TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

RFP # 717-26-766

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL:

11:00 a.m., Central Time, Thursday, August 13, 2026

(Proposals received after the date and time specified will not be accepted)

Texas Southern University
PROCUREMENT SERVICES
Attn: Greg Williams
3100 Cleburne Street
Mack O. Hannah Hall, Suite 333
Houston, Texas 77004 - 4598

GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 SCOPE. The State of Texas, by and through Texas Southern University (TSU), seeks sealed proposals to establish a contract for Investment Management as needed by the University, in accordance with the specifications contained in this Request for Proposal (RFP).

1.2 CONTRACT TERM. The services requested shall be provided for a period of three (3) years, beginning with the date of the execution of the contract; with two (2) single-year options upon written agreement from both parties.

1.3 DEFINITIONS. The following is a list of generic definitions to be used only if the terms appear in the RFP:

(a) Acceptable Quality Level - The level of performance of requested services below which the contract will not be paid or damages may be assessed

(b) Addendum - A modification of the specifications issued by TSU and distributed to prospective Respondents prior to the opening of responses

(c) Best and Final Proposal (BAFO) - A formal request made to selected Respondents for revisions to the originally submitted Proposal

(d) Contract – The contract awarded as a result of this RFP and all exhibits thereto. This RFP, any Addendum issued in conjunction with this RFP, the successful Respondent's Proposal, any BAFO, and subsequent submission by Respondent, shall all be fully incorporated therein as exhibits

(e) Contractor – Respondent whose proposal results in a contract with TSU

(f) Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD) – The Electronic State Business Daily, which is available on-line at http:esbd.state.tx.us/

(g) Gov't Code – Texas Government Code.

(h) Proposal – The response submitted by a vendor to TSU as a result of this solicitation.

(i) Respondent – Any person, firm or vendor who submits a Proposal in response to this solicitation.

(j) RFP – Request for Proposals, which is the type of solicitation embodied in this document.

(k) TAC – Texas Administrative Code, which is the publication for administrative rules.

1.4 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Actual and Perceived Conflicts

By submitting a Proposal, the Respondent represents and warrants that neither it nor its employees and subcontractors have an actual or potential conflict of interest in entering a Contract with the TSU. The Respondent also represents and warrants that entering a Contract with the TSU will not create the appearance of impropriety. In its Proposal, the Respondent shall disclose any existing or potential conflict of interest that it might have in contracting with the TSU. The requirement to disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest shall begin at initial request for bids and continue during the term of the contract and shall survive until the end of the recordkeeping requirement in Section 1.5. TSU will decide, in its sole discretion, whether an actual or perceived conflict should result in Proposal disqualification or Contract termination.

Current and Former TSU Employees

In addition to the disclosures required above, the Respondent shall also disclose any of its personnel who are current or former officers or employees of the TSU or who are related, within the third degree by consanguinity (as defined by §573.023, Gov't Code) or within the second degree by affinity (as defined by §573.025, Gov't Code), to any current or former officers or employees of the TSU.

Respondents must comply with all applicable Texas and federal laws and regulations relating to the hiring of former state employees (e.g., Texas Government Code Chapters 572 and 573). Such "revolving door" provisions generally restrict former agency heads from communicating with or appearing before the agency on certain matters for two years after leaving the agency. The revolving door provisions also restrict some former employees from representing clients on matters that the employee participated in during state service or matters that were in the employees' official responsibility. Respondent, by signing this solicitation, certifies that it has complied with all applicable laws and regulations regarding former state employees.

1.5 RECORDS RETENTION

The Respondent shall retain all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and any other records or books relating to the performance called for in the Contract. The Respondent shall retain all such records for a period of seven (7) years after the expiration of the Contract, or until TSU and/or State Auditor's Office is satisfied that all audit and litigation matters are resolved, whichever period is longer. The Respondent shall grant access to all books, records and documents pertinent to the Contract to TSU, the State Auditor of Texas, and any federal governmental entity that has authority to review records due to federal funds being spent under the Contract.

1.6 INSURANCE AND OTHER SECURITY

Contractor represents and warrants that it will, within five (5) business days of executing this agreement, provide Texas Southern University with current certificates of insurance or other proof acceptable to Texas Southern University of the following insurance coverage:

> Standard Workers Compensation Insurance covering all personnel who will provide services under this Contract;
>
> Commercial General Liability Insurance, personal injury and advertising injury with, at a minimum, the following limits: $500,000 minimum each occurrence; $1,000,000 per general aggregate.

Contractor represents and warrants that all of the above coverage is with companies licensed in the state of Texas, with "A" rating from Best, and authorized to provide the corresponding coverage. Contractor also represents and warrants that all policies contain endorsements prohibiting cancellation except upon at least thirty (30) days prior written notice to Texas Southern University. Contractor represents and warrants that it shall maintain the above insurance coverage during the term of this Contract and shall provide Texas Southern University with an executed copy of the policies immediately upon request.

1.7 COMMODITY CODE

The NIGP / State of Texas commodity code for this solicitation 946-56

1.8 BACKGROUND

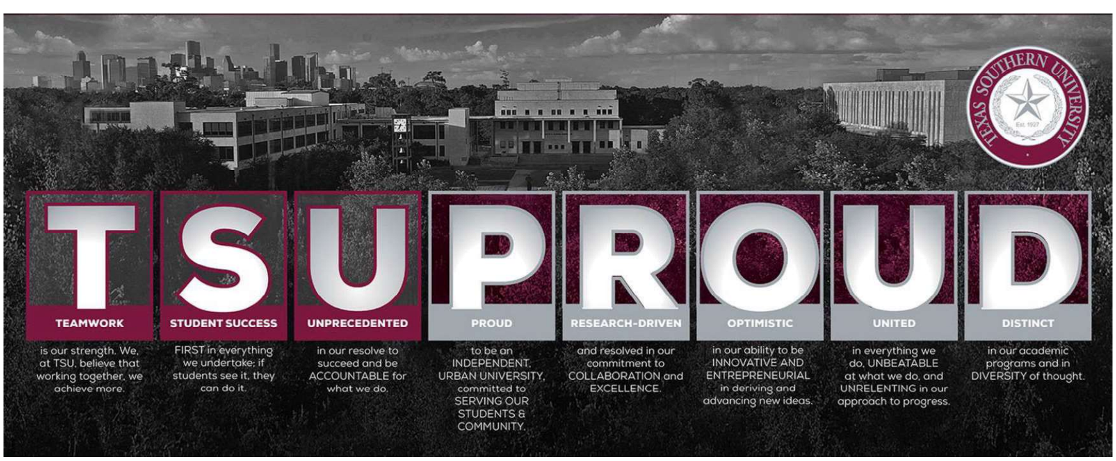
Texas Southern University ("TSU") is an elite, Carnegie R2 Institution and proud to be the premiere producer of talent for s strong Texas. The Owner one of the largest Historically Black College/University ("HBCU") in the nation and destined to become the first HBCU with the coveted Carnegie R1 status.

Since its founding in 1927, TSU has evolved from its origins as a small junior college into an elite, nationally competitive, Texas Southern is proud to be one of 11 HBCU's designated as a Doctoral University of High Research Activity (R2) by The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. Recognized for not only its research, TSU has demonstrated a commitment in every facet of university life from academics to athletics. Texas Southern University currently offers more than 120 undergraduate and graduate programs and concentrations at the baccalaureate, graduate-master, graduate-doctoral, and professional level. These programs are organized into 11 colleges, and the campus is situated on more than 150-acres of land in the heart of Houston's historic Third Ward community.

As the institution celebrates 99 years of providing learners with social and upward mobility through education, the administration has paid tribute to its rich past, while celebrating its present state, and envisioning its future.

Currently, Texas Southern University enrollment is approximately 8,000 students. The institution is currently finalizing a new strategic plan for the campus community. Preliminary strategies and goals contemplate the institution moving to 10,000 students by 2028 and 15,000 students in fall 2030.

Texas Southern University is committed to transforming lives and achieving unprecedented success at an accelerated pace. The Board of Regents, President, Administration, Faculty, and Staff live the mission of TSU everyday through their respective commitment to the students. Texas Southern University is PROUD to be the first public institution in Houston.



End of Section I

SECTION II

SCOPE OF WORK

2.1 SCOPE OF SERVICES AND DELIVERABLES

2.1.1 Investment Policy and Procedures – Review investment-related policies and procedures and make appropriate recommendations for changes.

2.1.2 Portfolio Analysis – Review asset allocations and structures and make recommendations for appropriate changes.

2.1.3 Reporting – Provide monthly flash reports and quarterly performance reports, including but not limited to, performance data and analysis for the total fund, individual asset classes; detailed analysis, including return attribution analysis, portfolio characteristics, style and risk analysis, peer universe comparisons; and holdings analysis relative to benchmarks.

2.1.4 Manager Research and Analysis – Manage the selection, retention, and dismissal of investment managers, performing the necessary due diligence and providing summary reporting.

2.1.5 Research – Shall perform the necessary due diligence on investment markets to ensure optimal performance, including monitoring, rebalancing and reporting.

2.1.6 Training, Development, and Reporting – Provide annual introduction to Asset Management for new Board and/or Committee members as well as quarterly reporting to Finance Committee and Board of Regents in person, if requested.

2.1.7 Market Summary – Provide a monthly summary and commentary of current developments in the domestic and global equity and debt markets.

2.1.8 Transition and Continuity of Services - Respondent shall provide a detailed transition and continuity plan describing how services will be assumed without disruption to the University's investment operations. The plan shall include:

- Transition schedule and implementation milestones.
- Knowledge transfer process.
- Coordination with existing investment managers and custodians.
- Risk mitigation strategies during transition.
- Continuity of reporting and performance monitoring.
- Communication plan with University administration and governing bodies.

2.1.9 Performance Improvement and Strategic Advisory Services - Respondent shall provide ongoing strategic investment recommendations including:

- Asset allocation studies.
- Capital market assumptions.
- Liquidity planning.
- Spending policy analysis.
- Benchmark evaluation.
- Emerging investment opportunities consistent with University objectives.

2.1.10 Investment Policy Statement Compliance – Respondent shall annually review the University's Investment Policy Statement (IPS) and recommend revisions, as appropriate, to ensure continued alignment with the University's investment objectives, applicable laws, and industry best practices. Respondent shall annually certify that all investment recommendations are consistent with the University's Investment Policy Statement and applicable governing statutes and regulations.

2.1.11 Investment Policy Compliance Monitoring – Respondent shall monitor the University's investment portfolio for compliance with the Investment Policy Statement and applicable statutory requirements. Respondent shall promptly identify any actual or potential deviations from the Investment Policy Statement and provide written recommendations for corrective actions, including implementation timelines and risk assessments.

2.2 REQUIREMENTS OF RESPONDENT

2.2.1 Respondent must be a registered investment advisor under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

2.2.2 Respondent must have been in business for a minimum of ten (10) years; if the Respondent has not been in business for at least ten (10) years, the senior principals of the Respondent must have at least ten (10) years of experience with institutional clients at an investment consulting firm.

2.2.3 Respondent must agree to act as a “fiduciary” with respect to Texas Southern University; and furthermore, Respondent warrants that it will not delegate these fiduciary responsibilities.

2.2.4 Respondent must disclose all conflicts of interest, all sources of revenue and all affiliations especially, but not limited to, investment managers contracted by the Respondent.

2.2.5 Respondent warrants that it has completed, obtained, and performed all registrations, filings, approval, authorizations, consents or examinations required by government or governmental authorities.

2.2.6 Respondent warrants that it has not paid and will not pay, has not given and will not give, a remuneration or thing of value directly or indirectly to TSU or any of its board members, officers, employees, or agents, or any third party except as disclosed to TSU with its response to this RFP or otherwise; including, but not limited to, a finder’s fee, cash solicitation fee, fee for consulting or a fee for lobbying or otherwise.

2.2.7 Respondent warrants that it has established ethics and conflicts of interest policies and procedures, and proper internal compliance controls are in place.

2.2.8 If requested by TSU, Respondent must be prepared to present financial statements for the past five (5) years.

2.2.9 Respondent must have individuals assigned to TSU with a minimum of five (5) years’ professional experience in the investment consulting field.

End of Section II

SECTION III

CRITERIA

3.1 CRITERIA

Respondents are expected to submit a proposal that considers and is responsive to the terms and conditions, specifications, scope of services, requirements, etc.; as well as the evaluation criteria set out in this document. The criteria in which your response will be evaluated are as follows:

Criterion 1 – Qualifications and Experience of the Respondent
Criterion 2 – Experience of Key Personnel
Criterion 3 – Investment Philosophy & Technical Methodology
Criterion 4 – Past Performances and References
Criterion 5 – Transition and Continuity
Criterion 6 – Hypothetical Portfolio
Criterion 7 – Cost / Fees

3.2 CRITERION 1: Qualifications and Experience of the Respondent

3.2.1 Provide a brief history of your firm including when your firm was established, type of ownership and office locations. If more than one office is listed indicate the office that will manage the project. If your firm has changed name or ownership within the last five (5) years indicate the former name.

3.2.2 Is your company currently for sale or involved in any transaction to expand or to become acquired by another business entity? If yes, please explain the impact both in organizational and directional terms.

3.2.3 Provide any details of all past or pending or claims filed against your company that would affect your company's performance under a Contract with the Owner.

3.2.4 Is your company currently in default on any loan agreement or financing agreement with any bank, financial institution, or other entity? If yes, specify date(s), details, circumstances, and prospects for resolution.

3.2.5 Provide a description of your firm's percentage of revenues derived from investment consulting and/or asset management to non-profit organizations.

3.2.6 Please provide your firm's (i.e., your clients') record of asset performance. Please indicate whether results are net or gross of investment management fees.

3.2.7 What are your firm's key strengths, competitive advantages, and weaknesses?

3.2.8 Indicate whether your firm is registered with the SEC or state agency and if so, provide a copy of form ADV part II.

3.2.9 Has your firm, its principals or affiliates ever (a) been the focus of a non-routine SEC inquiry or investigation or a similar inquiry or investigation by a federal, state or self-regulatory organization, or

(b) been a party to any litigation concerning fiduciary responsibility or other investment related matters? If yes to any of the above, please provide details.

3.2.10 What is the client turnover (gains and losses) of your firm in the past three years, with reasons for termination of relationships?

3.2.11 Provide a list and limits of the various insurance coverages not listed in Section 1.6. Coverages may include but are not limited to Professional & Management Liability, Cyber/Privacy/Security insurance. Respondent must present evidence of coverage upon request.

3.2.12 Provide a detailed list of clients (beginning with Texas public colleges and universities) for which your firm has provided investment advisory or investment management services similar in scope, size, and complexity during the past five (5) years. Identify those clients governed by the Texas Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA), the Texas Education Code, or other public-sector investment requirements. For each client, provide the organization name, contact person, title, email address, telephone number, years of service, approximate assets under advisement, and a brief description of the services performed.

3.3 CRITERION 2: Experience of Key Personnel

3.3.1 Provide the names, biographies and qualifications of the team members who will provide the services to TSU. Identify the team leader accordingly.

3.3.2 Provide years of experience, years with your firm, position titles, and any other pertinent information such as awards, achievements, certifications, national memberships, publications, etc.

3.3.3 Respondent must have individuals assigned to TSU with a minimum of five (5) years professional experience in the investment consulting field, without exception.

3.4 CRITERION 3: Investment Philosophy & Technical Methodology

This section should describe and discuss your proposed approach and methodology in providing the services of the type and kind required in this RFP. By reading the proposed approach and methodology overview, Texas Southern University must be able to gain a comfortable grasp and clear understanding of the level of services to be provided, and the methods proposed by your firm to provide them.

3.4.1 Respondent shall respond to all requirements and statements noted in Section 2. List any exceptions or substitutions to the requirements and statements.

3.4.2 Describe the firm's knowledge and experience in specific asset class or strategy including private equity, real estate and alternative investments.

3.4.3 List all of your firm's standard services provided in a typical investment management relationship, including the firm's Asset Management Philosophy and what approach would be utilized for TSU in fulfilling this RFP.

3.4.4 Describe your firm's process for analyzing a client's existing Investment Policy. Describe your firm's method for recommending modifications and monitoring the Investment Policy and strategy.

3.4.5 Describe your firm's asset/liability modeling capability, and portfolio structure analysis. Describe the manner in which your firm would assist TSU in recommending changes and monitoring asset mix.

3.4.6 Describe your firm's process for evaluating a client's investment performance and how this is communicated to the client.

3.4.7 Describe the types of qualitative and quantitative factors you use in evaluating a portfolio manager.

3.4.8 How many investment managers do you currently track and describe the steps in your due diligence/search for manager selection?

3.4.9 Provide samples of investment performance reports.

3.4.10 Please address your firm's training of Committee members as it relates to their fiduciary responsibilities.

3.4.11 Discuss your firm's engagement in large investment opportunities as a participant and provide access to your clients.

3.4.12 Please thoroughly discuss the custodial services you will provide.

3.4.13 Describe how your firm preserves institutional knowledge throughout the engagement.

3.4.14 Explain how recommendations are tailored to a university's investment policy rather than using standardized portfolio models.

3.4.15 Describe your firm's experience providing investment advisory or investment management services to Texas public universities or university systems governed by the Texas Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA), the Texas Education Code, and other applicable state laws. Discuss your familiarity with statutory investment requirements, governance structures, Board reporting, and fiduciary responsibilities unique to Texas public institutions of higher education.

3.4.16 Describe your process for ensuring continuity when key personnel change.

3.4.17 Describe your philosophy regarding long-term endowment stewardship versus short-term performance.

3.5 CRITERION 4: Past Performance and References

3.5.1 Provide references from three (3) higher education clients from the past five (5) years for services that are similar in scope. Clients shall have endowments exceeding $100 million. These references should be able to speak specifically to your ability to provide the services described in this RFP. Provide the following information for each customer:

- Customer name and address;
- Contact name with email address and phone number;
- Time period in which work was performed;
- Client retention history;
- Litigation history;
- Regulatory actions;
- SEC examination results;
- Client satisfaction surveys, if available.

3.6 CRITERION 5: Transition and Continuity

Respondents to submit a detailed transition plan addressing:

Implementation schedule, Risk mitigation, Transfer of investment knowledge, Staffing continuity, Data migration, Coordination with custodians, Communication protocols, Estimated transition costs, Estimated transition timeline, and Operational risks.

3.7 <u>CRITERION 6: Hypothetical Portfolio</u>

Texas Southern University requests that all responses include a hypothetical portfolio based on the current university portfolio, with recommendations for asset allocations and investment products. Please include in detail how your Respondent would propose to use this hypothetical portfolio to meet the University's objectives. In this portfolio, the respondent should include recommendations regarding long-term policy goals (net return after fees and inflation), risk controls (to mitigate down periods), diversification controls, illiquidity controls, alignment with the University's investment objectives, spending rule assumptions and performance attribution methodology.

As of January 31, 2026; investment assets totaled $126.2 million and were allocated as follows:

Investment Type:	*Total*	*Percentage of Fund*
Cash and Equivalents:	$9,369,490	7.42
Domestic Equity:	$61,869,571	49.01
Global Equity:	$20,035,447	16.48
U.S. Gov't Fixed Income:	$28,035,447	22.21
Alternative Investments:	$6,159,669	4.88

Breakdown of the 2026 portfolio:
Equity 66%
Fixed Income 22%
Alternatives 5%
Cash 7%

3.8 <u>CRITERION 7: Cost / Fee</u>

3.8.1 Respondents shall complete a Scope Compliance Matrix prior to completing the pricing schedule. The matrix list every required service from Section II. Check each box to indicate whether it is Included in Base Fee, Available at Additional Cost, or Not Offered.

Scope Compliance Matrix

Item #	Description	Included in Base Fee	Available Additional Cost	Not Offered
2.1.1	Investment Policy and Procedures			
2.1.2	Portfolio Analysis			
2.1.3	Reporting			
2.1.4	Manager Research and Analysis			
2.1.5	Research			
2.1.6	Training			
2.1.7	Market Summary			
2.1.8	Transition and Continuity			
2.1.9	Performance Improvement			
2.1.10	Investment Policy Statement			
2.1.11	Investment Policy Compliance Monitoring			

3.8.2 For evaluation purposes, Respondents shall assume a University investment portfolio with assets under advisement of $121,000,000. Respondents shall complete the University's Pricing Schedule and provide a fixed annual fee that includes all services identified in Section II, Scope of Work. Any service not included in the annual fee shall be identified separately as an optional service and will not be considered in the evaluated price. Failure to complete the Pricing Schedule may result in a score of zero for the Cost/Fee criterion.

The proposed fixed annual fee shall include **all services identified in Section II, Scope of Work**, unless specifically identified as an optional service in the Pricing Schedule.

Pricing Schedule

Service Group	Included in Base Fee (Yes/No)	Annual Fee
Investment Policy & Compliance		
Portfolio Management & Asset Allocation		
Manager Research & Due Diligence		
Performance Monitoring & Reporting		
Strategic Advisory Services		
Board & Committee Support		
Transition & Continuity Services		
Training & Education		
Other Services		
Total Fees		

Contract Year	Total Fixed Annual Fee
Year 1	
Year 2	
Year 3	
Grand Total	

End of Section III

SECTION IV

PROPOSAL INFORMATION

4.1 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The solicitation process for this RFP will proceed according to the following schedule:

EVENT	DATE
Issue RFP / ESBD Posting Date	July 30, 2026
Deadline for Submission of Questions	August 6, 2026
Deadline for Submission of Proposals	August 13, 2026

4.2 REVISIONS TO SCHEDULE

TSU reserves the right to change the dates in the schedule of events above upon written notification through a posting on the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD) and the TSU Purchasing website. It is the responsibility of interested parties to periodically check either website for updates to the RFP prior to submitting a Proposal. The Respondent's failure to check the website will in no way release the selected Contractor from the requirements of addenda or additional information; nor will any resulting additional costs to meet the requirements be allowed after award(s).

4.3 PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING

There will not be a pre-proposal meeting.

4.4 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

4.4.1 Submissions: Respondents shall submit one (1) paper original and five (5) paper copies of the Proposal. Proposal pages should be numbered and contain an organized, paginated table of contents corresponding to the section and pages of the Proposal. Complete proposal page count shall be a maximum of 100 pages, printed on both sides. Page count does not include TSU required forms.

Please submit a flash drive version as well. Please ensure that your entire bid response is on the flash drive as this will be the official version of your bid response, and it will be the only copy we keep on file.

4.4.2 Format of Proposals - Respondents will be expected to provide the following information in the order and detail prescribed below. Each section should be tabbed accordingly:

Introduction Letter (2-page maximum)
Table of Contents
Tab 1: Criteria 1
Tab 2: Criteria 2
Tab 3: Criteria 3

Tab 4: Criteria 4
Tab 5: Criteria 5
Tab 6: Criteria 6
Tab 7: Criteria 7
Tab 8: TSU Terms and Conditions
Tab 9: Exhibit A: Execution of Proposal
Tab 10: Exhibit B: Executive Order GA-48 Compliance Statement (Higher Education)
Tab 11: Form 1295
Tab 12: Addenda
Tab 13: Sample Contract

4.4.3 Cost of Preparation: TSU will not reimburse the Respondent for any cost related to its Proposal. The Respondent is responsible for any expense related to the preparation and submission of its Proposal.

4.4.4 TSU will not consider any proposal that bears a copyright. Proposals will be subject to the Texas Public Information Act (PIA), Tex. Government Code, Chapter 552, and may be disclosed to the public upon request. The Proposal and other submitted information shall be presumed to be subject to disclosure unless a specific exception to disclosure under the PIA applies. If it is necessary for the Respondent to include proprietary or otherwise confidential information in its Proposal or other submitted information, the Respondent must clearly label that proprietary or confidential information and identify the specific exception to disclosure in the PIA. Merely making a blanket claim the entire Proposal is protected from disclosure because it contains some proprietary information is not acceptable, and shall make the entire Proposal subject to release under the PIA. In order to initiate the process of seeking an Attorney General opinion on the release of proprietary or confidential information, the specific provisions of the Proposal that are considered by the Respondent to be proprietary or confidential must be clearly labeled as described below. Any information which is not clearly identified as proprietary or confidential shall be deemed to be subject to disclosure pursuant to the PIA. Subject to the Act, Respondents may protect trade and confidential information from public release. Trade secrets or other confidential information, submitted as part of a Proposal, shall be clearly marked at each page it appears. Such marking shall be in boldface type at least 14-point font.

4.5 INQUIRIES / QUESTIONS

4.5.1 All inquiries and questions shall be submitted in writing (in Word format) via email to Mr. Greg Williams at Gregory.williams@tsu.edu by **12:00 noon Central on Thursday, August 6, 2026**; the date listed as the deadline for submission of questions as specified in Section 4.1 above.

4.5.2 All inquiries will result in written responses with copies posted to the State of Texas Electronic State Business Daily and the TSU Purchasing website. If a Respondent does not have Internet access, a copy of all written responses may be obtained through the point of contact listed above.

4.5.3 Except as otherwise provided in this Section, upon issuance of this RFP, other employees and representatives of TSU will not answer questions or otherwise discuss the contents of the RFP with any potential Respondent or its representatives. Failure to observe this restriction may result in disqualification of any subsequent response. This restriction does not preclude discussions unrelated to this RFP.

4.5.4 If Respondent takes any exceptions to any provisions of this RFP, these exceptions must be specifically and clearly identified by Section in Respondent's Proposal in response to this RFP and Respondent's proposed alternative must also be provided in the Proposal. Respondents cannot take a 'blanket exception' to this entire RFP. If any Respondent takes a blanket exception to this entire RFP or does not provide proposed alternative language, the Respondent's Proposal may be disqualified from further consideration. Any exception may result in the Contract not being awarded to the Respondent.

4.6 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

4.6.1 All Proposals shall be received and documented in the Purchasing Office and/or the Purchasing Department at TSU prior to the stated deadline date specified in the Schedule of Events above. TSU reserves the right to reject late submittals.

4.6.2 Proposals should be placed in a separate envelope or package and correctly identified with the RFP number and submittal deadline/RFP opening date and time. It is Respondent's responsibility to appropriately mark and deliver their proposal response to Greg Williams in the Purchasing Office located in Hannah Hall, suite 333, by the specified date and time. A U.S. Postal Service (USPS) postmark or round validation stamp; a mail receipt with the date of mailing, stamped by the USPS; a dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier; or any other documentation in lieu of the on-site time stamp WILL NOT be accepted.

4.6.3 Telephone, email and facsimile proposal responses will not be accepted.

4.6.4 Receipt of all addenda to this RFP should be acknowledged by returning a signed copy of each addendum with the submitted Proposal.

4.6.5 The TSU Standard Terms and Conditions is included in this solicitation for your convenience with the thought that you can present it to your legal department, and they can begin reviewing them, in order to speed up possible negotiations.

4.7 POINT-OF-CONTACT: The Owner designates the following person, as its representative and Point-of-Contact for this RFP. Respondents shall restrict all contact with the Owner and direct all questions regarding this RFP, including questions regarding terms and conditions, to the Point-of-Contact person.

Mr. Greg Williams
TSU Purchasing
Email: gregory.william@tsu.edu

4.8 DELIVERY OF PROPOSALS

Proposals are commonly shipped to TSU by one of the following methods: U.S. Postal Service, Fed Ex Overnight / Express Mail, or Hand Delivery (recommended).

** Please instruct your delivery service to avoid delivering your submittal to the University's Post Office nor our Warehouse / Central Receiving as this will delay delivery and could ultimately result in your response being late; and consequently rejected. All solicitation responses must be delivered to the TSU Purchasing Office located in room 333 in Hannah Hall, our main administration building.

4.9 PROPOSAL OPENING

4.9.1 Proposals will be opened by the assigned buyer in their office or their department conference room, whichever is most appropriate and available.

4.9.2 All submitted Proposals become the property of TSU after the RFP submittal deadline. The submitted proposals and accompanying documentation will not be returned.

4.9.3 Proposals submitted shall constitute a Proposal for a period of ninety (90) days or until selection is made by TSU, whichever occurs earlier.

4.10 PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND AWARD

4.10.1 TSU shall award a contract to a Respondent whose Proposal is considered to provide the best value to the State of Texas and Texas Southern University, as defined by Tex. Government Code, Section 2155.074.

4.10.2 A committee will be established to evaluate the Proposals. The committee will include employees of TSU and other persons invited by TSU to participate.

4.10.3 TSU reserves the right to request oral presentations from the respondents as an addition source of the evaluation and best value process. If oral presentations are needed for more clarification TSU will notify respondents of the conditions of the oral presentation.

4.10.4 TSU reserves the right to award contract(s) without any negotiations, without a BAFO, and/or TSU reserves the right to not make an award at all.

4.10.5 The Respondent is strongly encouraged to provide its best price in its Proposal because TSU makes absolutely no guarantee that there will be any opportunity to negotiate or provide alternative pricing at any point during the RFP process.

4.10.6 The evaluation committee will determine best value by applying the following criteria and assigned weighted values:

Criteria		Weight
Criterion 1:	Qualifications & Experience of the Respondent	20%
Criterion 2:	Experience of Key Personnel	15%
Criterion 3:	Investment Philosophy & Technical Methodology	20%
Criterion 4:	Past Performance & References	20%
Criterion 5:	Transition and Continuity Plan	10%
Criterion 6:	Hypothetical Portfolio	5%
Criterion 7:	Cost / Fees	10%

4.10.7 The evaluation committee will determine if Best and Final Offer (BAFO) are necessary. Award of a contract may be made without a BAFO, so you are encouraged to submit your best Proposal initially. A request for a BAFO is at the sole discretion of TSU and if requested, will be extended in writing.

4.11 TSU reserves the right to award to multiple vendors and/or make a split award if deemed in the best interest of the University.

End of Section IV

EXHIBIT A

EXECUTION OFFER

NOTE: THIS EXHIBIT MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED WITH THE PROPOSAL. PROPOSALS THAT DO NOT INCLUDE THIS EXHIBIT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. THE PROPOSAL SHALL BE VOID IF FALSE STATEMENTS ARE CONTAINED IN THIS EXHIBIT.

By signature hereon, Respondent certifies that:
All statements and information prepared and submitted in the response to this RFP are current, complete, and accurate.

Respondent has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give at any time hereafter, any economicopportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the submitted response.

Neither Respondent nor the corporation, partnership, or institution represented by Respondent oranyone acting for such respondent, corporation, or institution has (1) violated the antitrust laws ofthe State of Texas under Texas Business & Commerce Code, Chapter 15, or the federal antitrustlaws; or (2) communicated the contents of this Proposal either directly or indirectly to any competitor or any other person engaged in the same line of business during the procurement process for this RFP.

When a Texas business address shown hereon that address is, in fact, the legal business addressof Respondent and Respondent qualifies as a Texas Resident Bidder under 1 TAC § 111.2.

Under Government Code § 2155.004, no person who prepared the specifications or this RFP hasany financial interest in Respondent's Proposal. If Respondent is not eligible, then any contract resulting from this RFP shall be immediately terminated. Furthermore, "under Section 2155.004,Government Code, the vendor [Respondent] certifies that the individual or business entity namedin this Proposal or contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract May be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate."

Under Family Code § 231.006, relating to child support obligations, Respondent and any other individual or business entity named in this solicitation are eligible to receive the specified paymentand acknowledge that this contract May be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

Under *Government* Code § 669.003, relating to contracting with an executive of a state agency, Respondent represents that no person who, in the past four years, served as an executive of theTexas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Southern University or any other state agency, wasinvolved with or has any interest in this Proposal or any contract resulting from this RFP. If Respondent employs or has used the services of a former executive head of *Texas Southern University* or other state agency, then Respondent shall provide the following information: Nameof former executive, name of state agency, date of separation from state agency, position with Respondent, and date of employment with Respondent. Respondent agrees that any payments due under this contract will be applied towards any debt,including but not limited to delinquent taxes and child support that is owed to the State of Texas.

Texas Southern University is federally mandated to adhere to the directions provided in the President's Executive Order (EO) 13224, Executive Order on Terrorist Financing – Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions With Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism, effective 9/24/2001 and any subsequent changes made to it via cross- referencing respondents/vendors with the Federal General Services Administration's Systemfor Award Management (SAM), https://www.sam.gov/SAM/ , which is inclusive of the United States Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) Specially Designated National (SDN) list.

Respondent certifies that the responding entity and its principals are eligible to participate in thistransaction and have not been subjected to suspension, debarment, or similar ineligibilitydetermined by any federal, state or local governmental entity and that Respondent is in compliance with the State of Texas statutes and rules relating to procurement and that Respondent is not listed on the federal government's terrorism watch list as described in Executive Order 13224. Entities ineligible for federal procurement are listed at https://www.sam.gov/SAM/

Under Section 2155.006(b) of the Texas Government Code, a state agency May not accept a Proposal or award a contract, including a contract for which purchasing authority is delegated to a state agency, that includes proposed financial participation by a person who, during the five- year period preceding the date of the Proposal or award, has been: (1) convicted of violating a federal law in connection with a contract awarded by the federal government for relief, recovery, or reconstruction efforts as a result of Hurricane Rita, as defined by Section 39.459, Utilities Code, Hurricane Katrina, or any other disaster occurring after September 24, 2005; or (2) 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, as defined by Section 39.459, Utilities Code, Hurricane Katrina, or any other disaster occurring after September 24, 2005. Under Section 2155.006 of the Texas GovernmentCode, the respondent certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Proposal is notineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that any contract resulting from thisRFP May be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

Pursuant to Section 2262.003 of the Texas Government Code, the state auditor May conduct anaudit or investigation of the vendor or any other entity or person receiving funds from the state directly under this contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract. The acceptanceof funds by the Respondent or any other entity or person directly under this contract or indirectlythrough a subcontract under this contract acts as acceptance of the authority of the state auditor,under the direction of the legislative audit committee, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Under the direction of the legislative audit committee, the Respondent or other entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the state auditor mustprovide the state auditor with access to any information the state auditor considers relevant to theinvestigation or audit. Respondent will ensure that this clause concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through the vendor and the requirement to cooperateis included in any subcontract it awards.

The Respondent represents that, to the extent this Solicitation constitutes a contract for goods orservices within the meaning of Section 2270.002 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, solely for purposes of compliance with Chapter 2270 of the Texas Government Code, and subjectto applicable Federal law, Respondent (1) does not boycott Israel; and (2) will not boycott Israel during the term of this Agreement. The term "boycott Israel" as used in this paragraph has the meaning assigned to it in Section 808.001 of the Texas Government Code, as amended.

PREFERENCES

See Section 2.38 of the State of Texas Procurement Manual regarding preferences. Check below to claim a preference under 34 TAC Rule 20.38

( ) Supplies, materials, or equipment produced in TX or offered by TX bidder or TX bidder thatis owned by a service-disabled veteran
( ) Agricultural products produced or grown in TX
( ) Agricultural products and services offered by TX bidders
( ) USA produced supplies, materials, or equipment
( ) Products or persons with mental or physical disabilities
( ) Products made of recycled, remanufactured, or environmentally sensitive materials including recycled steel
( ) Energy Efficient Products
( ) Rubberized asphalt paving material
( ) Recycled motor oil and lubricants
( ) Products produced at facilities located on formerly contaminated property
( ) Products and services from economically depressed or blighted areas
( ) Vendors that meet or exceed air quality standards
( ) Recycled or Reused Computer Equipment of Other Manufacturers
( ) Foods of Higher Nutritional Value

Respondent represents and warrants that the individual signing this Execution of Offer is authorized to sign this document on behalf of Respondent and to bind Respondent under any contract resulting from this Proposal.

RESPONDENT (COMPANY) ______________________________

SIGNATURE ______________________________

NAME (TYPED/PRINTED ______________________________

TITLE: ______________________________

EMAIL ADDRESS ______________________________

PHYSICAL ADDRESS ______________________________

CITY/STATE/ZIP ______________________________

TELEPHONE ______________________________

FAX ______________________________

TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ______________________________

DATE ______________________________

End of Exhibit A

EXHIBIT B

Executive Order GA-48 Compliance Statement (Higher Education)

NOTE: THIS EXHIBIT MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED WITH THE PROPOSAL. PROPOSALS THAT DO NOT INCLUDE THIS EXHIBIT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. THE PROPOSAL SHALL BE VOID IF FALSE STATEMENTS ARE CONTAINED IN THIS EXHIBIT.

Pursuant to Executive Order GA-48 issued by Greg Abbott, Respondent affirms its understanding of and commitment to comply with all applicable requirements related to foreign adversary restrictions as they apply to public institutions of higher education.

Respondent certifies that it is not owned by, controlled by, or affiliated with any entity identified as a foreign adversary and does not participate in prohibited foreign talent recruitment programs or restricted research collaborations. Respondent further certifies that it does not receive funding, contractual support, or other resources from prohibited foreign sources that would conflict with the requirements of this Executive Order.

In support of institutional research security and academic integrity, Respondent agrees to fully disclose any foreign affiliations, partnerships, funding sources, or collaborative arrangements that may involve foreign entities. This includes, but is not limited to, research sponsorships, joint academic programs, data-sharing agreements, and subcontracting relationships.

Respondent acknowledges that any resulting agreement may be subject to enhanced compliance measures, including review of research activities, data access limitations, export control considerations, and restrictions on the use of certain technologies, equipment, or personnel connected to foreign adversaries.
Respondent further agrees to comply with all institutional policies related to international travel, remote work conducted outside the United States, and access to university systems or sensitive data, where applicable to the services provided.

Failure to comply with the provisions of Executive Order GA-48 and applicable institutional policies may result in disqualification from the solicitation process, contract termination, and/or other remedies available under law.

Vendor Certification – Executive Order GA-48 Compliance

The Respondent must complete the following certification. Failure to complete this section may result in disqualification.

☐ **Certified Compliant**

Respondent affirms that it is fully compliant with the requirements of Executive Order GA-48 and has no prohibited affiliations, funding sources, or engagements.

☐ **Disclosure Required**

Respondent affirms compliance but has disclosed below any affiliations, funding sources, partnerships, or activities that may require review under GA-48.

☐ **Non-Compliant**

Respondent is unable to certify compliance with Executive Order GA-48.

If "Disclosure Required" is selected, provide details below (attach additional pages if necessary):

Authorized Representative Name: ____

Title: ____

Company Name: ____

Signature: ____ Date: _____________

End of Exhibit B

HOUSE BILL 1295 (CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES)

In 2015, the Texas Legislature adopted House Bill 1295, which added section 2252.908 of the Government Code. The law states that a governmental entity or state agency may not enter into certain contracts with a business entity unless the business entity submits a disclosure of interested parties (Form 1295) to the governmental entity or state agency at the time the business entity submits the signed contract to the governmental entity or state agency. The Texas Ethics Commission has adopted rules requiring the business entity to file Form 1295 electronically with the Commission.

Complete filing instructions are included in this bid, in which this form must be submitted. The link to the form can be located at the following link: https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/1295/.

End of the solicitation