

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

by

The University of Texas System

for

**Selection of a Vendor to Provide
Unemployment Claim Administration Services**

For the Board of Regents of
The University of Texas System
RFP No. ORM-UCI2009

Submittal Deadline: November 6, 2009

Issued: October 2, 2009

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Description of University

The University of Texas System is the largest system of public higher education in Texas and is composed of 15 educational institutions, including 9 general academic institutions and 6 health institutions, located in all geographic regions of Texas, plus the System administrative office in Austin. The University of Texas System is a diverse community of institutions including major research universities, comprehensive academic universities, upper level institutions, comprehensive health science institutions and specialized hospitals.

In 1881, the Texas State Legislature established the "Main University," now known as The University of Texas at Austin, and a medical school, now known as The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. From these origins, The University of Texas System has grown to include 15 institutions and employs more than 101,115 faculty and staff. The UT System's operating budget for FY 2009 was over \$11 billion. Rich in heritage and tradition, the UT System currently provides instruction to more than 194,000 students and is a national leader in various research endeavors.

1.2 Background and Special Circumstances

The UT System Administration Office of Risk Management (ORM) has responsibility for risk management at the University which includes a self-insured Unemployment Compensation Insurance program for all employees whose names appear on the payroll of The University of Texas System. In 1971, the Texas Legislature passed legislation to provide unemployment compensation insurance coverage for all state employees. Following this legislation, The University of Texas System (the UT System) UCI program was established.

In accordance with The Board of Regents Rules and Regulations, it is the responsibility of the UT System Office of Risk Management (ORM) to administer an UCI program and fund to pay claims. As a reimbursing employer, the UT System reimburses the State Unemployment Trust Fund for any claims paid by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to former employees of the UT System in lieu of paying UCI taxes. ORM reimburses TWC on a quarterly basis and monitors the monthly receipt of UCI premiums from the UT System Institutions.

1.3 Objective of this Request for Proposal

The University of Texas System is seeking to contract with a qualified and experienced vendor providing Unemployment Claim Administration services. The purpose of this Request for Proposal is to provide information and guidelines for the submission of a proposal to The University of Texas System that implements a cost effective and efficient process of data collection and claim tracking in order to effectively manage the system-wide UCI program.

A primary goal of the program is to implement an Electronic Data Information Exchange (EDIE) for Unemployment Insurance information between UT System institutions and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to facilitate managing the UCI claim process from the initial claim to final disposition. The purpose is to respond to claims, eliminate errors

in eligibility and benefit calculations, represent the UT System at hearings, prepare appeals and reduce the cost of unemployment claims within the UT System.

The administrator will be expected to provide services including but not limited to partnering with UT employees charged with UCI program management, to assist UT institutions with claim responses, provide expert hearing and appeal representation, review statement of beneficiary, make recommendations for reimbursement to the Texas Workforce Commission and provide comprehensive training for UT institution employees involved in the UCI process.

A secondary goal of the RFP is to enhance other employment related services such as employment verification, income verification, and compliance with employee reporting requirements.

The terms "*University*", "*UT System*" and "*The University of Texas System*" are synonymous for purposes of this RFP.

The University of Texas System expects to enter into a contract for services beginning on or before **January 1, 2010**, and having a term of 3 years, with an option for the University to renew the term annually for up to 3 subsequent 12-month terms.

SECTION 2

NOTICE TO PROPOSER

2.1 Submittal Deadline

University will accept proposals submitted in response to this RFP until 3:00 p.m., Central Prevailing Time on November 6, 2009 (the “**Submittal Deadline**”).

2.2 University Contact Person

Proposers will direct all questions or concerns regarding this RFP to the following University contact (“**University Contact**”):

Mr. Robert C. Carson
Manager of Risk Accounting
The University of Texas System
Office of Risk Management
E-mail address: rcarson@utsystem.edu

University specifically instructs all interested parties to restrict all contact and questions regarding this RFP to written communications forwarded to University Contact. University Contact must receive all questions or concerns no later than October 16, 2009. University will have a reasonable amount of time to respond to questions or concerns. It is University’s intent to respond to all appropriate questions and concerns; however, University reserves the right to decline to respond to any question or concern.

2.3 Criteria for Selection

The successful Proposer, if any, selected by University in accordance with the requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP will be the Proposer that submits a proposal in response to this RFP on or before the Submittal Deadline that is the most advantageous to University. The successful Proposer is referred to as the “**Contractor**.”

Proposer is encouraged to propose terms and conditions offering the maximum benefit to University in terms of (1) services to University, (2) total overall cost to University, and (3) project management expertise. Proposers should describe all educational, state and local government discounts, as well as any other applicable discounts that may be available to University in a contract for the Services.

An evaluation team from University will evaluate proposals. The evaluation of proposals and the selection of Contractor will be based on the information provided by Proposer in its proposal. University may give consideration to additional information if University deems such information relevant.

The criteria to be considered by University in evaluating proposals and selecting Contractor, will be those factors listed below:

2.3.1 Threshold Criteria Not Scored

2.3.1.1 Ability of University to comply with laws regarding Historically Underutilized Businesses; and

2.3.1.2 Ability of University to comply with laws regarding Persons with Disabilities.

2.3.1.3 Ability of the University to comply with laws regarding security of confidential information.

2.3.2 Scored Criteria

2.3.2.1 the cost of goods and services;

2.3.2.2 the reputation of the Proposer and of the Proposer's goods or services;

2.3.2.3 the quality of the Proposer's goods or services;

2.3.2.4 the qualifications, indicated responsiveness and demonstrated proficiency of Proposer's service personnel;

2.3.2.5 the extent to which the goods or services meet the University's needs;

2.3.2.6 the Proposer's past relationship with the University;

2.3.2.7 the total long-term cost to the University of acquiring the Proposer's goods or services;

2.3.2.8 the Proposer's exceptions to the terms and conditions set forth in **Section 4** of this RFP.

2.4 Key Events Schedule

Issuance of RFP	October 2, 2009
Deadline for Questions/Concerns (ref. Section 2.2 of this RFP)	October 16, 2009
Submittal Deadline (ref. Section 2.1 of this RFP)	November 6, 2009 3:00 p.m. Central time
Oral Presentation (Possible Dates) (<i>optional at the System's discretion</i>)	November 16-20, 2009

2.5 Historically Underutilized Businesses

2.5.1 All agencies of the State of Texas are required to make a good faith effort to assist historically underutilized businesses (each a "**HUB**") in receiving contract awards. The goal of the HUB program is to promote full and equal business opportunity for all businesses in contracting with state agencies. Pursuant to the HUB program, if under the terms of any agreement or contractual arrangement resulting from this RFP, Contractor subcontracts any of the Services, then Contractor must make a good faith effort to utilize HUBs certified by the Procurement and Support Services Division of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. Proposals that fail to comply with the requirements contained in this Section 2.5 will constitute a material failure to comply with advertised specifications and will be rejected by University as non-responsive. Additionally, compliance with good faith effort guidelines is a condition precedent to awarding any agreement or contractual arrangement resulting from this RFP. Proposer acknowledges that, if selected by University, its obligation to make a good faith effort to utilize HUBs when subcontracting any of the Services will continue throughout the term of all agreements and contractual arrangements resulting from this RFP. Furthermore, any subcontracting of the Services by the Proposer is subject to review by University to ensure compliance with the HUB program.

- 2.5.2 University has reviewed this RFP in accordance with Title 34, *Texas Administrative Code*, Section 20.13 (a), and has determined that subcontracting opportunities are probable under this RFP.
- 2.5.3 A HUB Subcontracting Plan (“**HSP**”) is required as part of Proposer’s proposal. The HSP will be developed and administered in accordance with University’s Policy on Utilization of Historically Underutilized Businesses attached as **APPENDIX THREE** and incorporated for all purposes.

*Each Proposer must complete and return the HSP in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFP, including **APPENDIX THREE**. Proposers that fail to do so will be considered non-responsive to this RFP in accordance with Section 2161.252, Government Code.*

Questions regarding the HSP may be directed to:

Contact: Stephanie Park
HUB Coordinator
Phone: 512 499-4378
Email: spark@utsystem.edu

Contractor will not be permitted to change its HSP unless: (1) Contractor completes a newly modified version of the HSP in accordance with the terms of **APPENDIX THREE** that sets forth all changes requested by Contractor, (2) Contractor provides University with such a modified version of the HSP, (3) University approves the modified HSP in writing, and (4) all agreements or contractual arrangements resulting from this RFP are amended in writing by University and Contractor to conform to the modified HSP.

- 2.5.4 Proposer must submit three (3) originals of the HSP to University at the same time it submits its proposal to University (ref. **Section 3.2** of this RFP.) The three (3) originals of the HSP must be submitted under separate cover and in a separate envelope (the “HSP Envelope”). Proposer must ensure that the top outside surface of its HSP Envelope clearly shows and makes visible:
- 2.5.4.1 the RFP No. (ref. **ORM-UCI2009**) and the Submittal Deadline (ref. **Section 2.1** of this RFP), both located in the lower left hand corner of the top surface of the envelope,
- 2.5.4.2 the name and the return address of the Proposer, and
- 2.5.4.3 the phrase “HUB Subcontracting Plan”.

Any proposal submitted in response to this RFP that is not accompanied by a separate HSP Envelope meeting the above requirements will be rejected by University and returned to the Proposer unopened as that proposal will be considered non-responsive due to material failure to comply with advertised specifications. Furthermore, University will open a Proposer’s HSP Envelope prior to opening the proposal submitted by the Proposer, in order to ensure that the Proposer has submitted the number of completed and signed originals of the Proposer’s HUB Subcontracting Plan (“HSP”) that are required by this RFP. A Proposer’s failure to submit the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP will result in University’s rejection of the proposal submitted by that Proposer as non-responsive due to material failure to comply with advertised specifications; such a proposal will be returned to the

Proposer unopened (ref. **Section 1.5** of **APPENDIX ONE** to this RFP). **Note:** The requirement that Proposer provide three originals of the HSP under this **Section 2.5.4** is separate from and does not affect Proposer's obligation to provide University with the number of copies of its proposal as specified in **Section 3.1** of this RFP.

SECTION 3

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

3.1 Number of Copies

Proposer must submit a total of **Eight (8)** complete and identical copies of its *entire* proposal. An *original* signature by an authorized officer of Proposer must appear on the Execution of Offer (ref. **Section 2** of **APPENDIX ONE**) of at least one (1) copy of the submitted proposal. The copy of the Proposer's proposal bearing an original signature should contain the mark "original" on the front cover of the proposal.

3.2 Submission

Proposals must be received by University on or before the Submittal Deadline (ref. **Section 2.1** of this RFP) and should be delivered to:

Jenny Murphy
 Director of Accounting & Purchasing Services
 The University of Texas System
 702 Colorado Street, Suite 3.210
 Austin, Texas 78701

3.3 Proposal Validity Period

Each proposal must state that it will remain valid for University's acceptance for a minimum of one-hundred-eighty (180) days after the Submittal Deadline, to allow time for evaluation, selection, and any unforeseen delays.

3.4 Terms and Conditions

3.4.1 Proposer must comply with the requirements and specifications contained in this RFP, including the Agreement (ref. **APPENDIX TWO**), the Notice to Proposer (ref. **Section 2** of this RFP), Proposal Requirements (ref. **APPENDIX ONE**) and the Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP). If there is a conflict among the provisions in this RFP, the provision requiring Proposer to supply the better quality or greater quantity of services will prevail, or if such conflict does not involve quality or quantity, then interpretation will be in the following order of precedence:

- 3.4.1.1 Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP);
- 3.4.1.2 Agreement (ref. **APPENDIX TWO**);
- 3.4.1.3 Proposal Requirements (ref. **APPENDIX ONE**);
- 3.4.1.4 Notice to Proposers (ref. **Section 2** of this RFP).

3.5 Submittal Checklist

Proposer is instructed to complete, sign, and return the following documents as a part of its proposal. If Proposer fails to return each of the following items with its proposal, then University may reject the proposal:

- 3.5.1 Signed and Completed Execution of Offer (ref. **Section 2** of **APPENDIX ONE**)
- 3.5.2 Signed and Completed Pricing and Delivery Schedule (ref. **Section 6** of this RFP)
- 3.5.3 Responses to Proposer's General Questionnaire (ref. **Section 3** of **APPENDIX ONE**)
- 3.5.4 Signed and Completed Addenda Checklist (ref. **Section 4** of **APPENDIX ONE**)
- 3.5.5 Responses to questions and requests for information in the Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP)
- 3.5.6 Signed and completed originals of the HUB Subcontracting Plan or other applicable documents (ref. **Section 2.5** of this RFP and **APPENDIX THREE**).

SECTION 4**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The terms and conditions contained in the attached Agreement (ref. **APPENDIX TWO**) or, in the sole discretion of University, terms and conditions substantially similar to those contained in the Agreement, will constitute and govern any agreement that results from this RFP. If Proposer takes exception to any terms or conditions set forth in the Agreement, Proposer will submit a list of the exceptions as part of its proposal in accordance with **Section 5.3.1** of this RFP. Proposer's exceptions will be reviewed by University and may result in disqualification of Proposer's proposal as non-responsive to this RFP. If Proposer's exceptions do not result in disqualification of Proposer's proposal, then University may consider Proposer's exceptions when University evaluates the Proposer's proposal.

SECTION 5

SPECIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

5.1 General

The minimum requirements and the specifications for the Services, as well as certain requests for information to be provided by Proposer as part of its proposal, are set forth below. As indicated in **Section 2.3** of this RFP, the successful Proposer is referred to as the “**Contractor.**”

5.2 Minimum Requirements

The University requests proposals from qualified and experienced firms for Unemployment Claim Administration Services that will be used by University institutions and University executive management and administrative staff. The successful Proposer will enter into an agreement with the University to provide services in accordance with the requirements and specifications of this RFP.

Each Proposal must include information that clearly indicates that Proposer meets each of the following minimum qualification requirements:

- 5.2.1 A synopsis of the Proposer's qualifications and credentials to render the services described in this **Section 5**;
- 5.2.2 A list of the principal officers and employees who will be responsible for the services provided to the University including biographies, experience, current number of clients and number of University clients;
- 5.2.3 A list of references as required by **Section 3** of **APPENDIX ONE**; and
- 5.2.4 Examples of similar projects either completed or currently being performed by the Proposer.
- 5.2.5 Proposer's Understanding of Project; The Proposer must include in its proposal a description of the Proposer's understanding of the nature of services desired by the University. The Proposer should review **APPENDIX TWO, EXHIBIT A: Scope of Work**, which details specifications for the unemployment claims management and related services desired by the University;

5.3 Additional Questions Specific to this RFP

Proposer must submit the following information as part of Proposer's proposal:

- 5.3.1 If Proposer takes exception to any terms or conditions set forth in the Agreement (ref. **APPENDIX TWO**), Proposer must submit a list of the exceptions.
- 5.3.2 In its proposal, Proposer must indicate whether it will consent to include in the Agreement the “Access by Individuals with Disabilities” language that is set forth in **APPENDIX FIVE**. If Proposer objects to the inclusion of the “Access by Individuals with Disabilities” language in the Agreement, Proposer must, as part of its proposal, specifically identify and describe in detail all of the reasons for Proposer's objection.

5.3.3 In its proposal, Proposer must respond to each item listed in **APPENDIX SIX, Electronic and Information Resources (“EIR”) Environment Specifications**. **APPENDIX SIX** will establish specifications, representations, warranties and agreements related to the EIR that Proposer is offering to provide to University. Responses to **APPENDIX SIX** will be incorporated into the Agreement and will be binding on Contractor.

5.4 Scope of Work

A. The contractor shall provide administration and management of the Unemployment Compensation claims filed by all workers employed by UT System and will provide the following services to UT System:

5.4.1 Provide a secure process for uploading employment data from UT System Institutions into the Proposer’s database.

5.4.2 Implement an Electronic Data Information Exchange (EDIE) for Unemployment Insurance information between UT System and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

5.4.3 Provide UT System with access to an electronic unemployment claim management system. Access should include the ability to run standard and ad hoc reports with the option to export the data in standard formats.

5.4.4 Processing and storage of employee payroll and separation data.

5.4.5 Processing of all unemployment claim forms; responding promptly and accurately to all claim inquiries and working closely with institution (employer) representatives to develop any information for a timely and effective response to the initial claim.

5.4.6 Auditing of the claimant’s eligibility, UT System’s liability, and the benefit period for each claim.

5.4.7 Counseling and representation at all levels of unemployment compensation appeal hearings before the TWC.

5.4.8 Auditing of all benefit charges assessed against UT System and protesting of all improper charges. This would include providing a timely review and concurrence or corrections to Statement of Benefits.

5.4.9 Evaluate all pertinent UT System Unemployment Compensation procedures. Make written and verbal recommendations to reduce unemployment compensation costs.

5.4.10 Provide an initial training seminar for to up to 50 institution representatives to cover the implementation plan, ongoing claim management and other services to be included in the contract.

5.4.11 Keep UT System representatives apprised of legislative changes impacting unemployment claims management with on-going education updates at least quarterly.

5.4.12 Maintain data security over UT System employment data in their possession, complying with applicable laws and UT System policies.

- B. The contractor shall conduct employment verifications and employment income verifications for UT System in accordance with applicable laws and system policies.
- C. The contractor may list other services related to employment data that they propose to offer to UT System.

Recognizing that the level of unemployment claims activity may vary greatly over time, the following table shows the number of employees, UCI claim count and UCI claim expenditures for UT System during Fiscal Years ending August 31, 2006 and August 31, 2007 and August 31, 2008 and August 31, 2009. Fiscal year 2009 accounted for an unprecedented number of claims and claim expenditures as a result of a reduction in force at UTMB Galveston following the devastation of Hurricane Ike.

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<i>Total UT System Employees</i>	92,282	97,027	99,404	101,115
<i>New UCI Claims</i>	2,985	3,021	2,911	5,472
<i>Total UCI Claim Expenditures</i>	\$4,168,883	\$3,410,180	\$3,199,392	\$7,011,666

SECTION 6

PRICING AND DELIVERY SCHEDULE

Proposal of: _____
(Proposer Company Name)

To: The University of Texas System Administration

Ref.: Unemployment Claim Administration Services related to the Office of Risk Management for the University of Texas System

RFP No.: ORM-UCI2009

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Having carefully examined all the specifications and requirements of this RFP and any attachments thereto, the undersigned proposes to furnish the _____ services required pursuant to the above-referenced Request for Proposal upon the terms quoted below.

6.1 Pricing for Services Offered

6.2 Delivery Schedule of Events and Time Periods

6.3 University's Payment Terms

University's standard payment terms for services are "Net 30 days." Proposer agrees that University will be entitled to withhold _____ percent (_____%) of the total payment due under the Agreement until after University's acceptance of the final work product. Indicate below the prompt payment discount that Proposer will provide to University:

Prompt Payment Discount: _____%_____days/net 30 days

Respectfully submitted,

Proposer: _____

By: _____
(Authorized Signature for Proposer)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX ONE

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 1

GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Purpose

University is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from Proposers having suitable qualifications and experience providing services in accordance with the terms, conditions and requirements set forth in this RFP. This RFP provides sufficient information for interested parties to prepare and submit proposals for consideration by University.

By submitting a proposal, Proposer certifies that it understands this RFP and has full knowledge of the scope, nature, quality, and quantity of the services to be performed, the detailed requirements of the services to be provided, and the conditions under which such services are to be performed. Proposer also certifies that it understands that all costs relating to preparing a response to this RFP will be the sole responsibility of the Proposer.

PROPOSER IS CAUTIONED TO READ THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS RFP CAREFULLY AND TO SUBMIT A COMPLETE RESPONSE TO ALL REQUIREMENTS AND QUESTIONS AS DIRECTED.

1.2 Inquiries and Interpretations

University may in its sole discretion respond in writing to written inquiries concerning this RFP and mail its response as an Addendum to all parties recorded by University as having received a copy of this RFP. Only University's responses that are made by formal written Addenda will be binding on University. Any verbal responses, written interpretations or clarifications other than Addenda to this RFP will be without legal effect. All Addenda issued by University prior to the Submittal Deadline will be and are hereby incorporated as a part of this RFP for all purposes.

Proposers are required to acknowledge receipt of each Addendum as specified in this Section. The Proposer must acknowledge all Addenda by completing, signing and returning the Addenda Checklist (ref. **Section 4** of **APPENDIX ONE**). The Addenda Checklist must be received by University prior to the Submittal Deadline and should accompany the Proposer's proposal.

Any interested party that receives this RFP by means other than directly from University is responsible for notifying University that it has received an RFP package, and should provide its name, address, telephone number and FAX number to University, so that if University issues Addenda to this RFP or provides written answers to questions, that information can be provided to such party.

1.3 Public Information

Proposer is hereby notified that University strictly adheres to all statutes, court decisions and the opinions of the Texas Attorney General with respect to disclosure of public information.

University may seek to protect from disclosure all information submitted in response to this RFP until such time as a final agreement is executed.

Upon execution of a final agreement, University will consider all information, documentation, and other materials requested to be submitted in response to this RFP, to be of a non-confidential and non-proprietary nature and, therefore, subject to public disclosure under the *Texas Public Information Act* (*Government Code*, Chapter 552.001, et seq.). Proposer will be advised of a request for public information that implicates their materials and will have the opportunity to raise any objections to disclosure to the Texas Attorney General. Certain information may be protected from release under Sections 552.101, 552.110, 552.113, and 552.131, *Government Code*.

1.4 Type of Agreement

Contractor, if any, will be required to enter into a contract with University in a form substantially similar to the Agreement between University and Contractor (the "**Agreement**") attached to this RFP as **APPENDIX TWO** and incorporated for all purposes.

1.5 Proposal Evaluation Process

University will select Contractor by using the competitive sealed proposal process described in this Section. University will open the HSP Envelope submitted by a Proposer prior to opening the Proposer's proposal in order to ensure that the Proposer has submitted the number of completed and signed originals of the Proposer's HUB Subcontracting Plan ("HSP") that are required by this RFP (ref. **Section 2.5.4** of the RFP.) All proposals submitted by the Submittal Deadline accompanied by the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP will be opened publicly to identify the name of each Proposer submitting a proposal. Any proposals that are not submitted by the Submittal Date or that are not accompanied by the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP will be rejected by University as non-responsive due to material failure to comply with advertised

specifications. After the opening of the proposals and upon completion of the initial review and evaluation of the proposals, University may invite one or more selected Proposers to participate in oral presentations. University will use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid public disclosure of the contents of a proposal prior to selection of Contractor.

University may make the selection of Contractor on the basis of the proposals initially submitted, without discussion, clarification or modification. In the alternative, University may make the selection of Contractor on the basis of negotiation with any of the Proposers. In conducting such negotiations, University will use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid disclosing the contents of competing proposals.

At University's sole option and discretion, University may discuss and negotiate all elements of the proposals submitted by selected Proposers within a specified competitive range. For purposes of negotiation, University may establish, after an initial review of the proposals, a competitive range of acceptable or potentially acceptable proposals composed of the highest rated proposal(s). In that event, University will defer further action on proposals not included within the competitive range pending the selection of Contractor; provided, however, University reserves the right to include additional proposals in the competitive range if deemed to be in the best interests of University.

After submission of a proposal but before final selection of Contractor is made, University may permit a Proposer to revise its proposal in order to obtain the Proposer's best and final offer. In that event, representations made by Proposer in its revised proposal, including price and fee quotes, will be binding on Proposer. University will provide each Proposer within the competitive range with an equal opportunity for discussion and revision of its proposal. University is not obligated to select the Proposer offering the most attractive economic terms if that Proposer is not the most advantageous to University overall, as determined by University.

University reserves the right to (a) enter into an agreement for all or any portion of the requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP with one or more Proposers, (b) reject any and all proposals and re-solicit proposals, or (c) reject any and all proposals and temporarily or permanently abandon this selection process, if deemed to be in the best interests of University. Proposer is hereby notified that University will maintain in its files concerning this RFP a written record of the basis upon which a selection, if any, is made by University.

1.6 Proposer's Acceptance of Evaluation Methodology

By submitting a proposal, Proposer acknowledges (1) Proposer's acceptance of [a] the Proposal Evaluation Process (ref. **Section 1.5** of **APPENDIX ONE**), [b] the Criteria for Selection (ref. **2.3** of this RFP), [c] the Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP), [d] the terms and conditions of the Agreement (ref. **APPENDIX TWO**), and [e] all other requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP; and (2) Proposer's recognition that some subjective judgments must be made by University during this RFP process.

1.7 Solicitation for Proposal and Proposal Preparation Costs

Proposer understands and agrees that (1) this RFP is a solicitation for proposals and University has made no representation written or oral that one or more agreements with University will be awarded under this RFP; (2) University issues this RFP predicated on University's anticipated requirements for the Services, and University has made no representation, written or oral, that any particular scope of services will actually be required by University; and (3) Proposer will bear, as its sole risk and responsibility, any cost that arises from Proposer's preparation of a proposal in response to this RFP.

1.8 Proposal Requirements and General Instructions

- 1.8.1 Proposer should carefully read the information contained herein and submit a complete proposal in response to all requirements and questions as directed.
- 1.8.2 Proposals and any other information submitted by Proposer in response to this RFP will become the property of University.
- 1.8.3 University will not provide compensation to Proposer for any expenses incurred by the Proposer for proposal preparation or for demonstrations or oral presentations that may be made by Proposer, unless otherwise expressly agreed in writing. Proposer submits its proposal at its own risk and expense.
- 1.8.4 Proposals that (i) are qualified with conditional clauses; (ii) alter, modify, or revise this RFP in any way; or (iii) contain irregularities of any kind, are subject to disqualification by University, at University's sole discretion.
- 1.8.5 Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of Proposer's ability to meet the requirements and specifications of this RFP. Emphasis should be on completeness, clarity of content, and responsiveness to the requirements and specifications of this RFP.
- 1.8.6 University makes no warranty or guarantee that an award will be made as a result of this RFP. University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, waive any formalities, procedural requirements, or minor technical inconsistencies, and delete any requirement or specification from this RFP or the Agreement when deemed to be in University's best interest. University reserves the right to seek clarification from any Proposer concerning any item contained in its proposal prior to final selection. Such clarification may be provided by telephone conference or personal meeting with or writing to University, at University's sole discretion. Representations made by Proposer within its proposal will be binding on Proposer.

- 1.8.7 Any proposal that fails to comply with the requirements contained in this RFP may be rejected by University, in University's sole discretion.

1.9 Preparation and Submittal Instructions

1.9.1 Specifications and Additional Questions

Proposals must include responses to the questions in Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP). Proposer should reference the item number and repeat the question in its response. In cases where a question does not apply or if unable to respond, Proposer should refer to the item number, repeat the question, and indicate N/A (Not Applicable) or N/R (No Response), as appropriate. Proposer should explain the reason when responding N/A or N/R.

1.9.2 Execution of Offer

Proposer must complete, sign and return the attached Execution of Offer (ref. **Section 2** of **APPENDIX ONE**) as part of its proposal. The Execution of Offer must be signed by a representative of Proposer duly authorized to bind the Proposer to its proposal. Any proposal received without a completed and signed Execution of Offer may be rejected by University, in its sole discretion.

1.9.3 Pricing and Delivery Schedule

Proposer must complete and return the Pricing and Delivery Schedule (ref. **Section 6** of this RFP), as part of its proposal. In the Pricing and Delivery Schedule, the Proposer should describe in detail (a) the total fees for the entire scope of the Services; and (b) the method by which the fees are calculated. The fees must be inclusive of all associated costs for delivery, labor, insurance, taxes, overhead, and profit.

University will not recognize or accept any charges or fees to perform the Services that are not specifically stated in the Pricing and Delivery Schedule.

In the Pricing and Delivery Schedule, Proposer should describe each significant phase in the process of providing the Services to University, and the time period within which Proposer proposes to be able to complete each such phase.

1.9.4 Proposer's General Questionnaire

Proposals must include responses to the questions in Proposer's General Questionnaire (ref. **Section 3** of **APPENDIX ONE**). Proposer should reference the item number and repeat the question in its response. In cases where a question does not apply or if unable to respond, Proposer should refer to the item number, repeat the question, and indicate N/A (Not Applicable) or N/R (No Response), as appropriate. Proposer should explain the reason when responding N/A or N/R.

1.9.5 Addenda Checklist

Proposer should acknowledge all Addenda to this RFP (if any) by completing, signing and returning the Addenda Checklist (ref. **Section 4** of **APPENDIX ONE**) as part of its proposal. Any proposal received without a completed and signed Addenda Checklist may be rejected by University, in its sole discretion.

1.9.6 Submission

Proposer should submit all proposal materials enclosed in a sealed envelope, box, or container. The RFP No. (ref. **ORM-UCI2009**) and the Submittal Deadline (ref. **Section 2.1** of this RFP) should be clearly shown in the lower left-hand corner on the top surface of the container. In addition, the name and the return address of the Proposer should be clearly visible.

Proposer must also submit the number of originals of the HUB Subcontracting Plan ("HSP") as required by this RFP (ref. **Section 2.5** of the RFP.)

Upon Proposer's request and at Proposer's expense, University will return to a Proposer its proposal received after the Submittal Deadline if the proposal is properly identified. University will not under any circumstances consider a proposal that is received after the Submittal Deadline or which is not accompanied by the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP.

University will not accept proposals submitted by telephone, proposals submitted by Facsimile ("FAX") transmission, or proposals submitted by electronic transmission (i.e., e-mail) in response to this RFP.

Except as otherwise provided in this RFP, no proposal may be changed, amended, or modified after it has been submitted to University. However, a proposal may be withdrawn and resubmitted at any time prior to the Submittal Deadline. No proposal may be withdrawn after the Submittal Deadline without University's consent, which will be based on Proposer's submittal of a written explanation and documentation evidencing a reason acceptable to University, in University's sole discretion.

By signing the Execution of Offer (ref. **Section 2** of **APPENDIX ONE**) and submitting a proposal, Proposer certifies that any terms, conditions, or documents attached to or referenced in its proposal are applicable to this

procurement only to the extent that they (a) do not conflict with the laws of the State of Texas or this RFP and (b) do not place any requirements on University that are not set forth in this RFP or in the Appendices to this RFP. Proposer further certifies that the submission of a proposal is Proposer's good faith intent to enter into the Agreement with University as specified herein and that such intent is not contingent upon University's acceptance or execution of any terms, conditions, or other documents attached to or referenced in Proposer's proposal.

1.9.7 Page Size, Binders, and Dividers

Proposals must be typed on letter-size (8-1/2" x 11") paper, and must be submitted in a binder. Preprinted material should be referenced in the proposal and included as labeled attachments. Sections within a proposal should be divided by tabs for ease of reference.

1.9.8 Table of Contents

Proposals must include a Table of Contents with page number references. The Table of Contents must contain sufficient detail and be organized according to the same format as presented in this RFP, to allow easy reference to the sections of the proposal as well as to any separate attachments (which should be identified in the main Table of Contents). If a Proposer includes supplemental information or non-required attachments with its proposal, this material should be clearly identified in the Table of Contents and organized as a separate section of the proposal.

1.9.9 Pagination

All pages of the proposal should be numbered sequentially in Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.). Attachments should be numbered or referenced separately.

SECTION 2

EXECUTION OF OFFER

THIS EXECUTION OF OFFER MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED AND RETURNED WITH PROPOSER'S PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO COMPLETE, SIGN AND RETURN THIS EXECUTION OF OFFER WITH THE PROPOSER'S PROPOSAL MAY RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF THE PROPOSAL.

- 2.1 By signature hereon, Proposer represents and warrants the following:
- 2.1.1 Proposer acknowledges and agrees that (1) this RFP is a solicitation for a proposal and is not a contract or an offer to contract; (2) the submission of a proposal by Proposer in response to this RFP will not create a contract between University and Proposer; (3) University has made no representation or warranty, written or oral, that one or more contracts with University will be awarded under this RFP; and (4) Proposer will bear, as its sole risk and responsibility, any cost arising from Proposer's preparation of a response to this RFP.
 - 2.1.2 Proposer is a reputable company that is lawfully and regularly engaged in providing the Services.
 - 2.1.3 Proposer has the necessary experience, knowledge, abilities, skills, and resources to perform the Services.
 - 2.1.4 Proposer is aware of, is fully informed about, and is in full compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and ordinances.
 - 2.1.5 Proposer understands (i) the requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP and (ii) the terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement under which Proposer will be required to operate.
 - 2.1.6 If selected by University, Proposer will not delegate any of its duties or responsibilities under this RFP or the Agreement to any sub-contractor, except as expressly provided in the Agreement.
 - 2.1.7 If selected by University, Proposer will maintain any insurance coverage as required by the Agreement during the term thereof.
 - 2.1.8 All statements, information and representations prepared and submitted in response to this RFP are current, complete, true and accurate. Proposer acknowledges that University will rely on such statements, information and representations in selecting Contractor. If selected by University, Proposer will notify University immediately of any material change in any matters with regard to which Proposer has made a statement or representation or provided information.
 - 2.1.9 PROPOSER WILL DEFEND WITH COUNSEL APPROVED BY UNIVERSITY, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM, THE STATE OF TEXAS, AND ALL OF THEIR REGENTS, OFFICERS, AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES, FROM AND AGAINST ALL ACTIONS, SUITS, DEMANDS, COSTS, DAMAGES, LIABILITIES AND OTHER CLAIMS OF ANY NATURE, KIND OR DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS' FEES INCURRED IN INVESTIGATING, DEFENDING OR SETTLING ANY OF THE FOREGOING, ARISING OUT OF, CONNECTED WITH, OR RESULTING FROM ANY NEGLIGENT ACTS OR OMISSIONS OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT OF PROPOSER OR ANY AGENT, EMPLOYEE, SUBCONTRACTOR, OR SUPPLIER OF PROPOSER IN THE EXECUTION OR PERFORMANCE OF ANY CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT RESULTING FROM THIS RFP.
 - 2.1.10 Pursuant to Sections 2107.008 and 2252.903, *Government Code*, any payments owing to Proposer under any contract or agreement resulting from this RFP may be applied directly to any debt or delinquency that Proposer owes the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas regardless of when it arises, until such debt or delinquency is paid in full.
- 2.2 By signature hereon, Proposer offers and agrees to furnish the Services to University and comply with all terms, conditions, requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP.
- 2.3 By signature hereon, Proposer affirms that it has not given or offered to give, nor does Proposer intend 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 its submitted proposal. Failure to sign this Execution of Offer, or signing with a false statement, may void the submitted proposal or any resulting contracts, and the Proposer may be removed from all proposal lists at University.
- 2.4 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that it is not currently delinquent in the payment of any taxes due under Chapter 171, *Tax Code*, or that Proposer is exempt from the payment of those taxes, or that Proposer is an out-of-state taxable entity that is not subject to those taxes, whichever is applicable. A false certification will be deemed a material breach of any resulting contract or agreement and, at University's option, may result in termination of any resulting contract or agreement.
- 2.5 By signature hereon, Proposer hereby certifies that neither Proposer nor any firm, corporation, partnership or institution represented by Proposer, or anyone acting for such firm, corporation or institution, has violated the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, codified in Section 15.01, et seq., *Business and Commerce Code*, or the Federal antitrust laws, nor

communicated directly or indirectly the proposal made to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business.

2.6 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that the individual signing this document and the documents made a part of this RFP, is authorized to sign such documents on behalf of Proposer and to bind Proposer under any agreements and other contractual arrangements that may result from the submission of Proposer's proposal.

2.7 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies as follows:

"Under Section 231.006, *Family Code*, relating to child support, Proposer certifies that the individual or business entity named in the Proposer's proposal is not ineligible to receive the specified contract award and acknowledges that any agreements or other contractual arrangements resulting from this RFP may be terminated if this certification is inaccurate."

2.8 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that (i) no relationship, whether by blood, marriage, business association, capital funding agreement or by any other such kinship or connection exists between the owner of any Proposer that is a sole proprietorship, the officers or directors of any Proposer that is a corporation, the partners of any Proposer that is a partnership, the joint venturers of any Proposer that is a joint venture or the members or managers of any Proposer that is a limited liability company, on one hand, and an employee of any institution of The University of Texas System, on the other hand, other than the relationships which have been previously disclosed to University in writing; (ii) Proposer has not been an employee of any institution of The University of Texas System within the immediate twelve (12) months prior to the Submittal Deadline; and (iii) no person who, in the past four (4) years served as an executive of a state agency was involved with or has any interest in Proposer's proposal or any contract resulting from this RFP (ref. Section 669.003, *Government Code*). All disclosures by Proposer in connection with this certification will be subject to administrative review and approval before University enters into a contract or agreement with Proposer.

2.9 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that in accordance with Section 2155.004, *Government Code*, no compensation has been received for its participation in the preparation of the requirements or specifications for this RFP. In addition, Proposer certifies that an award of a contract to Proposer will not violate Section 2155.006, *Government Code*, prohibiting University from entering into a contract that involves financial participation by a person who, during the previous five years, has been convicted of violating federal law or assessed a penalty in a federal civil or administrative enforcement action in connection with a contract awarded by the federal government for relief, recovery, or reconstruction efforts as a result of Hurricane Rita, Hurricane Katrina, or any other disaster occurring after September 24, 2005. Pursuant to Sections 2155.004 and 2155.006, *Government Code*, Proposer certifies that Proposer is not ineligible to receive the award of or payments under the Agreement and acknowledges that the Agreement may be terminated and payment withheld if these certifications are inaccurate.

2.10 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies its compliance with all federal laws and regulations pertaining to Equal Employment Opportunities and Affirmative Action.

2.11 By signature hereon, Proposer represents and warrants that all products and services offered to University in response to this RFP meet or exceed the safety standards established and promulgated under the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Law (Public Law 91-596) and the *Texas Hazard Communication Act*, Chapter 502, *Health and Safety Code*, and all related regulations in effect or proposed as of the date of this RFP.

2.12 Proposer will and has disclosed, as part of its proposal, any exceptions to the certifications stated in this Execution of Offer. All such disclosures will be subject to administrative review and approval prior to the time University makes an award or enters into any contract or agreement with Proposer.

2.13 If Proposer will sell or lease computer equipment to the University under any agreements or other contractual arrangements that may result from the submission of Proposer's proposal then, pursuant to Section 361.965(c), *Health & Safety Code*, Proposer certifies that it is in compliance with the Manufacturer Responsibility and Consumer Convenience Computer Equipment Collection and Recovery Act set forth in Chapter 361, Subchapter Y, *Health & Safety Code* and the rules adopted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality under that Act as set forth in Title 30, Chapter 328, Subchapter I, *Texas Administrative Code*. Section 361.952(2), *Health & Safety Code*, states that, for purposes of the Manufacturer Responsibility and Consumer Convenience Computer Equipment Collection and Recovery Act, the term "computer equipment" means a desktop or notebook computer and includes a computer monitor or other display device that does not contain a tuner.

2.14 Proposer should complete the following information:

If Proposer is a Corporation, then State of Incorporation: _____

If Proposer is a Corporation then Proposer's Corporate Charter Number: _____

RFP No.: _____

NOTICE: WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED ON REQUEST TO BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INFORMATION THAT GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS COLLECT ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS. UNDER SECTIONS 552.021 AND 552.023, *GOVERNMENT CODE*, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE AND REVIEW SUCH INFORMATION. UNDER SECTION 559.004, *GOVERNMENT CODE*, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO HAVE GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS CORRECT INFORMATION ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS THAT IS INCORRECT.

Submitted and Certified By:

(Proposer Institution's Name)

(Signature of Duly Authorized Representative)

(Printed Name/Title)

(Date Signed)

(Proposer's Street Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

(Telephone Number)

(FAX Number)

SECTION 3

PROPOSER'S GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE

NOTICE: WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED ON REQUEST TO BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INFORMATION THAT GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS COLLECT ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS. UNDER SECTIONS 552.021 AND 552.023, GOVERNMENT CODE, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE AND REVIEW SUCH INFORMATION. UNDER SECTION 559.004, GOVERNMENT CODE, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO HAVE GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS CORRECT INFORMATION ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS THAT IS INCORRECT.

Proposals must include responses to the questions contained in this Proposer's General Questionnaire. Proposer should reference the item number and repeat the question in its response. In cases where a question does not apply or if unable to respond, Proposer should refer to the item number, repeat the question, and indicate N/A (Not Applicable) or N/R (No Response), as appropriate. Proposer will explain the reason when responding N/A or N/R.

3.1 Proposer Profile

3.1.1 Legal name of Proposer Company:

Address of principal place of business:

Address of office that would be providing service under the Agreement:

Number of years in Business: _____

State of incorporation: _____

Number of Employees: _____

Annual Revenues Volume: _____

Name of Parent Corporation, if any _____

NOTE: If Proposer is a subsidiary, University prefers to enter into a contract or agreement with the Parent Corporation or to receive assurances of performance from the Parent Corporation.

3.1.2 State whether Proposer will provide a copy of its financial statements for the past two (2) years, if requested by University.

3.1.3 Proposer will provide a financial rating of the Proposer entity and any related documentation (such as a Dunn and Bradstreet analysis) that indicates the financial stability of Proposer.

3.1.4 Is Proposer currently for sale or involved in any transaction to expand or to become acquired by another business entity? If yes, Proposer will explain the expected impact, both in organizational and directional terms.

3.1.5 Proposer will provide any details of all past or pending litigation or claims filed against Proposer that would affect its performance under an Agreement with University (if any).

3.1.6 Is Proposer currently in default on any loan agreement or financing agreement with any bank, financial institution, or other entity? If yes, Proposer will specify the pertinent date(s), details, circumstances, and describe the current prospects for resolution.

3.1.7 Proposer will provide references of at least two (2) current clients and two (2) former clients who have terminated services with your company in the past two (2) years. The reference list should include, company name and address, name of the client contact, his or her telephone number, and a brief description of the work performed for the client. Higher education and/or healthcare client references are preferred. University may contact the clients listed.

- 3.1.8 Does any relationship exist (whether by family kinship, business association, capital funding agreement, or any other such relationship) between Proposer and any employee of University or any member of the Board of Regents? If yes, Proposer will explain.
- 3.1.9 Proposer will provide the name and Social Security Number for each person having at least 25% ownership interest in Proposer. This disclosure is mandatory pursuant to Section 231.006, *Family Code*, and will be used for the purpose of determining whether an owner of Proposer with an ownership interest of at least 25% is more than 30 days delinquent in paying child support. Further disclosure of this information is governed by the *Texas Public Information Act*, Chapter 552, *Government Code*, and other applicable law.

3.2 Approach to Project Services

- 3.2.1 Proposer will provide a statement of the Proposer's service approach and will describe any unique benefits to University from doing business with Proposer. Proposer will briefly describe its approach for each of the required services identified in **APPENDIX TWO, EXHIBIT A: Scope of Work** of this RFP.
- 3.2.2 Proposer will provide an estimate of the earliest starting date for services following execution of an Agreement.
- 3.2.3 Proposer will submit a work plan with key dates and milestones. The work plan should include:
- 3.2.3.1 Identification of tasks to be performed;
 - 3.2.3.2 Time frames to perform the identified tasks;
 - 3.2.3.3 Project management methodology;
 - 3.2.3.4 Implementation strategy; and
 - 3.2.3.5 The expected time frame in which the services would be implemented.
- 3.2.4 Proposer will describe the types of reports or other written documents Proposer will provide (if any) and the frequency of reporting, if more frequent than required in the RFP. Proposer will include samples of reports and documents if appropriate.

3.3 General Requirements

- 3.3.1 Proposer will provide a brief overview of the qualifications for its proposed key personnel who will be providing services under the Agreement with University, including their specific experiences with similar service projects, and number of years of employment with Proposer. Please include the number of clients serviced by each individual and the number of higher education clients. Examples of key personnel would include account executives, account managers, and key service representatives
- 3.3.2 Proposer will describe any difficulties it anticipates in performing its duties under the Agreement with University and how Proposer plans to manage these difficulties. Proposer will describe the assistance it will require from University.

3.4 Service Support

- 3.4.1 Proposer will describe its service support philosophy, how it is implemented, and how Proposer measures its success in maintaining this philosophy. Please indicate response time to service requests and approach for tracking service requests and approach for timely service.

3.5 Quality Assurance

- 3.5.1 Proposer will describe its quality assurance program, its quality requirements, and how they are measured and tracked.
- 3.5.2 Please indicate if Proposer would be willing to enter into a performance-based fee arrangement with University. If yes, please provide suggested terms that Proposer would be willing to use with University.

3.6 Miscellaneous

- 3.6.1 Proposer will provide a list of any additional services or benefits not otherwise identified in this RFP that Proposer would propose to provide to University. Additional services or benefits must be directly related to the goods and services solicited under this RFP.
- 3.6.2 Proposer will provide details describing any unique or special services or benefits offered or advantages to be gained by University from doing business with Proposer. Additional services or benefits must be directly related to the goods and services solicited under this RFP.
- 3.6.3 Does Proposer have a contingency plan or disaster recovery plan in the event of a disaster? If so, then Proposer will provide a copy of the plan.

3.6.4 Proposer will provide information concerning their information security program, including compliance with HIPAA regulations and Privacy Laws.

SECTION 4

ADDENDA CHECKLIST

Proposal of: _____
(Proposer Company Name)

To: The University of Texas System Administration

Ref.: Unemployment Claim Administration Services related to the Office of Risk Management for the University of Texas System

RFP No.: ORM-UCI2009

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned Proposer hereby acknowledges receipt of the following Addenda to the captioned RFP (initial if applicable).

No. 1 _____ No. 2 _____ No. 3 _____ No. 4 _____ No. 5 _____

Respectfully submitted,

Proposer: _____

By: _____
(Authorized Signature for Proposer)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX TWO

AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNIVERSITY AND CONTRACTOR

This Agreement between University and Contractor ("**Agreement**") is made and entered into effective as of _____, 20____ (the "**Effective Date**"), by and between **The University of Texas** _____, an agency and institution of higher education established under the laws of the State of Texas ("**University**"), and _____, a _____ ("**Contractor**"), Federal Tax Identification Number.

University and Contractor hereby agree as follows:

1. Scope of Work.

- 1.1 Contractor will perform the scope of the work ("**Work**") set forth in **Exhibit A**, Scope of Work, attached and incorporated for all purposes, to the satisfaction of University and in accordance with the schedule ("**to be determined**") for the Work set forth in **Exhibit A**, Scope of Work, attached and incorporated for all purposes. Time is of the essence in connection with this Agreement. University will have no obligation to accept late performance or waive timely performance by Contractor.
- 1.2 Contractor will obtain, at its own cost, any and all approvals, licenses, filings, registrations and permits required by federal, state or local laws, regulations or ordinances, for the performance of the Work.
- 1.3 Upon execution of this Agreement, all services previously performed by Contractor on behalf of University and included in the description of the Work, will become a part of the Work and will be subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

2. The Project.

The Work will be provided in connection with Unemployment Claim Administration Services and all other related, necessary and appropriate services (the "**Project**").

3. Time for Commencement and Completion.

The term of this Agreement will begin on the Effective Date and expire on _____, 20____. University will have the option to renew this Agreement for three (3) additional one (1) year terms.

4. Contractor's Obligations.

- 4.1 Contractor will perform the Work in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local, laws, regulations, and ordinances. Contractor represents and warrants that neither Contractor nor any firm, corporation or institution represented by Contractor, or anyone acting for the firm, corporation or institution, (1) has violated the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, Chapter 15, *Texas Business and Commerce Code*, or federal antitrust laws, or (2) has communicated directly or indirectly the content of Contractor's response to University's procurement

solicitation to any competitor or any other person engaged in a similar line of business during the procurement process for this Agreement.

- 4.2 Contractor represents, warrants and agrees that (a) it will use its best efforts to perform the Work in a good and workmanlike manner and in accordance with the highest standards of Contractor's profession or business, and (b) all of the Work to be performed will be of the quality that prevails among similar businesses of superior knowledge and skill engaged in providing similar services in major United States urban areas under the same or similar circumstances.
- 4.3 Contractor will call to University's attention in writing all information in any materials supplied to Contractor (by University or any other party) that Contractor regards as unsuitable, improper or inaccurate in connection with the purposes for which the material is furnished.
- 4.4 Contractor warrants and agrees that the Work will be accurate and free from any material defects. Contractor's duties and obligations under this Agreement will at no time be in any way diminished by reason of any approval by University nor will Contractor be released from any liability by reason of any approval by University, it being agreed that University at all times is relying upon Contractor's skill and knowledge in performing the Work.
- 4.5 Contractor will, at its own cost, correct all material defects in the Work as soon as practical after Contractor becomes aware of the defects. If Contractor fails to correct material defects in the Work within a reasonable time, then University may correct the defective Work at Contractor's expense. This remedy is in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other remedy for defective Work that University may have at law or in equity.
- 4.6 Contractor will maintain a staff of properly trained and experienced personnel to ensure satisfactory performance under this Agreement. Contractor will cause all persons connected with Contractor directly in charge of the Work to be duly registered and/or licensed under all applicable federal, state and local, laws, regulations, and ordinances. Contractor will assign to the Project a designated representative who will be responsible for the administration and coordination of the Work. Contractor will furnish efficient business administration and coordination and perform the Work in an expeditious and economical manner consistent with the interests of University.
- 4.7 Contractor represents that if (i) it is a corporation or limited liability company, then it is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Texas, or a foreign corporation or limited liability company duly authorized and in good standing to conduct business in the State of Texas, that it has all necessary corporate power and has received all necessary corporate approvals to execute and deliver this Agreement, and the individual executing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor has been duly authorized to act for and bind Contractor; or (ii) if it is a partnership, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability company then it has all necessary power and has secured all necessary approvals to execute and deliver this Agreement and perform all its obligations hereunder, and the individual executing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor has been duly authorized to act for and bind Contractor.
- 4.8 Contractor represents and warrants that neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement by Contractor nor the performance of its duties and obligations under

this Agreement will (a) result in the violation of any provision [i] if a corporation, of Contractor's articles of incorporation or by-laws, [ii] if a limited liability company, of its articles of organization or regulations, or [iii] if a partnership, of any partnership agreement by which Contractor is bound; (b) result in the violation of any provision of any agreement by which Contractor is bound; or (c) to the best of Contractor's knowledge and belief, conflict with any order or decree of any court or other body or authority having jurisdiction.

- 4.9 Contractor represents and warrants that all of Contractor's Personnel contributing to the Work Material (ref. **Section 7**) under this Agreement will be required to (i) acknowledge in writing the ownership of Contractor (for the benefit of University) of the Work Material and each element thereof produced by the Personnel while performing services pursuant to this Agreement and (ii) make all assignments necessary to effectuate such ownership. "**Personnel**" means any and all persons associated with Contractor who provide any work or work product pursuant to this Agreement, including officers, managers, supervisors, full-time employees, part-time employees, and independent contractors.
- 4.10 Contractor represents and warrants that: (i) the Work will be performed solely by Contractor, its full-time or part-time employees during the course of their employment, or independent contractors who have assigned in writing all right, title and interest in their work to Contractor for the benefit of University; (ii) University will receive free, good and clear title to all Work Material developed under this Agreement; (iii) the Work Material and the intellectual property rights protecting the Work Material are free and clear of all encumbrances, including security interests, licenses, liens, charges or other restrictions; (iv) the Work Material will not infringe upon or violate any patent, copyright, trade secret, trademark, service mark or other property right of any former employer, independent contractor, client or other third party; and (v) the use, reproduction, distribution, or modification of the Work Material will not violate the rights of any third parties in the Work Material, including trade secret, publicity, privacy, copyright, trademark, service mark and patent rights.

5. **The Contract Amount.**

- 5.1 So long as Contractor has provided University with its current and accurate Federal Tax Identification Number in writing, University will pay Contractor for the performance of the Work as more particularly set forth in **Exhibit B**, Payment for Services, attached and incorporated for all purposes.
- 5.2 The Contract Amount includes all applicable federal, state or local sales or use taxes payable as a result of the execution or performance of this Agreement.
- 5.3 University, an agency of the State of Texas, is exempt from Texas Sales & Use Tax on the Work in accordance with Section 151.309, *Texas Tax Code*, and Title 34 *Texas Administrative Code* ("**TAC**") Section 3.322.

6. **Payment Terms.**

- 6.1 At least ten (10) days before the end of each calendar month during the term of this Agreement, Contractor will submit to University an invoice covering the services performed for University to that date, in compliance with **Exhibit B**, Payment for Services. Each invoice will be accompanied by documentation that University may reasonably request to support the invoice amount. University will, within twenty-one

(21) days from the date it receives an invoice and supporting documentation, approve or disapprove the amount reflected in the invoice. If University approves the amount or any portion of the amount, University will promptly pay (each a "**Progress Payment**") to Contractor the amount approved so long as Contractor is not in default under this Agreement. If University disapproves any invoice amount, University will give Contractor specific reasons for its disapproval in writing.

- 6.2 Within ten (10) days after final completion of the Work and acceptance of the Work by University or as soon thereafter as possible, Contractor will submit a final invoice ("**Final Invoice**") setting forth all amounts due and remaining unpaid to Contractor. Upon approval of the Final Invoice by University, University will pay ("**Final Payment**") to Contractor the amount due under the Final Invoice.
- 6.3 Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, University will not be obligated to make any payment (whether a Progress Payment or Final Payment) to Contractor if Contractor is in default under this Agreement.
- 6.4 The cumulative amount of all Progress Payments and the Final Payment (defined below) will not exceed the Contract Amount as more particularly set forth in **Exhibit B**, Payment for Services.
- 6.5 No payment made by University will (a) be construed to be final acceptance or approval of that part of the Work to which the payment relates, or (b) relieve Contractor of any of its duties or obligations under this Agreement.
- 6.6 The acceptance of Final Payment by Contractor will constitute a waiver of all claims by Contractor except those previously made in writing and identified by Contractor as unsettled at the time of the Final Invoice for payment.
- 6.7 University will have the right to verify the details set forth in Contractor's invoices and supporting documentation, either before or after payment, by (a) inspecting the books and records of Contractor at mutually convenient times; (b) examining any reports with respect to the Project; and (c) other reasonable action.

7. Ownership and Use of Work Material.

- 7.1 All drawings, specifications, plans, computations, sketches, data, photographs, tapes, renderings, models, publications, statements, accounts, reports, studies, and other materials prepared by Contractor or any subcontractors in connection with the Work (collectively, "**Work Material**"), whether or not accepted or rejected by University, are the sole property of University and for its exclusive use and re-use at any time without further compensation and without any restrictions.
- 7.2 Contractor grants and assigns to University all rights and claims of whatever nature and whether now or hereafter arising in and to the Work Material and will cooperate fully with University in any steps University may take to obtain or enforce patent, copyright, trademark or like protections with respect to the Work Material.
- 7.3 Contractor will deliver all Work Material to University upon expiration or termination of this Agreement. University will have the right to use the Work Material for the completion of the Work or otherwise. University may, at all times, retain the originals of the Work Material. The Work Material will not to be used by any person other than University on other projects unless expressly authorized by University in writing.

- 7.4 The Work Material will not be used or published by Contractor or any other party unless expressly authorized by University in writing. Contractor will treat all Work Material as confidential.
- 7.5 All title and interest in the Work Material will vest in University and will be deemed to be a work made for hire and made in the course of the Work rendered under this Agreement. To the extent that title to any Work Material may not, by operation of law, vest in University or Work Material may not be considered works made for hire, Contractor hereby irrevocably assigns, conveys and transfers to University and its successors, licensees and assigns, all rights, title and interest worldwide in and to the Work Material and all proprietary rights therein, including all copyrights, trademarks, service marks, patents, trade secrets, moral rights, all contract and licensing rights and all claims and causes of action with respect to any of the foregoing, whether now known or hereafter to become known. In the event Contractor has any rights in the Work Material which cannot be assigned, Contractor agrees to waive enforcement worldwide of the rights against University, its successors, licensees, assigns, distributors and customers or, if necessary, to exclusively license the rights, worldwide to University with the right to sublicense. These rights are assignable by University.

8. Default and Termination.

- 8.1 In the event of a material failure by a party to this Agreement to perform in accordance with the terms of this Agreement (“**default**”), the other party may terminate this Agreement upon fifteen (15) days’ written notice of termination setting forth the nature of the material failure; provided, that, the material failure is through no fault of the terminating party. The termination will not be effective if the material failure is fully cured prior to the end of the fifteen-day period.
- 8.2 University may, without cause, terminate this Agreement at any time upon giving seven (7) days’ advance written notice to Contractor. Upon termination pursuant to this Section, Contractor will be entitled to payment of an amount that will compensate Contractor for the Work satisfactorily performed from the time of the last payment date to the termination date in accordance with this Agreement; provided, that, Contractor has delivered all Work Material to University. Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, University will not be required to pay or reimburse Contractor for any services performed or for expenses incurred by Contractor after the date of the termination notice that could have been avoided or mitigated by Contractor.
- 8.3 Termination under **Sections 8.1** or **8.2** will not relieve Contractor from liability for any default or breach under this Agreement or any other act or omission of Contractor.
- 8.4 If Contractor fails to cure any default within fifteen (15) days after receiving written notice of the default, University will be entitled (but will not be obligated) to cure the default and will have the right to offset against all amounts due to Contractor under this Agreement, any and all reasonable expenses incurred in connection with University’s curative actions.

9. Indemnification

9.1 TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, CONTRACTOR WILL AND DOES HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, PROTECT, DEFEND WITH COUNSEL APPROVED BY UNIVERSITY, AND HOLD HARMLESS UNIVERSITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE AFFILIATED ENTERPRISES, REGENTS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES AND AGENTS (COLLECTIVELY "INDEMNITEES") FROM AND AGAINST ALL DAMAGES, LOSSES, LIENS, CAUSES OF ACTION, SUITS, JUDGMENTS, EXPENSES, AND OTHER CLAIMS OF ANY NATURE, KIND, OR DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS' FEES INCURRED IN INVESTIGATING, DEFENDING OR SETTLING ANY OF THE FOREGOING (COLLECTIVELY "CLAIMS") BY ANY PERSON OR ENTITY, ARISING OUT OF, CAUSED BY, OR RESULTING FROM CONTRACTOR'S PERFORMANCE UNDER OR BREACH OF THIS AGREEMENT AND THAT ARE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY ANY NEGLIGENT ACT, NEGLIGENT OMISSION OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT OF CONTRACTOR, ANYONE DIRECTLY EMPLOYED BY CONTRACTOR OR ANYONE FOR WHOSE ACTS CONTRACTOR MAY BE LIABLE. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION WILL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO ELIMINATE OR REDUCE ANY OTHER INDEMNIFICATION OR RIGHT WHICH ANY INDEMNITEE HAS BY LAW OR EQUITY. ALL PARTIES WILL BE ENTITLED TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE.

9.2 IN ADDITION, CONTRACTOR WILL AND DOES HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, PROTECT, DEFEND WITH COUNSEL APPROVED BY UNIVERSITY, AND HOLD HARMLESS INDEMNITEES FROM AND AGAINST ALL CLAIMS ARISING FROM INFRINGEMENT OR ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OF ANY PATENT, COPYRIGHT, TRADEMARK OR OTHER PROPRIETARY INTEREST ARISING BY OR OUT OF THE PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES OR THE PROVISION OF GOODS BY CONTRACTOR, OR THE USE BY INDEMNITEES, AT THE DIRECTION OF CONTRACTOR, OF ANY ARTICLE OR MATERIAL; PROVIDED, THAT, UPON BECOMING AWARE OF A SUIT OR THREAT OF SUIT FOR INFRINGEMENT, UNIVERSITY WILL PROMPTLY NOTIFY CONTRACTOR AND CONTRACTOR WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT. IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, UNIVERSITY AGREES TO REASONABLY COOPERATE WITH CONTRACTOR. ALL PARTIES WILL BE ENTITLED TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE.

10. Relationship of the Parties.

For all purposes of this Agreement and notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, Contractor is an independent contractor and is not a state employee, partner, joint venture, or agent of University. Contractor will not bind nor attempt to bind University to any agreement or contract. As an independent contractor, Contractor is solely responsible for all taxes, withholdings, and other statutory or contractual obligations of any sort, including workers' compensation insurance.

11. Insurance.

11.1 Contractor, consistent with its status as an independent contractor will carry and will cause its subcontractors to carry, at least the following insurance in the form, with companies having an A.M. Best Rating of A-:IV or better, and in amounts (unless otherwise specified), as University may require:

11.1.1 Workers' Compensation Insurance with statutory limits, and Employer's	
Liability Insurance with limits of not less than	\$1,000,000:
Employers Liability - Each Accident	\$1,000,000
Employers Liability - Each Employee	\$1,000,000

Employers Liability - Policy Limit \$1,000,000

Policies must include (a) Other States Endorsement to include TEXAS if business is domiciled outside the State of Texas, and (b) a waiver of all rights of subrogation and other rights in favor of University;

11.1.2 Commercial General Liability Insurance with limits of not less than:

Each Occurrence Limit	\$1,000,000
Damage to Rented Premises	\$ 100,000
Medical Expenses (any one person)	\$ 10,000
Personal & Advertising Injury	\$1,000,000
General Aggregate	\$2,000,000
Products - Completed Operations Aggregate	\$2,000,000

11.1.3 Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance covering all owned, non-owned or hired automobiles, with coverage for at least \$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit Bodily Injury and Property Damage;

11.1.4 Professional Liability Insurance with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per claim.

11.1.5 Umbrella/Excess Liability Insurance with limits of not less than \$2,000,000 per occurrence and aggregate with a deductible of no more than \$10,000, and (i) providing coverage in excess of the coverages of, and (ii) "following form" subject to the same provisions as, the underlying policies required in Section 11.1.1 Employers Liability Insurance, Section 11.1.2 Commercial General Liability Insurance, and Section 11.1.3 Commercial Auto Liability Insurance.

11.2 Contractor will deliver to University:

11.2.1 Evidence satisfactory to University in its sole discretion, evidencing the existence of all insurance promptly after the execution and delivery of this Agreement and prior to the performance or continued performance of any services to be performed by Contractor under this Agreement.

11.2.2 Additional evidence, satisfactory to University in its sole discretion, of the continued existence of all insurance not less than thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of any insurance. Insurance policies, with the exception of Workers' Compensation, and Employer's Liability, will name and the evidence will reflect University as an Additional Insured and will provide that the policies will not be canceled until after thirty (30) days' unconditional written notice to University.

11.3 The insurance policies required in this Agreement will be kept in force for the periods specified below:

11.3.1 Commercial General Liability Insurance, Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance, Professional Liability Insurance and Umbrella/Excess Liability Insurance, will be kept in force until receipt of Final Payment by Contractor to University; and

11.3.2 Workers' Compensation Insurance and Employer's Liability Insurance will be kept in force until the Work has been fully performed and accepted by University in writing.

12. Miscellaneous.

- 12.1 **Assignment and Subcontracting.** Except as specifically provided in **Appendix 3**, Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Plan, attached and incorporated for all purposes, Contractor's interest in this Agreement (including Contractor's duties and obligations under this Agreement, and the fees due to Contractor under this Agreement) may not be subcontracted, assigned, delegated, or otherwise transferred to a third party, in whole or in part, and any attempt to do so will (a) not be binding on University; and (b) be a breach of this Agreement for which Contractor will be subject to all remedial actions provided by Texas law, including Chapter 2161, *Texas Government Code*, and 34 TAC Chapter 20, §20.101 – 20.108. The benefits and burdens of this Agreement are assignable by University.
- 12.2 **Texas Family Code Child Support Certification.** Pursuant to Section 231.006, *Texas Family Code*, Contractor certifies that it is not ineligible to receive the award of or payments under this Agreement and acknowledges that this Agreement may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.
- 12.3 **Eligibility Certifications.** Pursuant to Sections 2155.004 and 2155.006, *Texas Government Code*, Contractor certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Agreement is not ineligible to receive the award of or payments under this Agreement and acknowledges that this Agreement may be terminated and payment withheld if these certifications are inaccurate.
- 12.4 **Tax Certification.** If Contractor is a taxable entity as defined by Chapter 171, Texas Tax Code ("**Chapter 171**"), then Contractor certifies that it is not currently delinquent in the payment of any taxes due under Chapter 171, or that Contractor is exempt from the payment of those taxes, or that Contractor is an out-of-state taxable entity that is not subject to those taxes, whichever is applicable.
- 12.5 **Payment of Debt or Delinquency to the State.** Pursuant to Sections 2107.008 and 2252.903, *Texas Government Code*, Contractor agrees that any payments owing to Contractor under this Agreement may be applied directly toward any debt or delinquency that Contractor owes the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas regardless of when it arises, until the debt or delinquency is paid in full.
- 12.6 **Products and Materials Produced in Texas.** Contractor covenants and agrees that as required by Section 2155.4441, *Texas Government Code*, in performing the Work and its other duties and obligations under this Agreement, Contractor will purchase products and materials produced in Texas when the products and materials are available at a price and delivery time comparable to products and materials produced outside of Texas.
- 12.7 **Loss of Funding.** University performance of its duties and obligations under this Agreement may be dependent upon the appropriation and allotment of funds by the Texas State Legislature (the "**Legislature**") and/or allocation of funds by the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System (the "**Board**"). If the Legislature fails to appropriate or allot the necessary funds, or the Board fails to allocate the necessary funds, then University will issue written notice to

Contractor and University may terminate this Agreement without further duty or obligation hereunder. Contractor acknowledges that appropriation, allotment, and allocation of funds are beyond the control of University.

- 12.8 **Entire Agreement; Modifications.** This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements, written or oral, between Contractor and University and will constitute the entire agreement and understanding between the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement and each of its provisions will be binding upon the parties and may not be waived, modified, amended or altered except by a writing signed by both University and Contractor.
- 12.9 **Force Majeure.** Neither party hereto will be liable or responsible to the other for any loss or damage or for any delays or failure to perform due to causes beyond its reasonable control including acts of God, strikes, epidemics, war, riots, flood, fire, sabotage, or any other circumstances of like character (“**force majeure occurrence**”).
- 12.10 **Captions.** The captions of sections and subsections in this Agreement are for convenience only and will not be considered or referred to in resolving questions of interpretation or construction.
- 12.11 **Governing Law. Travis County,** Texas, will be the proper place of venue for suit on or in respect of this Agreement. This Agreement and all of the rights and obligations of the parties to this Agreement and all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement will be construed, interpreted and applied in accordance with and governed by and enforced under the laws of the State of Texas.
- 12.12 **Waivers.** No delay or omission in exercising any right accruing upon a default in performance of this Agreement will impair any right or be construed to be a waiver of any right. A waiver of any default under this Agreement will not be construed to be a waiver of any subsequent default under this Agreement.
- 12.13 **Confidentiality and Safeguarding of University Records; Press Releases; Public Information.** Under this Agreement, Contractor may (1) create, (2) receive from or on behalf of University, or (3) have access to, records or record systems (collectively, “**University Records**”). Among other things, University Records may contain social security numbers, credit card numbers, or data protected or made confidential or sensitive by applicable federal, state and local, laws, regulations, and ordinances, including the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (Public Law No: 106-102) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232g (“**FERPA**”). If University Records are subject to FERPA, (1) University designates Contractor as a University official with a legitimate educational interest in University Records, and (2) Contractor acknowledges that its improper disclosure or redisclosure of personally identifiable information from University Records will result in Contractor’s exclusion from eligibility to contract with University for at least five (5) years. Contractor represents, warrants, and agrees that it will: (1) hold University Records in strict confidence and will not use or disclose University Records except as (a) permitted or required by this Agreement, (b) required by law, or (c) otherwise authorized by University in writing; (2) safeguard University Records according to reasonable administrative, physical and technical standards (such as standards established by (i) the National Institute of Standards and Technology and (ii) the Center for Internet Security, as well as the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards) that are no less rigorous than the standards by which Contractor protects its own

confidential information; (3) continually monitor its operations and take any action necessary to assure that University Records are safeguarded and the confidentiality of University Records is maintained in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local, laws, regulations, and ordinances, including FERPA and the Gramm-Leach Bliley Act, and the terms of this Agreement; and (4) comply with the University's rules, policies, and procedures regarding access to and use of University's computer systems. At the request of University, Contractor agrees to provide University with a written summary of the procedures Contractor uses to safeguard and maintain the confidentiality of University Records.

- 12.13.1 **Notice of Impermissible Use.** If an impermissible use or disclosure of any University Records occurs, Contractor will provide written notice to University within one (1) business day after Contractor's discovery of that use or disclosure. Contractor will promptly provide University with all information requested by University regarding the impermissible use or disclosure.
- 12.13.2 **Return of University Records.** Contractor agrees that within thirty (30) days after the expiration or termination of this Agreement, for any reason, all University Records created or received from or on behalf of University will be (1) returned to University, with no copies retained by Contractor; or (2) if return is not feasible, destroyed. Twenty (20) days before destruction of any University Records, Contractor will provide University with written notice of Contractor's intent to destroy University Records. Within five (5) days after destruction, Contractor will confirm to University in writing the destruction of University Records.
- 12.13.3 **Disclosure.** If Contractor discloses any University Records to a subcontractor or agent, Contractor will require the subcontractor or agent to comply with the same restrictions and obligations as are imposed on Contractor by this Section.
- 12.13.4 **Press Releases.** Except when defined as part of the Work, Contractor will not make any press releases, public statements, or advertisement referring to the Project or the engagement of Contractor as an independent contractor of University in connection with the Project, or release any information relative to the Project for publication, advertisement or any other purpose without the prior written approval of University.
- 12.13.5 **Public Information.** University strictly adheres to all statutes, court decisions and the opinions of the Texas Attorney General with respect to disclosure of public information under the *Texas Public Information Act*, Chapter 552, *Texas Government Code*.
- 12.13.6 **Termination.** In addition to any other termination rights set forth in this Agreement and any other rights at law or equity, if University reasonably determines that Contractor has breached any of the restrictions or obligations set forth in this Section, University may immediately terminate this Agreement without notice or opportunity to cure.
- 12.13.7 **Duration.** The restrictions and obligations under this Section will survive expiration or termination of this Agreement for any reason.

- 12.14 **Binding Effect.** This Agreement will be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective permitted assigns and successors.
- 12.15 **Records.** Records of Contractor's costs, reimbursable expenses pertaining to the Project and payments will be available to University or its authorized representative during business hours and will be retained for four (4) years after final Payment or abandonment of the Project, unless University otherwise instructs Contractor in writing.
- 12.16 **Notices.** Except as otherwise provided in this Section, all notices, consents, approvals, demands, requests or other communications provided for or permitted to be given under any of the provisions of this Agreement will be in writing and will be sent via registered or certified mail, overnight courier, confirmed facsimile transmission (to the extent a facsimile number is set forth below), or email (to the extent an email address is set forth below), and notice will be deemed given (i) if mailed, when deposited, postage prepaid, in the United States mail, (ii) if sent by overnight courier, one business day after delivery to the courier, (iii) if sent by facsimile (to the extent a facsimile number is set forth below), when transmitted, and (iv) if sent by email (to the extent an email address is set forth below), when received:
- If to University: Robert C. Carson
 Manager of Risk Accounting
 The University of Texas System
 220 West 7th Street
 Austin, TX 78701
- with copy to:* Phillip B. Dendy
 Director of Risk Management
 The University of Texas System
 220 West 7th Street
 Austin, TX 78701
- 12.17 **Severability.** In case any provision of this Agreement will, for any reason, be held invalid or unenforceable in any respect, the invalidity or unenforceability will not affect any other provision of this Agreement, and this Agreement will be construed as if the invalid or unenforceable provision had not been included.
- 12.18 **State Auditor's Office.** Contractor understands that acceptance of funds under this Agreement constitutes acceptance of the authority of the Texas State Auditor's Office, or any successor agency (collectively, "**Auditor**"), to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds pursuant to Sections 51.9335(c), 73.115(c) and 74.008(c), *Texas Education Code*. Contractor agrees to cooperate with the Auditor in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records requested. Contractor will include this provision in all contracts with subcontractors.
- 12.19 **Limitation of Liability.** Except for University's obligation (if any) to pay Contractor certain fees and expenses University will have no liability to Contractor or to anyone claiming through or under Contractor by reason of the execution or performance of this Agreement. Notwithstanding any duty or obligation of University to Contractor or to anyone claiming through or under Contractor, no present or future affiliated enterprise, subcontractor, agent, officer, director, employee, representative,

attorney or regent of University, or The University of Texas System, or anyone claiming under University has or will have any personal liability to Contractor or to anyone claiming through or under Contractor by reason of the execution or performance of this Agreement.

12.20 **Survival of Provisions.** No expiration or termination of this Agreement will relieve either party of any obligations under this Agreement that by their nature survive expiration or termination, including **Sections 6.7, 9, 12.7, 12.11, 12.12, 12.13, 12.15, 12.18, 12.19, 12.21** and **12.23**.

12.21 **Breach of Contract Claims.**

12.21.1 To the extent that Chapter 2260, *Texas Government Code*, as it may be amended from time to time ("**Chapter 2260**"), is applicable to this Agreement and is not preempted by other applicable law, the dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260 will be used, as further described herein, by University and Contractor to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by Contractor:

12.21.1.1 Contractor's claims for breach of this Agreement that the parties cannot resolve pursuant to other provisions of this Agreement or in the ordinary course of business will be submitted to the negotiation process provided in subchapter B of Chapter 2260. To initiate the process, Contractor will submit written notice, as required by subchapter B of Chapter 2260, to University in accordance with the notice provisions in this Agreement. Contractor's notice will specifically state that the provisions of subchapter B of Chapter 2260 are being invoked, the date and nature of the event giving rise to the claim, the specific contract provision that University allegedly breached, the amount of damages Contractor seeks, and the method used to calculate the damages. Compliance by Contractor with subchapter B of Chapter 2260 is a required prerequisite to Contractor's filing of a contested case proceeding under subchapter C of Chapter 2260. The chief business officer of University, or another officer of University as may be designated from time to time by University by written notice to Contractor in accordance with the notice provisions in this Agreement, will examine Contractor's claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with Contractor in an effort to resolve the claims.

12.21.1.2 If the parties are unable to resolve their disputes under **Section 12.21.1.1**, the contested case process provided in subchapter C of Chapter 2260 is Contractor's sole and exclusive process for seeking a remedy for any and all of Contractor's claims for breach of this Agreement by University.

12.21.1.3 Compliance with the contested case process provided in subchapter C of Chapter 2260 is a required prerequisite to seeking consent to sue from the Legislature under Chapter 107, *Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code*. The

parties hereto specifically agree that (i) neither the execution of this Agreement by University nor any other conduct, action or inaction of any representative of University relating to this Agreement constitutes or is intended to constitute a waiver of University's or the state's sovereign immunity to suit and (ii) University has not waived its right to seek redress in the courts.

12.21.2 The submission, processing and resolution of Contractor's claim is governed by the published rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, as currently effective, thereafter enacted or subsequently amended.

12.21.3 University and Contractor agree that any periods set forth in this Agreement for notice and cure of defaults are not waived.

12.22 **Undocumented Workers.** The *Immigration and Nationality Act* (8 United States Code 1324a) ("**Immigration Act**") makes it unlawful for an employer to hire or continue employment of undocumented workers. The United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Service has established the Form I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification Form ("**I-9 Form**") as the document to be used for employment eligibility verification (8 Code of Federal Regulations 274a). Among other things, Contractor is required to: (1) have all employees complete and sign the I-9 Form certifying that they are eligible for employment; (2) examine verification documents required by the I-9 Form to be presented by the employee and ensure the documents appear to be genuine and related to the individual; (3) record information about the documents on the I-9 Form, and complete the certification portion of the I-9 Form; and (4) retain the I-9 Form as required by law. It is illegal to discriminate against any individual (other than a citizen of another country who is not authorized to work in the United States) in hiring, discharging, or recruiting because of that individual's national origin or citizenship status. If Contractor employs unauthorized workers during performance of this Agreement in violation of the Immigration Act then, in addition to other remedies or penalties prescribed by law, University may terminate this Agreement in accordance with **Section 8**. Contractor represents and warrants that it is in compliance with and agrees that it will remain in compliance with the provisions of the Immigration Act.

12.23 **Limitations.** THE PARTIES ARE AWARE THAT THERE ARE CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY LIMITATIONS ON THE AUTHORITY OF UNIVERSITY (A STATE AGENCY) TO ENTER INTO CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS THAT MAY BE A PART OF THIS AGREEMENT, INCLUDING THOSE TERMS AND CONDITIONS RELATING TO LIENS ON UNIVERSITY'S PROPERTY; DISCLAIMERS AND LIMITATIONS OF WARRANTIES; DISCLAIMERS AND LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES; WAIVERS, DISCLAIMERS AND LIMITATIONS OF LEGAL RIGHTS, REMEDIES, REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESSES; LIMITATIONS OF PERIODS TO BRING LEGAL ACTION; GRANTING CONTROL OF LITIGATION OR SETTLEMENT TO ANOTHER PARTY; LIABILITY FOR ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF THIRD PARTIES; PAYMENT OF ATTORNEYS' FEES; DISPUTE RESOLUTION; INDEMNITIES; AND CONFIDENTIALITY (COLLECTIVELY, THE "**LIMITATIONS**"), AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS RELATED TO THE LIMITATIONS WILL NOT BE BINDING ON UNIVERSITY EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT AUTHORIZED BY THE LAWS AND CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS.

12.24 **Ethics Matters; No Financial Interest.** Contractor and its employees, agents, representatives and subcontractors have read and understand University's

Conflicts of Interest Policy available at: <http://www.utsystem.edu/policy/policies/int160.html>, University's Standards of Conduct Guide available at: <http://www.utsystem.edu/systemcompliance/>, and applicable state ethics laws and rules available at www.utsystem.edu/ogc/ethics. Neither Contractor nor its employees, agents, representatives or subcontractors will assist or cause University employees to violate University's Conflicts of Interest Policy, provisions described by University's Standards of Conduct Guide, or applicable state ethics laws or rules. Contractor represents and warrants that no member of the Board has a direct or indirect financial interest in the transaction that is the subject of this Agreement.

- 12.25 **Enforcement.** Contractor agrees and acknowledges that University is entering into this Agreement in reliance on Contractor's special and unique knowledge and abilities with respect to performing the Work. Contractor's services provide a peculiar value to University. University cannot be reasonably or adequately compensated in damages for the loss of Contractor's services. Accordingly, Contractor acknowledges and agrees that a breach by Contractor of the provisions of this Agreement will cause University irreparable injury and damage. Contractor, therefore, expressly agrees that University will be entitled to injunctive and/or other equitable relief in any court of competent jurisdiction to prevent or otherwise restrain a breach of this Agreement.
- 12.26 **Access by Individuals with Disabilities.** Contractor represents and warrants ("EIR Accessibility Warranty") that the electronic and information resources and all associated information, documentation, and support that it provides to University under this Agreement (collectively, the "EIRs") comply with the applicable requirements set forth in Title 1 TAC Chapter 213 and Title 1 TAC Section 206.70 (as authorized by Chapter 2054, Subchapter M, *Texas Government Code*). To the extent Contractor becomes aware that the EIRs, or any portion of the EIRs, do not comply with the EIR Accessibility Warranty, then Contractor represents and warrants that it will, at no cost to University, either (1) perform all necessary remediation to make the EIRs satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty or (2) replace the EIRs with new EIRs that satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty. In the event that Contractor is unable to do so, then University may terminate this Agreement and Contractor will refund to University all amounts University has paid under this Agreement within thirty (30) days after the termination date.
- 12.27 **HIPAA Compliance.** Contractor agrees that it will execute a HIPAA Business Associate Agreement ("BAA") with University upon request of UT System.

12.28 **Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Plan.** Contractor agrees to use good faith efforts to subcontract the Work in accordance with the Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Plan (“HSP”) (ref. **Appendix 3**). Contractor agrees to maintain business records documenting its compliance with the HSP and to submit a monthly compliance report to University in the format required by Texas Procurement and Support Services Division of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts or any successor agency (collectively, “TPSS”). Submission of compliance reports will be required as a condition for payment under this Agreement. If University determines that Contractor has failed to subcontract as set out in the HSP, University will notify Contractor of any deficiencies and give Contractor an opportunity to submit documentation and explain why the failure to comply with the HSP should not be attributed to a lack of good faith effort by Contractor. If University determines that Contractor failed to implement the HSP in good faith, University, in addition to any other remedies, may report nonperformance to the TPSS in accordance with 34 TAC Sections 20.101 through 20.108. University may also revoke this Agreement for breach and make a claim against Contractor.

12.28.1 **Changes to the HSP.** If at any time during the term of this Agreement, Contractor desires to change the HSP, before the proposed changes become effective (a) Contractor must comply with 34 TAC Section 20.14; (b) the changes must be reviewed and approved by University; and (c) if University approves changes to the HSP, this Agreement must be amended in accordance with **Section 12.8** to replace the HSP with the revised subcontracting plan.

12.28.2 **Expansion of the Work.** If University expands the scope of the Work through a change order or any other amendment, University will determine if the additional Work contains probable subcontracting opportunities *not* identified in the initial solicitation for the Work. If University determines additional probable subcontracting opportunities exist, Contractor will submit an amended subcontracting plan covering those opportunities. The amended subcontracting plan must comply with the provisions of 34 TAC Section 20.14 before (a) this Agreement may be amended to include the additional Work; or (b) Contractor may perform the additional Work. If Contractor subcontracts any of the additional subcontracting opportunities identified by University without prior authorization and without complying with 34 TAC Section 20.14, Contractor will be deemed to be in breach of this Agreement under **Section 8** and will be subject to any remedial actions provided by Texas law including Chapter 2161, *Texas Government Code* and 34 TAC Section 20.14. University may report nonperformance under this Agreement to the TPSS in accordance with 34 TAC Sections 20.101 through 20.108.

12.29 **Responsibility for Individuals Performing Work; Criminal Background Checks.** Each individual who is assigned to perform the Work under this Agreement will be an employee of Contractor or an employee of a subcontractor engaged by Contractor. Contractor is responsible for the performance of all individuals performing the Work under this Agreement. Prior to commencing the Work, Contractor will (1) provide University with a list ("**List**") of all individuals who may be assigned to perform the Work, and (2) have an appropriate criminal background screening performed on all the individuals. Contractor will determine on a case-by-case basis whether each individual assigned to perform the Work is qualified to provide the services. Contractor will not knowingly assign any individual to provide services on University's campus who has a history of criminal conduct unacceptable for a university campus or healthcare center, including violent or sexual offenses. Contractor will update the List each time there is a change in the individuals assigned to perform the Work.

Prior to commencing performance of the Work under this Agreement, Contractor will provide University a letter signed by an authorized representative of Contractor certifying compliance with this Section. Contractor will provide University an updated certification letter each time there is a change in the individuals assigned to perform the Work.

University and Contractor have executed and delivered this Agreement to be effective as of the Effective Date.

UNIVERSITY:

CONTRACTOR:

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

By: _____ By: _____
Name: _____ Name: _____
Title: _____ Title: _____

Attest: _____
Corporate Secretary

Attach:

- EXHIBIT A – Scope of Work**
- EXHIBIT B – Payment for Services**

EXHIBIT A**SCOPE OF WORK**

- A. The contractor shall provide administration and management of the Unemployment Compensation claims filed by all workers employed by UT System and will provide the following services to UT System:
- 5.4.1 Provide a secure process for uploading employment data from UT System Institutions into the Proposer's database.
 - 5.4.2 Implement an Electronic Data Information Exchange (EDIE) for Unemployment Insurance information between UT System and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).
 - 5.4.3 Provide UT System with access to an electronic unemployment claim management system. Access should include the ability to run standard and ad hoc reports with the option to export the data in standard formats.
 - 5.4.4 Processing and storage of employee payroll and separation data.
 - 5.4.5 Processing of all unemployment claim forms; responding promptly and accurately to all claim inquiries and working closely with institution (employer) representatives to develop any information for a timely and effective response to the initial claim.
 - 5.4.6 Auditing of the claimant's eligibility, UT System's liability, and the benefit period for each claim.
 - 5.4.7 Counseling and representation at all levels of unemployment compensation appeal hearings before the TWC.
 - 5.4.8 Auditing of all benefit charges assessed against UT System and protesting of all improper charges. This would include providing a timely review and concurrence or corrections to Statement of Benefits.
 - 5.4.9 Evaluate all pertinent UT System Unemployment Compensation procedures. Make written and verbal recommendations to reduce unemployment compensation costs.
 - 5.4.10 Provide an initial training seminar for to up to 50 institution representatives to cover the implementation plan, ongoing claim management and other services to be included in the contract.
 - 5.4.11 Keep UT System representatives apprised of legislative changes impacting unemployment claims management with on-going education updates at least quarterly.
 - 5.4.12 Maintain data security over UT System employment data in their possession, complying with applicable laws and UT System policies.
- B. The contractor shall conduct employment verifications and employment income verifications for UT System in accordance with applicable laws and system policies.

- C. The contractor may list other services related to employment data that they propose to offer to UT System.

Recognizing that the level of unemployment claims activity may vary greatly over time, the following table shows the number of employees, UCI claim count and UCI claim expenditures for UT System during Fiscal Years ending August 31, 2006 and August 31, 2007 and August 31, 2008 and August 31, 2009. Fiscal year 2009 accounted for an unprecedented number of claims and claim expenditures as a result of a reduction in force at UTMB Galveston following the devastation of Hurricane Ike.

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<i>Total UT System Employees</i>	92,282	97,027	99,404	101,115
<i>New UCI Claims</i>	2,985	3,021	2,911	5,472
<i>Total UCI Claim Expenditures</i>	\$4,168,883	\$3,410,180	\$3,199,392	\$7,011,666

EXHIBIT B**PAYMENT FOR SERVICES****SERVICE FEES:**

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the cumulative amount of Service Fees remitted by University to Contractor will not exceed \$_____ (“**Fee Cap**”) without the prior written approval of University. In addition, total fees for each Phase of the Work will not exceed the following specified amounts without the prior written approval of University:

If University submits, in advance, a written request for additional services not contemplated or reasonably inferred by this Agreement, Contractor will be paid for actual hours incurred by Contractor’s personnel directly and solely in support of the additional services at the Rates set forth above.

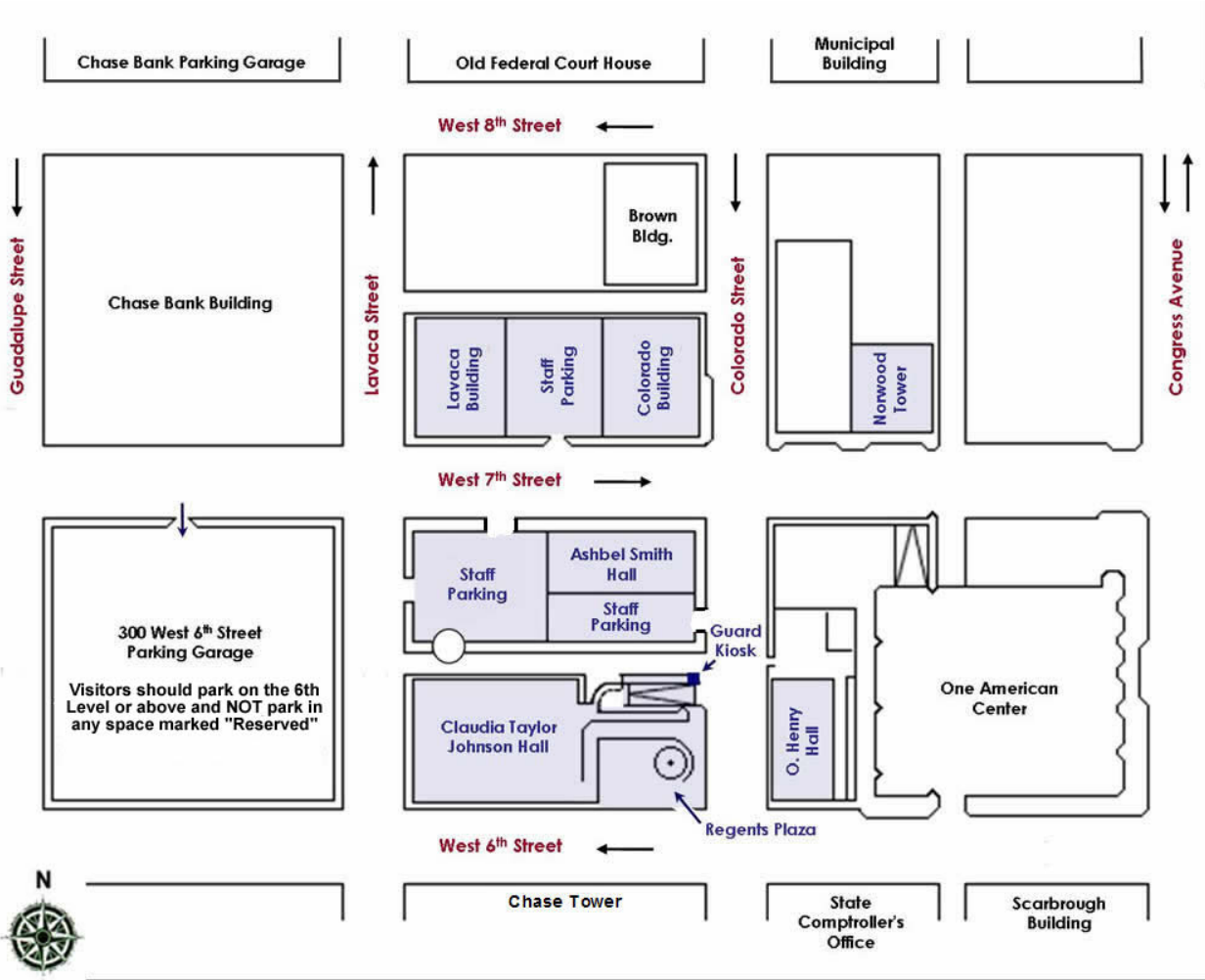
EXPENSES AND DISBURSEMENTS: Contractor will be reimbursed without mark-up for reasonable expenses (including meals, lodging, mileage and coach class airfare) validly incurred directly and solely in support of the Project and approved by University in advance. Provided, however, Contractor agrees and acknowledges that Contractor will be subject to the Travel Allowance Guide promulgated by the Comptroller of Public Accounts for the State of Texas with regard to meals, lodging, mileage, airfare and all other expenses related to travel. Further, Contractor agrees and acknowledges that Contractor will not be reimbursed by University for expenses that are prohibited or that exceed the allowable amounts set forth in the Travel Allowance Guide. As a condition precedent to receiving reimbursement for expenses and disbursements, Contractor will submit to University receipts, invoices, and other documentation as required by University. Notwithstanding the foregoing, reimbursement for expenses and disbursements will not exceed a maximum of \$_____ (“**Expense Cap**”) without the prior written approval of University.

The Fee Cap and the Expense Cap are sometimes collectively referred to as the “Contract Amount.”

APPENDIX THREE

HUB SUBCONTRACTING PLAN

APPENDIX FOUR
CAMPUS MAP



APPENDIX FIVE**ACCESS BY INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Access by Individuals with Disabilities. Contractor represents and warrants (“EIR Accessibility Warranty”) that the electronic and information resources and all associated information, documentation, and support that it provides to University under this Agreement (collectively, the “EIRs”) comply with the applicable requirements set forth in Title 1, Chapter 213, *Texas Administrative Code*, and Title 1, Chapter 206, Rule §206.70 of the *Texas Administrative Code* (as authorized by Chapter 2054, Subchapter M, *Government Code*.) To the extent Contractor becomes aware that the EIRs, or any portion thereof, do not comply with the EIR Accessibility Warranty, then Contractor represents and warrants that it will, at no cost to University, either (1) perform all necessary remediation to make the EIRs satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty or (2) replace the EIRs with new EIRs that satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty. In the event that Contractor fails or is unable to do so, then University may terminate this Agreement and Contractor will refund to University all amounts University has paid under this Agreement within thirty (30) days after the termination date.

APPENDIX SIX

ELECTRONIC AND INFORMATION RESOURCES ENVIRONMENT SPECIFICATIONS

The specifications, representations, warranties and agreements set forth in Proposer's responses to this **APPENDIX SIX** will be incorporated into the Agreement.

University is primarily a **Microsoft products** environment.

Basic Specifications

1. If the electronic and information resources ("EIR") will be hosted by University, please describe the overall environment requirements for the EIR (size the requirements to support the number of concurrent users, the number of licenses and the input/output generated by the application as requested in the application requirements).
 - A. Hardware: If Proposer will provide hardware, does the hardware have multiple hard drives utilizing a redundant RAID configuration for fault tolerance? Are redundant servers included as well?
 - B. Operating System and Version:
 - C. Web Server: Is a web server required? If so, what web application is required (Apache or IIS)? What version? Are add-ins required?
 - D. Application Server:
 - E. Database:
 - F. Other Requirements: Are any other hardware or software components required?
 - G. Assumptions: List any assumptions made as part of the identification of these environment requirements.
 - H. Storage: What are the space/storage requirements of this implementation?
 - I. Users: What is the maximum number of users this configuration will support?
 - J. Clustering: How does the EIR handle clustering over multiple servers?
 - K. Virtual Server Environment: Can the EIR be run in a virtual server environment?
2. If the EIR will be hosted by Proposer, describe in detail what the hosted solution includes, and address, specifically, the following issues:
 - A. Describe the audit standards of the physical security of the facility; and
 - B. Indicate whether Proposer is willing to allow an audit by University or its representative.
3. If the user and administrative interfaces for the EIR are web-based, do the interfaces support Firefox on Mac as well as Windows and Safari on the Macintosh?
4. If the EIR requires special client software, what are the environment requirements for that client software?
5. Manpower Requirements: Who will operate and maintain the EIR? Will additional University full time employees (FTEs) be required? Will special training on the EIR be required by Proposer's technical staff? What is the estimated cost of required training?

6. Upgrades and Patches: Describe Proposer's strategy regarding EIR upgrades and patches for both the server and, if applicable, the client software. Included Proposer's typical release schedule, recommended processes, estimated outage and plans for next version/major upgrade.

Security

1. Has the EIR been tested for application security vulnerabilities? For example, has the EIR been evaluated against the Open Web Application Security Project ("**OWASP**") Top 10 list that includes flaws like cross site scripting and SQL injection? If so, please provide the scan results and specify the tool used. University will not take final delivery of the EIR if University determines there are serious vulnerabilities within the EIR.
2. Which party, Proposer or University, will be responsible for maintaining critical EIR application security updates?
3. If the EIR is hosted, indicate whether Proposer's will permit University to conduct a penetration test on University's instance of the EIR.
4. If confidential data, including HIPAA or FERPA data, is stored in the EIR, will the data be encrypted at rest and in transmittal?

Integration

5. Is the EIR authentication Security Assertion Markup Language ("**SAML**") compliant? Has Proposer ever implemented the EIR with Shibboleth authentication? If not, does the EIR integrate with Active Directory? Does the EIR support SSL connections to this directory service?
6. Does the EIR rely on Active Directory for group management and authorization or does the EIR maintain a local authorization/group database?
7. What logging capabilities does the EIR have? If this is a hosted EIR solution, will University have access to implement logging with University's standard logging and monitoring tools, RSA's Envision?
8. Does the EIR have an application programming interface ("**API**") that enables us to incorporate it with other applications run by the University? If so, is the API .Net based? Web Services-based? Other?
9. Will University have access to the EIR source code? If so, will the EIR license permit University to make modifications to the source code? Will University's modifications be protected in future upgrades?
10. Will Proposer place the EIR source code in escrow with an escrow agent so that if Proposer is no longer in business or Proposer has discontinued support, the EIR source code will be available to University.

Accessibility Information

11. Please complete the Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (“**VPAT**”) found at <http://www.itic.org/index.php?submenu=resources&src=gendocs&ref=vpas&category=resources> and submit the VPAT with Proposer’s proposal.

**Request for Proposal No. ORM-UCI2009
Selection of a Vendor to Provide
Unemployment Claim Administration Services
for the Board of Regents of
The University of Texas System
Proposal Submittal Deadline: November 6, 2009
Questions and Responses**

All questions submitted by potential Proposers to the RFP are listed below in bold. Questions were submitted in writing prior to the deadline and are presented as they were posed from potential Proposers. Similarly asked questions were combined. Responses were prepared by the University and are provided directly below the question in regular text.

Unemployment Workload: What number of annual UCI claims should be used for pricing UCI claim management services? Do you anticipate frequent spikes in UCI claims activity, like the one associated with Hurricane Ike?

Claim counts from fiscal years 2006-2008 are consistent with our long-term UCI claims experience and are reflected in Section 5.4 on Page 12 of the RFP. Although we do not anticipate future spikes in claims activity we cannot guarantee that they will not occur.

How many claims do you have as a result of lay-offs in the past 3 years? How many claims have you protested in the past 3 years and what is your win rate? How many hearings have been scheduled and attended and what is your win rate?

One purpose of issuing the RFP is to maintain better UCI claims management information. We do not currently have this information available.

Will UT System sign a non-disclosure agreement as a part of the response to the RFP?

As a government agency we are subject to the Public Information Act. Thus, if we receive an open records request regarding your proposal, you would be notified and would have the right to present objections to the Attorney General explaining why your information should not be released. The following link lists the Attorney General's responses to frequently asked questions related to the Public Information Act:
http://www.oag.state.tx.us/AG_Publications/pdfs/2006pia_easy.pdf

Section 5.4.2 of the scope of work requires the Implementation of an Electronic Data Information Exchange (EDIE) for Unemployment Insurance information between UT System and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)? Is this the only method you will allow the third party administrator to provide this function?

We will not rule out accepting any solution that provides the University with near real time data integration between UT Institution employment data systems, a UCI claims management system, and the TWC.

Regarding section 5.4.2, what unemployment insurance information will be exchanged? Be as specific as possible including the data element. Does the information flow from TWC to UT or from UT to TWC or both directions? What is the frequency of the data exchange (real time, daily, weekly, monthly)? Is the expectation that the Proposer would code and develop the data exchange on the UT System or would UT developers code the data exchange and the Proposer would only manage the implementation and ongoing data exchange?

Please refer to the attached EDI guide from the TWC for a description of their EDI exchange program and data specifications.

Is section 5.4.2 a system for reimbursing TWC quarterly benefits through the TWC “Quick File” database?

No.

Is Section 5.4.1 of the scope of work an attempt to report active employee payroll information quarterly? Do you see a reason for the Proposer to maintain a copy of the employment data on their database? If this need is solely related to unemployment claims could we just access their PeopleSoft payroll data?

Currently all UT Institutions report employment data electronically to TWC quarterly. The Proposer would need access to certain employment data in order to respond to UCI claims. Each UT Institution maintains separate electronic data systems containing the employment data they are required to report to the TWC, although several academic institutions share a common payroll application. Not every UT Institution utilizes PeopleSoft for payroll data.

Can the agents of the Proposer be given the necessary access to the UT System to verify employment data, audit benefit charges, and research appeals? Would access to the UT System data be available over the internet via secure http web access?

As mentioned in the previous response each UT institution’s employment data is maintained separately. We are confident that a process can be established to provide agents of the selected responder with this information.

Regarding section 5.4.3, what data elements would need to be available for the ad hoc reports?

Respondents should describe the reporting capability of their systems.

Regarding section 5.4.10, would the initial training of up to 50 institution representatives be held in a single location?

Responders should address their recommended method for training in their implementation plan.

Regarding section 5.4.12, would conducting employment verifications and income verifications be related to unemployment or new hiring.

This relates to employment and income verification requests received for current and former employees.

Will we have access to a workers' compensation database to verify if the claimant is receiving workers' compensation benefits?

No, however we are confident that a process can be established to verify this information with the Office of Risk Management.

How do you currently process claims today? What parts of your Unemployment claims processing do you do manually? Please describe the process?

UT Institutions report their employment information electronically to the TWC on a quarterly basis. Unemployment claim notices are sent to Institutions by the TWC. Each UT Institution's Human Resources personnel respond to these notices. Each institution receives a paper report of their quarterly claims statement and fund source statement from the TWC, which are reviewed and corrected before reporting this to the UT System Office of Risk Management. As a reimbursing employer, UT System reimburses TWC based on claims identified on the fund source statements. Claims funded by state funds are reimbursed at 50% and claims funded local (institutional) funds are reimbursed at 100%.

What parts of your Unemployment claims processing do you receive assistance from a third party? Please name any third party organizations that assist with your unemployment claims process and in what parts they assist you?

The University does not believe that this information is needed to allow for an adequate response to the RFP.

What vendors have made presentations for you in the past 6 months regarding Unemployment Claims processing? What vendors have you met with in the past 6 months regarding Unemployment claims processing?

The University does not believe that this information is needed to allow for an adequate response to the RFP.

For Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) questions or clarifications, please contact:

Stephanie Park, HUB Coordinator
The University of Texas System
220 W. 7th St.
Austin, TX 78701
512-499-4378 office
512-499-4311 fax
spark@utsystem.edu
<http://www.utsystem.edu/hub/>