPS participant. Each invoice shall include the TIPS participant's purchase order number. The shipment tracking number or pertinent information for verification of TIPS participant receipt shall be made available upon request. The Vendor or vendor assigned dealer shall not invoice for partial shipments unless agreed to in writing in advance by TIPS and the TIPS participant.

### **Payments**

The TIPS participant will make payments directly to the Vendor or vendor assigned dealer at net 30 days after receiving invoice.

### **Pricing**

The Vendor agrees to provide pricing to TIPS and its participating governmental entities that is at least equal to the lowest pricing available to like cooperative purchasing customers and the pricing shall remain so throughout the duration of the Agreement.

The Vendor agrees to promptly lower the cost of any product purchased through TIPS following a reduction in the manufacturer or publisher's direct cost to the Vendor. Price increases will be honored according to the terms of the solicitation. However, the Vendor shall honor previous prices for thirty (30) days after written notification to TIPS of an increase.

All pricing submitted to TIPS shall include the participation fee, as provided in the solicitation, to be remitted to TIPS by the Vendor. Vendor will not show adding the fee to the invoice presented to customer. Failure to render the participation fee to TIPS shall constitute a breach of this agreement and shall be grounds for termination of this agreement and any other agreement held with TIPS.

### **Participation Fees**

Vendor or vendor assigned dealer Agreements to pay the participation fee for all Agreement sales to TIPS on a monthly scheduled report. Vendor must login to the TIPS database and use the "Submission Report" section to report sales. The Vendor or vendor assigned dealers are responsible for keeping record of all sales that go through the TIPS Agreement. Failure to pay the participation fee will result in termination of Agreement. Please contact TIPS at tips@tips-usa.com or call (866) 839-8477 if you have questions about paying fees.

## **Indemnity**

- 1. Indemnity for Personality Agreements.** Vendor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless and defend TIPS, TIPS member(s), officers and employees, from and against all claims and suits for damages, injuries to persons (including death), property damages, losses, and expenses including court costs and attorney's fees, arising out of, or resulting from, Vendor's performance of this Agreement, including all such causes of action based upon common, constitutional, or statutory law, or based in whole or in part, upon allegations of negligent or intentional acts on the part of the Vendor, its officers, employees, agents, subcontractors, licensees, invitees, whether or not such claims are based in whole or in part upon the negligent acts or omissions of the TIPS, TIPS member(s), officers, employees, or agents.
- 2. Indemnity for Performance Agreements.** The Vendor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless and defend TIPS, TIPS member(s), officers and employees from and against all claims and suits for damages, injuries to persons (including death), property damages, losses, and expenses including court costs and attorney's fees, arising out of, or resulting from, Vendor's work under this Agreement, including all such causes of action based upon common, constitutional, or statutory law, or based in whole or in part, upon allegations of negligent or intentional acts on the part of the Vendor, its officers, employees, agents, subcontractors, licensees, or invitees. Vendor further agrees to indemnify and hold harmless and defend TIPS, TIPS member(s), officers and employees, from and against all claims and suits for injuries (including death) to an officer, employee, agent, subcontractors, supplier or equipment lessee of the Vendor, arising out of, or resulting from, Vendor's work under this Agreement whether or not such claims are based in whole or in part upon the negligent acts or omissions of the TIPS, TIPS member(s), officers, employees, or agents.

### **Attorney's Fees--Texas Local Government Code § 271.159 is expressly referenced.**

Pursuant to §271.159, TEXAS LOC. GOV'T CODE, in the event that any one of the Parties is required to obtain the services of an attorney to enforce this Agreement, the prevailing party, in addition to other remedies available, shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees and costs of court.

### **Multiple Vendor Awards**

TIPS reserves the right to award multiple vendor Agreements for categories when deemed in the best interest of the TIPS membership. Bidders scoring the RFP's specified percentage or above will be considered for an award. Categories are established at the discretion of TIPS.

### **State of Texas Franchise Tax**

By signature hereon, the bidder hereby certifies that he/she is not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise taxes owed the State of Texas under Chapter 171, Tax Code.

## **Miscellaneous**

The Vendor acknowledges and agrees that continued participation in TIPS is subject to TIPS sole discretion and that any Vendor may be removed from the participation in the Program at any time with or without cause. Nothing in the Agreement or in any other communication between TIPS and the Vendor may be construed as a guarantee that TIPS participants will submit any orders at any time. TIPS reserves the right to request additional proposals for items already on Agreement at any time.

## **Purchase Order Pricing/Product Deviation**

If a deviation of pricing/product on a purchase order occurs, TIPS is to be notified within 48 hours of receipt of order.

## **Termination for Convenience**

TIPS has the right to terminate the agreement for cause or no cause for convenience with a thirty-day written notice. Termination for convenience is required under 2 CFR part 200.

## **TIPS Member Purchasing Procedures**

Purchase orders or their equal are issued by participating TIPS member to the awarded vendor indicating on the PO "Agreement Number". Order is emailed to TIPS at [tipspo@tips-usa.com](mailto:tipspo@tips-usa.com).

- Awarded vendor delivers goods/services directly to the participating member.
- Awarded vendor invoices the participating TIPS member directly.
- Awarded vendor receives payment directly from the participating member.
- Awarded vendor reports sales monthly to TIPS (unless prior arrangements have been made with TIPS to report monthly).

## **Form of Agreement**

If a vendor submitting an offer requires TIPS and/or TIPS Member to sign an additional agreement, a copy of the proposed agreement must be included with the proposal. In response to submitted supplemental Vendor Agreement documents, TIPS will review proposed vendor Agreement documents. Vendor's Agreement document shall not become part of TIPS's Agreement with vendor unless and until an authorized representative of TIPS reviews and approves it.

## **Licenses**

Awarded vendor shall maintain in current status all federal, state and local licenses, bonds and permits required for the operation of the business conducted by awarded vendor. Awarded vendor shall remain fully informed of and in compliance with all ordinances and regulations pertaining to the lawful provision of services under the Agreement. TIPS reserves the right to stop work and/or cancel Agreement of any awarded vendor whose license(s) expire, lapse, are suspended or terminated.

**Novation**

If awarded vendor sells or transfers all assets or the entire portion of the assets used to perform this Agreement, a successor in interest must guarantee to perform all obligations under this Agreement. TIPS reserves the right to accept or reject any new party. A simple change of name agreement will not change the Agreement obligations of awarded vendor.

**Site Requirements (when applicable to service or job)**

**Cleanup:** Awarded vendor shall clean up and remove all debris and rubbish resulting from their work as required or directed by TIPS Member. Upon completion of work, the premises shall be left in good repair and an orderly, neat, clean and unobstructed condition.

**Preparation:** Awarded vendor shall not begin a project for which TIPS Member has not prepared the site, unless awarded vendor does the preparation work at no cost, or until TIPS Member includes the cost of site preparation in a purchase order.

Site preparation includes, but is not limited to: moving furniture, installing wiring for networks or power, and similar pre-installation requirements.

**Registered sex offender restrictions:** For work to be performed at schools, awarded vendor agrees that no employee of a sub-contractor who has been adjudicated to be a registered sex offender will perform work at any time when students are or reasonably expected to be present.

Awarded vendor agrees that a violation of this condition shall be considered a material breach and may result in the cancellation of the purchase order at the TIPS Member's discretion.

Awarded vendor must identify any additional costs associated with compliance of this term. If no costs are specified, compliance with this term will be provided at no additional charge.

**Safety measures:** Awarded vendor shall take all reasonable precautions for the safety of employees on the worksite, and shall erect and properly maintain all necessary safeguards for protection of workers and the public. Awarded vendor shall post warning signs against all hazards created by the operation and work in progress. Proper precautions shall be taken pursuant to state law and standard practices to protect workers, general public and existing structures from injury or damage.

**Smoking**

Persons working under Agreement shall adhere to local smoking policies. Smoking will only be permitted in posted areas or off premises.

**Invoices**

The awarded vendor shall submit invoices to the participating entity clearly stating "Per TIPS Agreement". The shipment tracking number or pertinent information for verification shall be made available upon request.

## **Marketing**

Awarded vendor agrees to allow TIPS to use their name and logo within website, marketing materials and advertisement. Any use of TIPS name and logo or any form of publicity, inclusive of press release, regarding this Agreement by awarded vendor must have prior approval from TIPS.

## **Supplemental agreements**

The entity participating in the TIPS Agreement and awarded vendor may enter into a separate supplemental agreement to further define the level of service requirements over and above the minimum defined in this Agreement i.e. invoice requirements, ordering requirements, specialized delivery, etc. Any supplemental agreement developed as a result of this Agreement is exclusively between the participating entity and awarded vendor. TIPS, its agents, TIPS members and employees shall not be made party to any claim for breach of such agreement.

## **Survival Clause**

All applicable software license agreements, warranties or service agreements that were entered into between Vendor and Customer under the terms and conditions of the Agreement shall survive the expiration or termination of the Agreement. All Purchase Orders issued and accepted by Order Fulfiller shall survive expiration or termination of the Agreement.

## **Legal obligations**

It is the responding vendor's responsibility to be aware of and comply with all local, state and federal laws governing the sale of products/services identified in this RFP and any awarded Agreement thereof. Applicable laws and regulations must be followed even if not specifically identified herein.

## **Audit rights**

Awarded Vendor shall, at their sole expense, maintain appropriate due diligence of all purchases made by TIPS Member that utilizes this Agreement. TIPS and Region 8 ESC each reserve the right to audit the accounting for a period of three (3) years from the time such purchases are made. This audit right shall survive termination of this Agreement for a period of one (1) year from the effective date of termination. TIPS shall have authority to conduct random audits of Awarded Vendor's pricing that is offered to TIPS Members. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that TIPS is made aware of any pricing being offered to eligible entities that is materially inconsistent with the pricing under this agreement, TIPS shall have the ability to conduct the audit internally or may engage a third-party auditing firm. In the event of an audit, the requested materials shall be provided in the format and at the location designated by Region 8 ESC or TIPS.



### **Force Majeure**

If by reason of Force Majeure, either party hereto shall be rendered unable wholly or in part to carry out its obligations under this Agreement then such party shall give notice and fully particulars of Force Majeure in writing to the other party within a reasonable time after occurrence of the event or cause relied upon, and the obligation of the party giving such notice, so far as it is affected by such Force Majeure, shall be suspended during the continuance of the inability then claimed, except as hereinafter provided, but for no longer period, and such party shall endeavor to remove or overcome such inability with all reasonable dispatch.

### **Services**

When applicable, performance bonds and payment bonds will be required on construction or labor required jobs. Awarded vendor will meet the TIPS member's local and state purchasing requirements. Awarded vendors may need to provide additional capacity as jobs increase. Bonds will not require that a fee be paid to TIPS. The actual cost of the bond will be a pass through to the TIPS member and added to the purchase order or Agreement.

### **Scope of Services**

The specific scope of work for each job shall be determined in advance and in writing between TIPS Member and Awarded vendor. It is okay if the TIPS member provides a general scope, but the awarded vendor should provide a written scope of work to the TIPS member as part of the proposal. Once the scope of the job is agreed to, the TIPS member will issue a PO and/or an Agreement with the estimate referenced as an attachment along with bond and any other special provisions agreed to for the TIPS member. If special terms and conditions other than those covered within this solicitation and awarded Agreements are required, they will be attached to the PO and shall take precedence over those in the base Agreement.

### **Project Delivery Order Procedures**

The TIPS member having approved and signed an interlocal agreement, or other TIPS membership document, may make a request of the awarded vendor under this Agreement when the TIPS member has services that need to be undertaken. Notification may occur via phone, the web, email, fax, or in person.

Upon notification of a pending request, the awarded vendor shall make contact with the TIPS member as soon as possible, but must make contact with the TIPS member within two working days.

### **Scheduling of Projects**

Scheduling of projects (if applicable) will be accomplished when the TIPS member issues a purchase order that will serve as "the notice to proceed". The period for the delivery order will include the mobilization, materials purchase, installation and delivery, design, weather, and site cleanup and inspection. No additional claims may be made for delays as a result of these items. When the tasks have been completed the awarded vendor shall notify the client and have the

TIPS member inspect the work for acceptance under the scope and terms in the PO. The TIPS member will issue in writing any corrective actions that are required. Upon completion of these items, the TIPS member will issue a completion notice and final payment will be issued.

### **Support Requirements**

If there is a dispute between the awarded vendor and TIPS member, TIPS or its representatives will assist in conflict resolution or third party (mandatory mediation), if requested by either party. TIPS, or its representatives, reserves the right to inspect any project and audit the awarded vendors TIPS project files, documentation and correspondence.

### **Incorporation of Solicitation**

The TIPS Request for Proposals or the Request for Competitive Sealed Proposals solicitation and all associated documents and forms made part of the solicitation process, including any addenda, that resulted in the execution of this agreement are hereby incorporated by reference into this agreement as if copied verbatim.

## Special Terms and Conditions

It is the intent of TIPS to Agreement with a reliable, high performance vendor to supply products and services to government and educational agencies. It is the experience of TIPS that the following procedures provide TIPS, the Vendor, and the participating agency the necessary support to facilitate a mutually beneficial relationship. The specific procedures will be negotiated with the successful vendor.

- **Agreements:** All vendor purchase orders and/or Agreements/agreements must be emailed to TIPS at tipspo@tips-usa.com. Should an agency send an order direct to vendor, it is the vendor's responsibility to forward the order to TIPS at the email above within 24 business hours and confirm its receipt with TIPS.
  - **Promotion of Agreement:** It is agreed that Vendor will encourage all eligible entities to purchase from the TIPS Program. Encouraging entities to purchase directly from the Vendor and not through TIPS Agreement is a violation of the terms and conditions of this Agreement and will result in removal of the Vendor from the TIPS Program.
  - **Daily Order Confirmation:** All Agreement purchase orders will be approved daily by TIPS and sent to vendor. The vendor must confirm receipt of orders to the TIPS member (customer) within 24 business hours.
  - **Vendor custom website for TIPS:** If Vendor is hosting a custom TIPS website, then updated pricing must be posted by 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.
  - **Back Ordered Products:** If product is not expected to ship within 3 business days, customer is to be notified within 24 hours and appropriate action taken based on customer request.
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Term of Agreement is one year with renewal options for up to two additional years as provided in the solicitation.

**Page 12 of 12 will be the TIPS Vendor Agreement Signature Page**