



## State of West Virginia

OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER  
PHONE: 304-558-5000 or 1-800-422-7498  
[www.wvtreasury.com](http://www.wvtreasury.com)

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM E-145  
1900 KANAWHA BOULEVARD, EAST  
CHARLESTON, WV 25305

RILEY MOORE  
STATE TREASURER

### Bid Opportunity Notice

**Solicitation Number:** ARFP STO2200000003  
**Solicitation Description:** ACH Processing Services  
**Deadline for Q&A:** 06/23/2022 5:00 PM EST  
**Bid Closing Date and Time:** 08/02/2022 10:30 AM EST

Dear Potential Bidder:

Your business has been identified as a potential vendor for the solicitation noted above.

Should your business be interested in this bid opportunity, please visit [www.wvOASIS.gov](http://www.wvOASIS.gov), and click on the Vendor Self Service (VSS) Portal. At the welcome screen, please review announcements and log into your account or click on *View Published Solicitations* at the top portion of the page in order to view the *West Virginia Purchasing Bulletin*. You may view all bid opportunities, or you may search for the solicitation noted above by typing the solicitation number in the "keyword search" box. Additional information may be accessed by clicking on the summary or details of the solicitation. All modifications to solicitations prior to award will be noted as an "addendum" and also available at this same location; please make sure to review for Addenda before submitting a final response to a solicitation.

**The above Solicitation is also cross-posted to the WV State Treasurer's Office web page. Please visit <https://www.wvtreasury.com/RFP-RFQ>; and review this same page for Addenda or other information before submitting your final bid response.**

Should you decide to bid on this opportunity, you may submit a response through the acceptable delivery methods including electronic submission via wvOASIS system, hand delivery, delivery by courier, secure email, or by facsimile; however, wvOASIS does not accept bids for Request for Proposals (ARFP).

Solicitations prefaced with an "A" are agency-delegated bid opportunities expected to be \$25,000 or less, or, are considered exempt from the requirements of the WV Purchasing Division pursuant to W.Va. Code §12-3A-3 and §5-10B-3. Those prefaced with a "C" are Central Purchasing Division solicitations that are expected to exceed \$25,000.

Should you have any questions regarding becoming a registered vendor with the State of West Virginia, please visit the vendor registration webpage within the WV State Purchasing Division at <http://www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/VendorReg.html>. **Questions regarding the solicitation should be directed to the designed Buyer listed in the *Instructions to Bidders* document.**

WV State Treasurer's Office – Purchasing Division  
Email: [purchasing@wvsto.com](mailto:purchasing@wvsto.com) / Phone: 304-558-5000



**State of West Virginia  
Agency Request for Proposals  
Financial**

|   |                            |                         |                                 |              |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Proc Folder:</b> 1041304                     |                            |                         | <b>Reason for Modification:</b> |              |
| <b>Doc Description:</b> ACH Processing Services |                            |                         |                                 |              |
| <b>Proc Type:</b> Agency Master Agreement       |                            |                         |                                 |              |
| <b>Date Issued</b>                              | <b>Solicitation Closes</b> | <b>Solicitation No</b>  | <b>Version</b>                  | <b>Phase</b> |
| 2022-06-14                                      | 2022-08-02 10:30           | ARFP 1300 STO2200000003 | 1                               | Final        |

**BID RECEIVING LOCATION**

WEST VIRGINIA STATE TREASURERS OFFICE  
322 70TH ST SE  
  
CHARLESTON WV 25304  
US

**VENDOR**

**Vendor Customer Code:**  
**Vendor Name :**  
**Address :**  
**Street :**  
**City :**  
**State :** **Country :** **Zip :**  
**Principal Contact :**  
**Vendor Contact Phone:** **Extension:**

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE BUYER**

Shelly Murray  
(304) 341-7089  
shelly.murray@wvsto.com

**Vendor Signature X** **FEIN#** **DATE**

**All offers subject to all terms and conditions contained in this solicitation**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

| <u>Line</u> | <u>Event</u>                         | <u>Event Date</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1           | Written Question Submission Deadline | 2022-06-23        |

|               | Document Phase | Document Description    | Page |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------------|------|
| STO2200000003 | Final          | ACH Processing Services | 3    |

**ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

See attached document(s) for additional Terms and Conditions

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
WV State Treasurer's Office  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)  
for  
ACH PROCESSING SERVICES  
ARFP STO2200000003

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**Glossary of RFP Terms:**

*All capitalized terms and abbreviations used in this RFP shall have the meanings as set forth below.*

“**ACH**” means Automated Clearing House, which is a computer-based electronic network for processing transactions.

“**ACH Operator**” means an operator that processes entries between the originator and receiver. There are currently two ACH operators which are: Federal Reserve Bank and Electronic Payments Network.

“**API**” means Application Programming Interface, which is a software interface that allows two applications to interact with each other without any user intervention. API is a collection of software functions and procedures. In simple terms, API means a software code which can be accessed or executed.

“**Bi-weekly**” means every two weeks.

“**Credit**” means an electronic message that instructs the originating depository financial institution to move funds from the originator's account to the receiver's account at the receiving depository financial institution.

“**Debit**” means an electronic message that instructs the originating depository financial institution to move funds from the receiver's account to the originator's account.

“**EDI**” means Electronic Data Interchange, which is the computer-to-computer exchange of business documents in a standard electronic format between business partners.

“**EFT**” means Electronic Funds Transfer. The transfer of funds is initiated through an electronic terminal, telephone, computer (including online banking) or magnetic tape for the purpose of ordering, instructing, or authorizing a financial institution to debit or credit a consumer's account.

“**NACHA**” means National Automated Clearing House Association, which manages the administration, development, and governance of the ACH Network.

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“**ODFI**” means Originating Depository Financial Institution, which transmits entries into the ACH Network on behalf of the originator.

“**RDFI**” means Receiving Depository Financial Institution, which receives entries directly or indirectly from its ACH Operator for debit or credit transactions to the accounts of its customers.

“**SFTP**” means SSH File Transfer Protocol (also known as Secure File Transfer Protocol), which is a network protocol that provides an encrypted connection via a secure shell (SSH) for file transfers and data access.

“**State**” means the State of West Virginia.

“**State Spending Unit**” means a department, agency, board, commission or institution of state government for which an appropriation is requested, or to which an appropriation is made by the Legislature.

“**STO**” means the West Virginia State Treasurer's Office.

“**Third-party vendor**” means a company or entity with whom Vendor has an agreement, written or otherwise, to provide a product or service on behalf of Vendor's organization.

“**Wire Transfer**” means an electronic transfer of funds via a network that is administered by banks and transfer service agencies around the world.

## **SECTION ONE: GENERAL INFORMATION**

- 1.1. Purpose: The West Virginia State Treasurer's Office, hereafter referred to as the “STO”, is soliciting proposals from qualified Vendors to serve as an Originating Depository Financial Institution (ODFI) and Receiving Depository Financial Institution (RDFI) for the STO in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions contained herein. All ACH Transactions originated by the STO will be transmitted to the Vendor from the STO. No other processor will be transmitting data to the ODFI for the STO. This procurement is exempt from the requirements of the West Virginia Purchasing Division pursuant to *W.Va. Code* §12-3A-3.
- 1.2. By signing and submitting its proposal, the successful Vendor agrees to be bound by all the terms contained in this Request for Proposal (“RFP”).

An RFP is generally used for the procurement of services in situations where price is not the sole determining factor and the award will be based on a combination of cost and technical factors (Best Value). Through its proposal, the bidder offers a solution to the objectives, problem, or need specified in the RFP, and defines how it intends to meet (or exceed) the RFP requirements.

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**1.3.** Schedule of Events:

Vendor's Written Questions Submission Deadline .....6/23/22  
Addendum Issued..... approx..7/11/22  
Bid Opening Date..... 8/2/22  
Oral Presentation..... approx. 9/26/22

**1.4.** Attachments:

Attachment A – Vendor Response Sheet  
Attachment B – Vendor Mandatory Specification Checklist  
Attachment C – Cost Sheet

**1.5** Exhibits:

Exhibit A – Collateral Policy and Procedures

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**SECTION TWO: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS SUBMITTING BIDS**

Instructions begin on next page.



## INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS SUBMITTING BIDS

### West Virginia State Treasurer's Office

1. **REVIEW DOCUMENTS THOROUGHLY:** The attached documents contain a solicitation for bids. Please read these instructions and all documents attached in their entirety. These instructions provide critical information about requirements that if overlooked could lead to disqualification of a Vendor's bid. All bids must be submitted in accordance with the provisions contained in these instructions and the Solicitation. Failure to do so may result in disqualification of Vendor's bid.
2. **MANDATORY TERMS:** The Solicitation may contain mandatory provisions identified by the use of the words "must," "will," and "shall." Failure to comply with a mandatory term in the Solicitation will result in bid disqualification.
3. **PREBID MEETING:** The item identified below shall apply to this Solicitation.

A pre-bid meeting will not be held prior to bid opening.

A **NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID** meeting will be held at the following place and time:

A **MANDATORY PRE-BID** meeting will be held at the following place and time:

All Vendors submitting a bid must attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting. Failure to attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting shall result in disqualification of the Vendor's bid. No one person attending the pre-bid meeting may represent more than one Vendor.

An attendance sheet provided at the pre-bid meeting shall serve as the official document verifying attendance. The State will not accept any other form of proof or documentation to verify attendance. Any person attending the pre-bid meeting on behalf of a Vendor must list on the attendance sheet his or her name and the name of the Vendor he or she is representing.

Additionally, the person attending the pre-bid meeting should include the Vendor's E-Mail address, phone number, and Fax number on the attendance sheet. It is the Vendor's responsibility to locate the attendance sheet and provide the required information. Failure to complete the attendance sheet as required may result in disqualification of Vendor's bid.

All Vendors should arrive prior to the starting time for the pre-bid. Vendors who arrive after the starting time but prior to the end of the pre-bid will be permitted to sign in, but are charged with knowing all matters discussed at the pre-bid.

Questions submitted at least five business days prior to a scheduled pre-bid will be discussed at the pre-bid meeting if possible. Any discussions or answers to questions at the pre-bid meeting are preliminary in nature and are non-binding. Official and binding answers to questions will be published in a written addendum to the Solicitation prior to bid opening.

- 4. VENDOR QUESTION DEADLINE:** Vendors may submit questions relating to this Solicitation to the STO Purchasing Division. Questions must be submitted in writing. All questions must be submitted on or before the date listed below and to the address listed below in order to be considered. A written response will be published in a Solicitation addendum if a response is possible and appropriate. Non-written discussions, conversations, or questions and answers regarding this Solicitation are preliminary in nature and are nonbinding.

*Submitted emails should have the solicitation number in the subject line.*

Question Submission Deadline: June 23, 2022 by 5:00PM EST

Submit Questions to: Shelly Murray

**Physical Address:** 322 70<sup>th</sup> Street S.E., Charleston, WV 25304

**Fax:** (304) 340-1518

**Email:** purchasing@wvsto.com

- 5. VERBAL COMMUNICATION:** Any verbal communication between the Vendor and any State personnel is not binding, including verbal communication at the mandatory pre-bid conference. Only information issued in writing and added to the Solicitation by an official written addendum by the State Treasurer's Office (STO) Purchasing Division is binding.
- 6. BID SUBMISSION:** All bids must be submitted electronically through wvOASIS, or, signed and delivered by the Vendor to the STO Purchasing Division at the address listed below on or before the date and time of the bid opening. Any bid received by the STO Purchasing Division staff is considered to be in the possession of the STO Purchasing Division and will not be returned for any reason. The STO Purchasing Division will not accept bids, modification of bids, or addendum acknowledgment forms via e-mail. Acceptable delivery methods include electronic submission via wvOASIS, hand delivery, delivery by courier, or facsimile.

The bid delivery address is:

**WV State Treasurer's Office**

**Attn: Purchasing Division**

**322 70<sup>th</sup> Street S.E.**

**Charleston, WV 25304**

A bid that is not submitted electronically through wvOASIS should contain the information listed below on the face of the envelope or the bid may be rejected by the STO Purchasing Division:

Note: Items in italics are for informational purposes only as a means of assisting Vendor in marking their bid submissions that may be physically delivered.

SEALED BID: *Brief Description of Project/Item*

BUYER: *Buyer Name listed above in item 4*

SOLICITATION NO.: *Document number from Solicitation*

BID OPENING DATE: *As stated in Solicitation and/or item 7*

BID OPENING TIME: *As stated in Solicitation and/or item 7*

FAX NUMBER: 304-340-1518 *(if submitting Bid via facsimile)*

Vendor accepts the risk of its Bid not being completely transmitted if sent via facsimile. Agency will not confirm bid/Solicitation details of any related documentation received via facsimile prior to bid opening and/or evaluation.

The STO Purchasing Division may prohibit the submission of bids electronically through wvOASIS at its sole discretion. Such a prohibition will be contained and communicated in the wvOASIS system resulting in the Vendor's inability to submit bids through wvOASIS. Submission of a response to an Agency Expression of Interest or Agency Request for Proposal is currently not permitted in wvOASIS.

**For Agency Request For Proposal ("ARFP") Responses Only:** In the event that Vendor is responding to a request for proposal, the Vendor shall submit one original technical and one original cost proposal plus Seven (7) convenience copies of each to the STO Purchasing Division at the address shown above. Additionally, the Vendor should identify the bid type as either a technical or cost proposal on the face of each bid envelope submitted in response to a request for proposal as follows:

BID TYPE: **(This only applies to ARFP's)**

Technical

Cost

- BID OPENING:** Bids submitted in response to this Solicitation will be opened at the location identified below on the date and time listed below. Delivery of a bid after the bid opening date and time will result in bid disqualification. For purposes of this Solicitation, a bid is considered delivered when confirmation of delivery is provided by wvOASIS (in the case of electronic submission) or when the bid is time stamped by the official STO Purchasing time clock (in the case of hand delivery).

Bid Opening Date and Time: August 2, 2022 at 10:30 AM **EST**

Bid Opening Location: WV State Treasurer's Office  
STO Purchasing Division  
322 70<sup>th</sup> Street S.E.  
Charleston, WV 25304

- 8. ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** Changes or revisions to this Solicitation will be made by an official written addendum issued by the STO Purchasing Division. Vendor should acknowledge receipt of all addenda issued with this Solicitation by completing an Addendum Acknowledgment Form, a copy of which is included herewith. Failure to acknowledge addenda may result in bid disqualification. The addendum acknowledgement should be submitted with the bid to expedite document processing.
- 9. BID FORMATTING:** Vendor should type or electronically enter the information onto its bid to prevent errors in the evaluation. Failure to type or electronically enter the information may result in bid disqualification.
- 10. ALTERNATES:** Any model, brand, or specification listed in this Solicitation establishes the acceptable level of quality only and is not intended to reflect a preference for, or in any way favor, a particular brand or vendor. Vendors may bid alternates to a listed model or brand provided that the alternate is at least equal to the model or brand and complies with the required specifications. The equality of any alternate being bid shall be determined by the State at its sole discretion. Any Vendor bidding an alternate model or brand should clearly identify the alternate items in its bid and should include manufacturer's specifications, industry literature, and/or any other relevant documentation demonstrating the equality of the alternate items. Failure to provide information for alternate items may be grounds for rejection of a Vendor's bid.
- 11. EXCEPTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS:** The Solicitation contains the specifications that shall form the basis of a contractual agreement. Vendor shall clearly mark any exceptions, clarifications, or other proposed modifications in its bid. Exceptions to, clarifications of, or modifications of a requirement or term and condition of the Solicitation may result in bid disqualification. The STO is under no obligation to consider or negotiate any terms and conditions or alternative terms and conditions contained in the Vendor's proposals.
- 12. COMMUNICATION LIMITATIONS:** Communication with the STO or any of its employees regarding this Solicitation during the solicitation, bid, evaluation or award periods, except through the STO Purchasing Division, is strictly prohibited without prior STO Purchasing Division approval.
- 13. REGISTRATION:** Prior to Contract award, the apparent successful Vendor must be properly registered with the West Virginia Purchasing Division and must have paid the \$125 fee, if applicable.
- 14. UNIT PRICE:** Unit prices shall prevail in cases of a discrepancy in the Vendor's bid.

**15. PREFERENCE:** Vendor Preference may be requested in purchases of motor vehicles or construction and maintenance equipment and machinery used in highway and other infrastructure projects. Any request for preference must be submitted in writing with the bid, must specifically identify the preference requested with reference to the applicable subsection of W. Va. Code § 5A-3-37, should include with the bid any information necessary to evaluate and confirm the applicability of the requested preference. A request form to help facilitate the request can be found at: <http://www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/vrc/Venpref.pdf>.

**15A. RECIPROCAL PREFERENCE:** The State of West Virginia applies a reciprocal preference to all solicitations for commodities and printing in accordance with W. Va. Code § 5A-3-37(b). In effect, non-resident vendors receiving a preference in their home states will see that same preference granted to West Virginia resident vendors bidding against them in West Virginia. A request form to help facilitate the request can be found at: <http://www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/vrc/Venpref.pdf>.

**16. SMALL, WOMEN-OWNED, OR MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES:** For any solicitations publicly advertised for bid, in accordance with W.Va. Code § 5A-3-37(a)(7) and W.Va. CSR § 148-22-9, any non-resident vendor certified as a small, women-owned, or minority-owned business under W.Va. CSR § 148-22-9 shall be provided the same preference made available to any resident vendor. Any non-resident small, women-owned, or minority-owned business must identify itself as such in writing, must submit that writing to the STO Purchasing Division with its bid, and must be properly certified under W.Va. CSR § 148-22-9 prior to contract award to receive the preferences made available to resident vendors. Preference for a non-resident small, women-owned, or minority-owned business shall be applied in accordance with W. Va. § CSR § 148-22-9.

**17. WAIVER OF MINOR IRREGULARITIES:** The STO Director of Purchasing reserves the right to waive minor irregularities in bids or specifications.

**18. ELECTRONIC FILE ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** Vendor must ensure that its submission in wvOASIS can be accessed and viewed by the STO Purchasing Division staff immediately upon bid opening. The STO Purchasing Division will consider any file that cannot be immediately accessed and viewed at the time of the bid opening (such as, encrypted files, password protected files, or incompatible files) to be blank or incomplete as context requires, and are therefore unacceptable. A Vendor will not be permitted to unencrypt files, remove password protections, or resubmit documents after bid opening if those documents are required with the bid. A Vendor may be required to provide document passwords or remove access restrictions to allow the STO Purchasing Division to print or electronically save documents provided that those documents are viewable by the STO Purchasing Division prior to obtaining the password or removing the access restriction.

**19. NON-RESPONSIBLE:** The STO Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject the bid of any vendor as Non-responsible when it is determined that the vendor submitting the bid does not have the capability to fully perform, or lacks the integrity and reliability to assure good-faith performance.

**20. RFP/RFQ WITHDRAWAL, MODIFICATION, and CANCELLATION:** The STO may withdraw, cancel, or modify an RFP/RFQ at any time. Submission of proposals or receipt of proposals by the STO confer no rights upon the Vendor and do not obligate the STO in any manner. Further, the STO may accept or reject any bid in whole, or in part.

**21. YOUR SUBMISSION IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT:** Vendor's entire response to the Solicitation and the resulting Contract are considered public documents. As public documents, they will be disclosed to the public following the bid/proposal opening or award of the contract, as required by the competitive bidding laws of West Virginia and the Freedom of Information Act found in West Virginia Code § 29B-1-1 et seq.

DO NOT SUBMIT MATERIAL YOU CONSIDER TO BE CONFIDENTIAL, A TRADE SECRET, OR OTHERWISE NOT SUBJECT TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.

Submission of any bid, proposal, or other document to the STO Purchasing Division constitutes your explicit consent to the subsequent public disclosure of the bid, proposal or document. The STO Purchasing Division will disclose any document labeled "confidential", "proprietary", "trade secret", "private", or labeled with any other claim against public disclosure of the documents, to include any "trade secrets" as defined by W.Va. Code § 47-22-1 et seq. All submissions are subject to public disclosure without notice.

**22. INTERESTED PARTY DISCLOSURE:** West Virginia § 6D-1-2 requires that the vendor submit to the Purchasing Division a disclosure of interested parties to the contract for all contracts with an actual or estimated value of at least \$1 Million. That disclosure must occur on the form prescribed and approved by the WV Ethics Commission prior to contract award. This requirement does not apply to publicly traded companies listed on a national or international stock exchange. A more detailed definition of interested parties can be obtained from the form referenced above. A copy of that form is available from the Agency Buyer designated in Section 4 above.

**23. WITH THE BID REQUIREMENTS:** In instances where these specifications require documentation or other information with the bid, and a vendor fails to provide it with the bid, the STO Director of Purchasing reserves the right to request those items after bid opening and prior to contract award. This does not apply to instances where state law mandates receipt with the bid.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

WV State Treasurer's Office  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)  
for  
ACH PROCESSING SERVICES  
ARFP STO2200000003

**SECTION THREE: GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Terms and conditions begin on next page.

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**  
**West Virginia State Treasurer's Office**

1. **CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT:** Issuance of an Award Document signed by the Treasurer, or his designee, and approved as to form by the Agency's Counsel constitutes acceptance of this Contract made by and between the State of West Virginia, WV State Treasurer's Office ("STO") and the Vendor. Vendor's signature on its bid signifies Vendor's agreement to be bound by and accept the terms and conditions contained in this Contract.
  
2. **DEFINITIONS:** As used in this Solicitation/Contract, the following terms shall have the meanings attributed to them below. Additional definitions may be found in the specifications included with this Solicitation/Contract.
  - 2.1. **"Agency"** means the West Virginia State Treasurer's Office ("STO").
  - 2.2. **"Bid"** or **"Proposal"** means the vendors submitted response to this solicitation
  - 2.3. **"Contract"** means the binding agreement that is entered into between the State and the Vendor to provide the goods or services requested in the Solicitation.
  - 2.4. **"Director"** means the Deputy Treasurer of STO Purchasing/Director of STO Purchasing Division
  - 2.5. **"Award Document"** means the document issued by the Agency that identifies the Vendor as the contract holder.
  - 2.6. **"Solicitation"** means the official notice of an opportunity to supply the State with goods or services that is published by the STO Purchasing Division.
  - 2.7. **"Vendor"** or **"Vendors"** means any entity submitting a bid in response to the Solicitation, the entity that has been selected as the lowest responsible bidder, or the entity that has been awarded the Contract as context requires.
  - 2.8. **"Exempt"** means the solicitation/purchase is exempt from the requirements of the West Virginia Dept. of Administration - Purchasing Division.
  - 2.9. **"Vendor"** or **"Vendors"** means any entity submitting a bid in response to the Solicitation, the entity that has been selected as the lowest responsible bidder, or the entity that has been awarded the Contract as context requires.
  
3. **CONTRACT TERM; RENEWAL; EXTENSION:** The term of this Contract shall be determined in accordance with the category that has been identified as applicable to this Contract below:

**Term Contract**



**Initial Contract Term:** This Contract becomes effective on 4/1/2023 and extends for a period of Five (5) year(s).

**Renewal Term:** This Contract may be renewed upon the mutual written consent of the Agency and the Vendor. A request for Contract renewal should be submitted to the STO Purchasing Division thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of the initial contract term or appropriate renewal term. A Contract renewal shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the original contract.

Unless otherwise specified below, Renewal of this Contract is limited to Three (3) successive one (1) year periods or multiple renewal periods of less than one year, provided that the multiple renewal periods do not exceed the total number of months available in all renewal years combined. Automatic renewal of this Contract is prohibited.

**Alternate Renewal Term** – This contract may be renewed for \_\_\_\_\_ successive \_\_\_\_\_ year periods or shorter periods provided that they do not exceed the total number of months contained in all available renewals. **Automatic renewal of this Contract is prohibited.** Renewals must be approved by the Agency and the Vendor.

**Delivery Order Limitations:** In the event that this contract permits delivery orders, a delivery order may only be issued during the time this Contract is in effect. Any delivery order issued within one year of the expiration of this Contract shall be effective for one year from the date the delivery order is issued. No delivery order may be extended beyond one year after this Contract has expired.

**Fixed Period Contract:** This Contract becomes effective upon Vendor’s receipt of the notice to proceed and must be completed within \_\_\_\_\_ days.

**Fixed Period Contract with Renewals:** This Contract becomes effective upon Vendor’s receipt of the notice to proceed and part of the Contract more fully described in the attached specifications must be completed within \_\_\_\_\_ days.

Upon completion, the vendor agrees that maintenance, monitoring, or warranty services will be provided for one year thereafter with an additional \_\_\_\_\_ successive one-year renewal periods or multiple renewal periods of less than one year provided that the multiple renewal periods do not exceed \_\_\_\_\_ months in total. Automatic renewal of this Contract is prohibited.

**One Time Purchase:** The term of this Contract shall run from the issuance of the Award Document until all of the goods contracted for have been delivered, but in no event will this Contract extend for more than one fiscal year.

**Other:** See attached.

4. **NOTICE TO PROCEED:** Vendor shall begin performance of this Contract immediately upon receiving notice to proceed unless otherwise instructed by the Agency. Unless otherwise specified, the fully executed Award Document/Purchase Order will be considered notice to proceed.

5. **QUANTITIES:** The quantities required under this Contract shall be determined in accordance with the category that has been identified as applicable to this Contract below.

**Open End Contract:** Quantities listed in this Solicitation are approximations only, based on estimates supplied by the Agency. It is understood and agreed that the Contract shall cover the quantities actually ordered for delivery during the term of the Contract, whether more or less than the quantities shown.

**Service:** The scope of the service to be provided will be more clearly defined in the specifications included herewith.

**Combined Service and Goods:** The scope of the service and deliverable goods to be provided will be more clearly defined in the specifications included herewith.

**One Time Purchase:** This Contract is for the purchase of a set quantity of goods that are identified in the specifications included herewith. Once those items have been delivered, no additional goods may be procured under this Contract without an appropriate change order approved by the Vendor and Agency.

6. **EMERGENCY PURCHASES:** The STO Deputy Treasurer of Purchasing, or their designee, may authorize the purchase of goods or services in the open market that Vendor would otherwise provide under this Contract if those goods or services are for immediate or expedited delivery in an emergency. Emergencies shall include, but are not limited to, delays in transportation or an unanticipated increase in the volume of work. An emergency purchase in the open market, approved by the STO Deputy Treasurer of Purchasing, or their designee, shall not constitute a breach of this Contract and shall not entitle the Vendor to any form of compensation or damages. This provision does not excuse the STO from fulfilling its obligations under a One Time Purchase contract.

7. **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:** All of the items checked below must be provided to the STO Purchasing Division by the Vendor as specified below.

**BID BOND (Construction Only):** Pursuant to the requirements contained in W.Va. § Code 5-22-1(c), all Vendors submitting a bid on a construction project shall furnish a valid bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid protecting the State of West Virginia/STO. The bid bond must be submitted with the bid.

**PERFORMANCE BOND:** The apparent successful Vendor shall provide a performance bond in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_. The performance bond must be received by the STO Purchasing Division prior to Contract award. On construction contracts, the performance bond must be 100% of the Contract value.

**LABOR/MATERIAL PAYMENT BOND:** The apparent successful Vendor shall provide a labor/material payment bond in the amount of 100% of the Contract value. The labor/material payment bond must be delivered to the STO Purchasing Division prior to Contract award.

In lieu of the Bid Bond, Performance Bond, and Labor/Material Payment Bond, the Vendor may provide certified checks, cashier's checks, or irrevocable letters of credit. Any certified check, cashier's check, or irrevocable letter of credit provided in lieu of a bond must be of the same amount and delivered on the same schedule as the bond it replaces. A letter of credit submitted in lieu of a performance and labor/material payment bond will only be allowed for projects under \$100,000. Personal or business checks are not acceptable. Notwithstanding the foregoing, W.Va. Code § 5-22-1 (d) mandates that a vendor provide a performance and labor/material payment bond for construction projects. Accordingly, substitutions for the performance and labor/material payment bonds for construction projects is not permitted

**LICENSE(S) / CERTIFICATIONS / PERMITS:** In addition to anything required under the Section entitled Licensing, of the General Terms and Conditions, the apparent successful Vendor shall furnish proof of the following licenses, certifications, and/or permits prior to Contract award, in a form acceptable to the STO Purchasing Division.

[ ]

[ ]

The apparent successful Vendor shall also furnish proof of any additional licenses or certifications contained in the Specifications prior to Contract award regardless of whether or not that requirement is listed above.

**8. INSURANCE:** The apparent successful Vendor shall furnish proof of the insurance identified by a checkmark below and must include the State as an additional insured on each policy prior to Contract award. The insurance coverages identified below must be maintained throughout the life of the contract. Thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the insurance policies, Vendor shall provide the Agency with proof that the insurance mandated herein has been continued. Vendor must also provide Agency with the immediately notice of any changes in its insurance policies, including but not limited to, policy cancelation, policy reduction, or change in insurers. The apparent successful Vendor shall also furnish proof of any additional insurance requirements contained in the specifications prior to Contract award regardless of whether or not that insurance requirement is listed in this section.

Vendor must maintain:

**Commercial General Liability Insurance** in at least an amount of:  
1,000,000 \_\_\_\_\_ per occurrence.

**Automobile Liability Insurance** in at least an amount of: \_\_\_\_\_ per occurrence.

**Professional/Malpractice/Errors and Omission Insurance** in at least an amount of: 1,000,000 per occurrence.

**Commercial Crime and Third Party Fidelity Insurance** in at least an amount of: \_\_\_\_\_ per occurrence.

**Cyber Liability Insurance** in at least an amount of: 3,000,000 per occurrence.

**Builders Risk Insurance** in an amount equal to 100% of the amount of the Contract.

**Pollution Insurance** in an amount of: \_\_\_\_\_ per occurrence.

**Aircraft Liability** in an amount of: \_\_\_\_\_ per occurrence.

[ ]

[ ]

Notwithstanding anything contained in this section to the contrary, the STO Deputy Treasurer of Purchasing reserves the right to waive the requirement that the STO be named as an additional insured on one or more of the Vendor's insurance policies if he/she finds that doing so is in the STO's best interest.

**9. WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE:** The apparent successful Vendor shall comply with laws relating to workers compensation, shall maintain workers' compensation insurance when required, and shall furnish proof of workers' compensation insurance upon request.

**10. LIQUIDATED DAMAGES:** Vendor shall pay liquidated damages in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.  
This clause shall in no way be considered exclusive and shall not limit the Agency's right to pursue any other available remedy.

Liquidated Damages Contained in the Specifications

**11. ACCEPTANCE:** Vendor's signature on its bid, or on the certification and signature page, constitutes an offer to the STO that cannot be unilaterally withdrawn, signifies that the product or service proposed by Vendor meets the mandatory requirements contained in the Solicitation for that product or service, unless otherwise indicated, and signifies acceptance of the terms and conditions contained in Solicitation unless otherwise indicated.

**12. PRICING:** The pricing set forth herein is firm for the life of the Contract, unless specified elsewhere within this Solicitation/Contract by the STO. A Vendor's inclusion of price adjustment provisions in its bid, without express authorization from the STO in the Solicitation to do so, may result in bid disqualification.

13. **PAYMENT IN ARREARS:** Payment in advance is prohibited under this Contract. Payment may only be made after the delivery and acceptance of goods or services. The Vendor shall submit itemized invoices, in arrears.
14. **PAYMENT METHODS:** Vendor must accept payment by electronic funds transfer and/or a State issued credit card, also known as P-Card. (The State of West Virginia's Purchasing Card program, administered under contract by a banking institution, processes payment for goods and services through state designated credit cards)
15. **TAXES:** The Vendor shall pay any applicable sales, use, personal property or any other taxes arising out of this Contract and the transactions contemplated thereby. The State of West Virginia is exempt from federal and state taxes and will not pay or reimburse such taxes.
16. **ADDITIONAL FEES:** Vendor is not permitted to charge additional fees or assess additional charges that were not either expressly provided for in the solicitation published by the State Treasurer's Office or included in the unit price or lump sum bid amount that Vendor is required by the solicitation to provide. Including such fees or charges as notes to the solicitation may result in rejection of vendor's bid. Requesting such fees or charges be paid after the contract has been awarded may result in cancellation of the contract.
17. **FUNDING:** This Contract shall continue for the term stated herein, contingent upon funds being appropriated by the Legislature or otherwise being made available. In the event funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available, this Contract becomes void and of no effect beginning on July 1 of the fiscal year for which funding has not been appropriated or otherwise made available.
18. **CANCELLATION:** The STO Deputy Treasurer of Purchasing Division reserves the right to cancel this Contract immediately upon written notice to the vendor if the materials or workmanship supplied do not conform to the specifications contained in the Contract. The STO Deputy Treasurer of Purchasing Division may also cancel any purchase order or Contract upon 30 days written notice to the Vendor.
19. **TIME:** Time is of the essence with regard to all matters of time and performance in this Contract.
20. **APPLICABLE LAW:** This Contract is governed by and interpreted under West Virginia law without giving effect to its choice of law principles. Any information provided in specification manuals, or any other source, verbal or written, which contradicts or violates the West Virginia Constitution, West Virginia Code or West Virginia Code of State Rules is void and of no effect.
21. **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS:** Vendor shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and ordinances. By submitting a bid, Vendor acknowledges that it has reviewed, understands, and will comply with all applicable law.

**SUBCONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE:** Vendor shall notify all subcontractors providing commodities or services related to this Contract that as subcontractors, they too are required to

comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and ordinances. Notification under this provision must occur prior to the performance of any work under the contract by the subcontractor.

22. **ARBITRATION:** Any references made to arbitration contained in this Contract, Vendor's bid, or in any American Institute of Architects documents pertaining to this Contract are hereby deleted, void, and of no effect.
23. **MODIFICATIONS:** This writing is the parties' final expression of intent. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Contract to the contrary, no modification of this Contract shall be binding without mutual written consent of the Agency and the Vendor. Any change to existing contracts that adds work or changes contract cost, and were not included in the original contract, must be approved by the STO Purchasing Division and/or Agency's Counsel as to form prior to the implementation of the change or commencement of work affected by the change. No Change shall be implemented by the Vendor until such time as the Vendor receives an approved written change order from the STO Purchasing Division.
24. **WAIVER:** The failure of either party to insist upon a strict performance of any of the terms or provision of this Contract, or to exercise any option, right, or remedy herein contained, shall not be construed as a waiver or a relinquishment for the future of such term, provision, option, right, or remedy, but the same shall continue in full force and effect. Any waiver must be expressly stated in writing and signed by the waiving party.
25. **SUBSEQUENT FORMS:** The terms and conditions contained in this Contract shall supersede any and all subsequent terms and conditions which may appear on any form documents submitted by the Vendor to the Agency such as price lists, order forms, invoices, sales agreements, or maintenance agreements, and includes internet websites or other electronic documents. Acceptance or use of Vendor's forms does not constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions contained thereon.
26. **ASSIGNMENT:** Neither this Contract nor any monies due, or to become due hereunder, may be assigned by the Vendor without the express written consent of the Agency, and any other government agency or office that may be required to approve such assignments.
27. **WARRANTY:** The Vendor expressly warrants that the goods and/or services covered by this Contract will: (a) conform to the specifications, drawings, samples, or other description furnished or specified by the Agency; (b) be merchantable and fit for the purpose intended; and (c) be free from defect in material and workmanship.
28. **STATE EMPLOYEES:** State employees are not permitted to utilize this Contract for personal use and the Vendor is prohibited from permitting or facilitating the same.
29. **BANKRUPTCY:** In the event the Vendor files for bankruptcy protection, the State Treasurer's Office may deem this Contract null and void, and terminate this Contract without notice.
30. **PRIVACY, SECURITY, AND CONFIDENTIALITY:** The Vendor agrees that it will not disclose to anyone, directly or indirectly, any such personally identifiable information or other confidential

information gained from the Agency, unless the individual who is the subject of the information consents to the disclosure in writing or the disclosure is made pursuant to the Agency's policies, procedures, and rules. Vendor further agrees to comply with the Confidentiality Policies and Information Security Accountability Requirements, set forth in <http://www.state.wv.us/admin/purchase/privacy/default.html>.

- 31. YOUR SUBMISSION IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT:** Vendor's entire response to the Solicitation and the resulting Contract are considered public documents. As public documents, they will be disclosed to the public following the bid/proposal opening or award of the contract, as required by the competitive bidding laws of West Virginia and the Freedom of Information Act found in West Virginia Code §§ 29B-1-1 et seq.

DO NOT SUBMIT MATERIAL YOU CONSIDER TO BE CONFIDENTIAL, A TRADE SECRET, OR OTHERWISE NOT SUBJECT TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.

Submission of any bid, proposal, or other document to the STO Purchasing Division constitutes your explicit consent to the subsequent public disclosure of the bid, proposal or document. The STO Purchasing Division will disclose any document labeled "confidential", "proprietary", "trade secret", "private", or labeled with any other claim against public disclosure of the documents, to include any "trade secrets" as defined by W. Va. Code § 47-22-1 et seq. All submissions are subject to public disclosure without notice.

- 32. LICENSING:** Vendor must be licensed and in good standing in accordance with any and all state and local laws and requirements by any state or local agency of West Virginia, including, but not limited to, the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office, the West Virginia Tax Department, West Virginia Insurance Commission, or any other state agency or political subdivision. Obligations related to political subdivisions may include, but are not limited to, business licensing, business and occupation taxes, inspection compliance, permitting, etc. Upon request, the Vendor must provide all necessary releases to obtain information to enable the STO Purchasing Division to verify that the Vendor is licensed and in good standing with the above entities.

**SUBCONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE:** Vendor shall notify all subcontractors providing commodities or services related to this Contract that as subcontractors, they too are required to be licensed, in good standing, and up-to-date on all state and local obligations as described in this section. Obligations related to political subdivisions may include, but are not limited to, business licensing, business and occupation taxes, inspection compliance, permitting, etc. Notification under this provision must occur prior to the performance of any work under the contract by the subcontractor.

- 33. ANTITRUST:** In submitting a bid to, signing a contract with, or accepting an Award Document from any agency of the State of West Virginia, the Vendor agrees to convey, sell, assign, or transfer to the State of West Virginia all rights, title, and interest in and to all causes of action it may now or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the State of West Virginia for price fixing and/or unreasonable restraints of trade relating to the particular commodities or services purchased or acquired by the State of West Virginia. Such assignment shall be made and become effective at the time the purchasing agency renders the initial payment to Vendor.

- 34. VENDOR CERTIFICATIONS:** By signing its bid or entering into this Contract, Vendor certifies (1) that its bid or offer was made without prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm, limited liability company, partnership, person or entity submitting a bid or offer for the same material, supplies, equipment or services; (2) that its bid or offer is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud; (3) that this Contract is accepted or entered into without any prior understanding, agreement, or connection to any other entity that could be considered a violation of law; and (4) that it has reviewed this Solicitation in its entirety; understands the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein.

Vendor's signature on its bid or offer also affirms that neither it nor its representatives have any interest, nor shall acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would compromise the performance of its services hereunder. Any such interests shall be promptly presented in detail to the Agency. The individual signing this bid or offer on behalf of Vendor certifies that he or she is authorized by the Vendor to execute this bid or offer or any documents related thereto on Vendor's behalf; that he or she is authorized to bind the Vendor in a contractual relationship; and that, to the best of his or her knowledge, the Vendor has properly registered with any State agency that may require registration.

- 35. VENDOR RELATIONSHIP:** The relationship of the Vendor to the State shall be that of an independent contractor and no principal-agent relationship or employer-employee relationship is contemplated or created by this Contract. The Vendor as an independent contractor is solely liable for the acts and omissions of its employees and agents. Vendor shall be responsible for selecting, supervising, and compensating any and all individuals employed pursuant to the terms of this Solicitation and resulting contract. Neither the Vendor, nor any employees or subcontractors of the Vendor, shall be deemed to be employees of the State for any purpose whatsoever. Vendor shall be exclusively responsible for payment of employees and contractors for all wages and salaries, taxes, withholding payments, penalties, fees, fringe benefits, professional liability insurance premiums, contributions to insurance and pension, or other deferred compensation plans, including but not limited to, Workers' Compensation and Social Security obligations, licensing fees, etc. and the filing of all necessary documents, forms, and returns pertinent to all of the foregoing.

Vendor shall hold harmless the State, and shall provide the State and Agency with a defense against any and all claims including, but not limited to, the foregoing payments, withholdings, contributions, taxes, Social Security taxes, and employer income tax returns.

- 36. INDEMNIFICATION:** The Vendor agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State and the Agency, their officers, and employees from and against: (1) Any claims or losses for services rendered by any subcontractor, person, or firm performing or supplying services, materials, or supplies in connection with the performance of the Contract; (2) Any claims or losses resulting to any person or entity injured or damaged by the Vendor, its officers, employees, or subcontractors by the publication, translation, reproduction, delivery, performance, use, or disposition of any data used under the Contract in a manner not authorized by the Contract, or by Federal or State statutes or regulations; and (3) Any failure of the Vendor, its officers, employees, or subcontractors to observe State and Federal laws including, but not limited to, labor and wage and hour laws.
- 37. PURCHASING AFFIDAVIT:** Vendors are required to sign, notarize, and submit the Purchasing Affidavit affirming under oath that it is not in default on any monetary obligation owed to the State



or a political subdivision of the State. The affidavit must be submitted prior to award, but should be submitted with the Vendor's bid. The STO has adopted the use of this Affidavit while the referenced W.Va. Code citation is not applicable to the STO. A copy of the Purchasing Affidavit is included herewith.

- 38. ADDITIONAL AGENCY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT USE:** This Contract may be utilized by and extends to other agencies, spending units, and political subdivisions of the State of West Virginia; county, municipal, and other local government bodies; and school districts (“Other Government Entities”), provided that both the Other Government Entity and the Vendor agree. Any extension of this Contract to the aforementioned Other Government Entities must be on the same prices, terms, and conditions as those offered and agreed to in this Contract, provided that such extension is in compliance with the applicable laws, rules, and ordinances of the Other Government Entity. A refusal to extend this Contract to the Other Government Entities shall not impact or influence the award of this Contract in any manner.
- 39. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Vendor, its officers or members or employees, shall not presently have or acquire an interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict with or compromise the performance of its obligations hereunder. Vendor shall periodically inquire of its officers, members and employees to ensure that a conflict of interest does not arise. Any conflict of interest discovered shall be promptly presented in detail to the Agency.
- 40. REPORTS:** Vendor shall provide the Agency with the following reports identified by a checked box below:
- Such reports as the Agency/STO may request. Requested reports may include, but are not limited to, quantities purchased, agencies utilizing the contract, total contract expenditures, etc.
  - Quarterly reports detailing the total quantity of purchases in units and dollars, along with a listing of purchases by the agency. Unless otherwise provided for upon Contract award, quarterly reports should be delivered to the STO Purchasing Division via email at [purchasing@wvsto.com](mailto:purchasing@wvsto.com).
- 41. BACKGROUND CHECK:** In accordance with W.Va. Code § 15-2D-3, the Director of the Division of Protective Services shall require any service provider whose employees are regularly employed on the grounds or in the buildings of the Capitol complex or who have access to sensitive or critical information to submit to a fingerprint-based state and federal background inquiry through the state repository. The service provider is responsible for any costs associated with the fingerprint-based state and federal background inquiry.

After the contract for such services has been approved, but before any such employees are permitted to be on the grounds or in the buildings of the Capitol complex or have access to sensitive or critical information, the service provider shall submit a list of all persons who will be physically present and working at the Capitol complex to the Director of the Division of Protective Services for purposes of verifying compliance with this provision.

The State reserves the right to prohibit a service provider's employees from accessing sensitive or critical information or to be present at the Capitol complex based upon results addressed from a criminal background check. Service providers should contact the West Virginia Division of Protective Services by phone at (304) 558-9911 for more information.

**42. JOINT PROPOSALS AND SUBCONTRACTING:** Joint Proposals are not permitted. Subcontracting is permitted subject to STO authorization. The purchase order/contract shall be awarded to the Vendor submitting the proposal. The Vendor awarded the purchase order/contract shall be the sole point of contact with regard to the purchase order and shall be solely responsible for all matters provided pursuant to the purchase order/contract, including without limitation, any tangible or intangible items provided by a subcontractor or other party.

**43. PREFERENCE FOR USE OF DOMESTIC STEEL PRODUCTS:** Except when authorized by the Director of the (WV Dept. of Administration) Purchasing Division pursuant to W. Va. Code § 5A-3-56, no contractor may use or supply steel products for a State Contract Project other than those steel products made in the United States. A contractor who uses steel products in violation of this section may be subject to civil penalties pursuant to W. Va. Code § 5A-3-56. As used in this section:

- a. "State Contract Project" means any erection or construction of, or any addition to, alteration of or other improvement to any building or structure, including, but not limited to, roads or highways, or the installation of any heating or cooling or ventilating plants or other equipment, or the supply of and materials for such projects, pursuant to a contract with the State of West Virginia for which bids were solicited on or after June 6, 2001.
- b. "Steel Products" means products rolled, formed, shaped, drawn, extruded, forged, cast, fabricated or otherwise similarly processed, or processed by a combination of two or more or such operations, from steel made by the open heath, basic oxygen, electric furnace, Bessemer or other steel making process. The Purchasing Division Director may, in writing, authorize the use of foreign steel products if:
- c. The cost for each contract item used does not exceed one tenth of one percent (.1%) of the total contract cost or two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00), whichever is greater. For the purposes of this section, the cost is the value of the steel product as delivered to the project; or
- d. The Director of the Purchasing Division determines that specified steel materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient quantity or otherwise are not reasonably available to meet contract requirements.

**44. PREFERENCE FOR USE OF DOMESTIC ALUMINUM, GLASS, AND STEEL:**

In accordance with W.Va. Code § 5-19-1 et seq., and W.Va. CSR § 148-10-1 et seq., for every contract or subcontract, subject to the limitations contained herein, for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, improvement or maintenance of public works or for the purchase of any item of machinery or equipment to be used at sites of public works, only domestic aluminum, glass or steel products shall be supplied unless the spending officer determines, in writing, after the receipt of offers or bids, (1) that the cost of domestic aluminum, glass or steel products is

unreasonable or inconsistent with the public interest of the State of West Virginia, (2) that domestic aluminum, glass or steel products are not produced in sufficient quantities to meet the contract requirements, or (3) the available domestic aluminum, glass, or steel do not meet the contract specifications. This provision only applies to public works contracts awarded in an amount more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or public works contracts that require more than ten thousand pounds of steel products.

The cost of domestic aluminum, glass, or steel products may be unreasonable if the cost is more than twenty percent (20%) of the bid or offered price for foreign made aluminum, glass, or steel products. If the domestic aluminum, glass or steel products to be supplied or produced in a “substantial labor surplus area”, as defined by the United States Department of Labor, the cost of domestic aluminum, glass, or steel products may be unreasonable if the cost is more than thirty percent (30%) of the bid or offered price for foreign made aluminum, glass, or steel products. This preference shall be applied to an item of machinery or equipment, as indicated above, when the item is a single unit of equipment or machinery manufactured primarily of aluminum, glass or steel, is part of a public works contract and has the sole purpose or of being a permanent part of a single public works project. This provision does not apply to equipment or machinery purchased by a spending unit for use by that spending unit and not as part of a single public works project.

All bids and offers including domestic aluminum, glass or steel products that exceed bid or offer prices including foreign aluminum, glass or steel products after application of the preferences provided in this provision may be reduced to a price equal to or lower than the lowest bid or offer price for foreign aluminum, glass or steel products plus the applicable preference. If the reduced bid or offer prices are made in writing and supersede the prior bid or offer prices, all bids or offers, including the reduced bid or offer prices, will be reevaluated in accordance with this rule.

**45. INTERESTED PARTY SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE:** W. Va. Code § 6D-1-2 requires that for contracts with an actual or estimated value of at least \$100,000, the vendor must submit to the Agency a supplemental disclosure of interested parties reflecting any new or differing interested parties to the contract, which were not included in the original pre-award interested party disclosure, within 30 days following the completion or termination of the contract. A copy of that form is included with this solicitation or can be obtained from the WV Ethics Commission.

"Interested parties" means: (1) A business entity performing work or service pursuant to, or in furtherance of, the applicable contract, including specifically subcontractors; (2) the person(s) who have an ownership interest equal to or greater than 25% in the business entity performing work or service pursuant to, or in furtherance of, the applicable contract; and (3) the person or business entity, if any, that served as a compensated broker or intermediary to actively facilitate the applicable contract or negotiated the terms of the applicable contract with the state agency: Provided, That subdivision (2) shall be inapplicable if a business entity is a publicly traded company: Provided, however, That subdivision (3) shall not include persons or business entities performing legal services related to the negotiation or drafting of the applicable contract. The Agency shall submit a copy of the disclosure to the Ethics Commission within 15 days after receiving the supplemental disclosure of interested parties

**DESIGNATED CONTACT:** Vendor appoints the individual identified in this Section as the Contract Administrator and the initial point of contact for matters relating to this Contract.

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(Printed Name, Title)

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(Address)

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(Phone Number) / (Fax Number)

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(Email address)

**CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE:** By signing below, or submitting documentation through wvOASIS, I certify that I have reviewed this Solicitation in its entirety; that I understand the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein; that this bid, offer or proposal constitutes an offer to the State that cannot be unilaterally withdrawn; that the product or service proposed meets the mandatory requirements contained in the Solicitation for that product or service, unless otherwise stated herein; that I am submitting this bid, offer or proposal for review and consideration; that I am authorized by the vendor to execute and submit this bid, offer, or proposal, or any documents related thereto on vendor's behalf; that I am authorized to bind the vendor in a contractual relationship; and that to the best of my knowledge, the vendor has properly registered with any State agency that may require registration.

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(Company Name)

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Printed Name / Title

---

(Authorized Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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(Phone Number)

(Fax Number)

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(Email)

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FEIN \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
WV State Treasurer's Office  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**  
for  
**ACH PROCESSING SERVICES**  
**ARFP STO2200000003**

**SECTION FOUR: PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS**

- 4.1. Location:** The main office for the State Treasurer's Office is located at 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E, Bldg. 1 Suite E-145, Charleston, West Virginia 25305. The program staff for the State Treasurer's Office is located at 315 70th Street, Charleston, West Virginia 25304.
- 4.2. Vendor Eligibility, Background and Current Operating Environment:**

**4.2.1 Vendor Eligibility: Disqualification for Boycott of Critical West Virginia Industries**

A Vendor is disqualified from submitting a response to this solicitation if the vendor is engaged in a boycott of energy companies. "Boycott of energy companies" means without a reasonable business purpose, refusal to deal with a company, termination of business activities with a company, or another action that is intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations with a company because the company:

- (A) Engages in the exploration, production, utilization, transportation, sale, or manufacturing of fossil fuel-based energy;
- (B) Engages in the exploration, production, utilization, transportation, sale, or manufacturing of fossil fuel-based energy and does not commit or pledge to meet environmental standards beyond applicable federal and state law; or
- (C) Does business with a company that engages in the exploration, production, utilization, transportation, sale, or manufacturing of fossil fuel-based energy

**4.2.2. STO's Organizational Structure**

The Cash Management Division of the STO is responsible for managing all cash activity on behalf of the State of West Virginia (State). The State pays its obligations by paper check, wire transfer, purchasing (credit) cards, electronic benefit transfers (EBT), prepaid debit card, and automated clearinghouse (ACH) transactions. The STO currently originates ACH files containing an average of 13,600 transactions per day. The average value of those transactions is \$53 million. In addition, the STO receives a daily ACH receipt file, through a correspondent relationship, with an average value of \$25 million. Both the ACH origination file and receipt file are currently processed through a noninterest-bearing earnings credit demand deposit account with US Bank, which is the current provider of such financial services. US Bank currently serves as the ODFI and RDFI for the STO.

The STO receives daily processing files from State spending units detailing payment information. These files are then processed through the STO's in-house software program and formatted to comply with NACHA standards. The STO will process multiple ACH types such as CCD, PPD, CTX, WEB, and TEL transactions. The files are transmitted to the ODFI through a SFTP site and sent to the ACH Operator for further processing. The file sent to US Bank for processing is a balanced NACHA file. A balanced NACHA file for the STO

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is when the STO processes credit or debit transactions and then processes an offsetting entry to the STO banking services bank, currently Truist. Under normal operating procedures, the STO completes processing and transmits the files at approximately 1:30 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) each working day, or by 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) at the latest.

US Bank hosts an ACH processing account for the STO, which maintains records, receives returns, verifies batch totals and notifies the STO of any issues or problems with the daily file origination. These return and receipt files are transmitted at least once each working day to the STO. Recent monthly activity processed over \$1.8 billion and 320,383 records. The highest single day total for previous month contained more than \$400 million and more than 128,000 transactions. US Bank currently authorizes the STO to transmit up to \$600 million in a single day without specific authorization. There have been times when the STO processed as much as \$500 million in originated transactions in a single day. As more electronic activity is added, this figure is expected to increase. The STO expects the ACH volume to increase to a level of 500,000 transactions per month in the next five (5) years.

The STO maintains an earnings credit account with US Bank for its receipt processing. Transactions for the most recent month processed over \$948 million and 20,900 records. Of this activity, the highest single day contained over \$267 million and 15,000 transactions. The STO receives a daily wire to its banking services bank from the earning credit account for the total daily available balance, less any required reserve amounts for returned items and earnings credits.

The American Bankers' Association (ABA) has provided a specifically assigned routing number to the STO. The STO receives ACH credits on this routing/transit number. No credits are received using US Bank's routing number, unless it is a reversal or return item.

The STO account with US Bank is a noninterest-bearing earnings credit account that is currently fully insured with the FDIC. Under the terms of the agreement with US Bank the STO requires compliance with the State's collateral policy.

- 4.3. Qualifications and Experience:** Vendors should provide in **Attachment A: Vendor Response Sheet** information regarding their firm, such as staff qualifications and experience in completing similar projects; references; copies of any staff certifications or degrees applicable to this project; proposed staffing plan; descriptions of past projects completed entailing the location of the project, project manager name and contact information, type of project, and what the project goals and objectives were and how they were met.
- 4.3.1** Vendor should provide an overview and history of its organization, including parent and/or subsidiary companies and the number of employees. Provide the address of the office location(s) that will service the STO.

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ACH PROCESSING SERVICES  
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**4.3.2** References: Vendor should provide at least three (3) references, two (2) from current customers and one (1) from former customers, all similar size and structure to the State of West Virginia, if available, to which similar services were provided (See Exhibit A). All or none of these clients may be contacted by one or more members of the Evaluation Committee to determine the ability of the Vendor and the level of satisfaction with the Vendor. Furthermore, the STO reserves the right to contact any person or entity it believes prudent to inquire about the Vendor. List should include the following information for each reference:

- a. Entity name and contract manager with current contact information.
- b. Start and End dates of services provided.
- c. List of services provided in comparison to those sought through this RFP.

**4.3.3** Explain any current or anticipated litigation, or other legal proceeding or government investigation, to which Vendor is a party.

**4.3.4** Vendor should provide a resume for each individual who will be directly involved as support staff for the STO account. Include their experience in working with public entities and describe their anticipated roles with regard to the STO account as well as how many years in this industry and how many years with the company.

**4.4. Project and Goals:** The project goals and objectives are:

Vendor needs to demonstrate the qualifications, competence and capacity of the financial institution and its staff to provide the services offered in its proposal. Do not presume the STO knows your work. ***Even if the Vendor has previously provided or currently provides the services, it must address the specifications as any other Vendor would.*** The Technical Proposal should address all the specifications.

**Only proposals meeting mandatory requirements contained in section 4.5 will be evaluated.**

All documents or forms requested should be provided in a separate document to your proposal labeled "Miscellaneous" in the order requested.

All required documents should be provided with Vendor's proposal.

In providing responses, restate each question in bold face type with your response directly below. Keep responses clear and concise. The proposal of the successful Vendor will be incorporated in the purchase order issued by the STO.

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**4.4.1. ACH Processing Services**

- 4.4.1.1 Vendor should describe the procedures for maintaining an ACH processing account for the STO.
- 4.4.1.2 The STO desires flexibility in transmission times. Vendor should provide a daily processing schedule and describe the time cutoffs for accepting transmissions prior to the creation and release of payments based on type. Vendor must not list any fees in its response. Any fees applicable should **ONLY** be listed on the Cost Proposal (Attachment C).
- 4.4.1.3 Vendor should describe the time frames for deleting/canceling payments prior to the creation and release into the payment system.
- 4.4.1.4 Vendor should provide an approximate timeframe needed to process a one hundred thousand (100,000) record NACHA formatted file from the time the Vendor receives the file until the STO receives the confirmation of file processing.
- 4.4.1.5 Vendor should describe its problem resolution procedures and include a list of support staff, staff availability, 24/7 hotline for problem resolution. The STO prefers a dedicated person available 24/7 set forth in requirements 4.5.2.2.
- 4.4.1.6 Vendor should describe the available methods the Vendor will use to receive files initiated by the STO set forth in requirements 4.5.3.5. The STO's preferred method is utilizing a SFTP. Include all formats and communication methods available, as well as alternative methods in case of primary failure.
- 4.4.1.7 Vendor should describe the types of transaction confirmations it provides for originated files set forth in requirements 4.5.3.2. The STO prefers an electronic confirmation. Provide examples.
- 4.4.1.8 Vendor should describe its system controls to protect data integrity (i.e., ensuring data is not lost, duplicated, compromised, etc.).
- 4.4.1.9 Vendor should describe the retention and inquiry capabilities for payment and remittance detail. List all alternatives.
- 4.4.1.10 Vendor should describe the process of returning an ACH payment on the STO receipt account set forth in the requirements 4.5.3.6.



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4.4.1.11 Vendor should describe the process of the standing wire transfer set forth in the requirements 4.5.1.3. The STO prefers a standing wire completion by 10:00 am Eastern Time (ET).

### **4.4.2. Implementation and Conversion Process**

4.4.2.1 Assuming a contract start date of March 1, 2023, the Vendor should provide a projected timeline which reflects the following criteria for a successful operation of its ACH services. The date is not binding for any other purpose and is only to be used for planning purposes.

- a. dates of installation
- b. conversion process
- c. implementation
- d. training

4.4.2.2 Vendor should provide its proposed implementation team, including the team that will train the STO staff; provide staff qualifications and experience, and discuss how and if these individuals will continue to be involved with the agreement/purchase order for this RFP after implementation set forth in requirements 4.5.2.8.

- i. The STO desires follow up training as needed. Vendor should describe and include a sufficient post-implementation training plan should it be needed for new system upgrades, new STO staff or as a retraining tool for previously trained individuals.
- ii. Vendor should provide samples of any policies and procedures that are included as part of the implementation process.
- iii. Vendor should describe its plan to assist the STO with testing and subsequently transitioning the file transmissions to its institution. Vendor should include a description of all testing procedures.
- iv. Vendor should provide any training materials and user manuals as set forth in requirement 4.5.2.5.

### **4.4.3. Hardware and Software**

4.4.3.1 Vendor should describe the hardware and software which will be used and/or required by the Vendor and/or the STO to establish the required accounts. Please expressly identify any additional hardware or software requirements the STO will need and whether the Vendor will provide the hardware or software or if the STO

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must obtain it elsewhere. Describe any special licensing, permits or other such requirements which may apply to the STO. Vendor must not list any fees in its response. Any fees applicable should **ONLY** be listed on the Cost Proposal (Attachment C).

- 4.4.3.2 In the event of communications failure, the STO strongly desires the Vendor should provide a secondary method for receiving the ACH file. The method should include encrypted e-mail and/or secondary electronic communication. Vendor should describe in detail its proposed method(s).
- 4.4.3.3 Vendor should describe the account validation used for web debit payments set forth in requirements 4.5.5.2. Describe the capabilities, requirements, and features of its API for ACH account validation. Vendor must not list any fees in its response. Any fees applicable should **ONLY** be listed on the Cost Proposal (Attachment C).
- 4.4.3.4 Vendor should describe and provide information on any third-party vendor it would utilize to execute this contract. Information should include, but not be limited to the following:
- Name of company.
  - Type of functionality performed.
  - Relationship to Vendor.

#### **4.4.4. Reports**

- 4.4.4.1 The Vendor should discuss its ability to provide the following daily reports set forth in requirements 4.5.4.5:
- a. Current Day Reporting Report: "Current day reporting" means the notification of any amounts that have been received in the account since the previous bank ledger posting. The STO prefers reports to be available electronically via an online system no later than 8:00 am Eastern Time (ET) each day. Information should include, but not be limited to:
- 1) Daily current ledger balance
  - 2) Daily current available balance
  - 3) Detail of ACH Credits
  - 4) Total Credits
  - 5) Detail of ACH Debits
  - 6) Total Debits
  - 7) Grand Totals

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b. Previous Day Reporting Report: "Previous day report" means a report that shows all activity that occurred in the account that has posted to the bank ledger on the date of the last day's ledger posting. The report should reflect all activity that posted on the previous day, including the initiated wire, and the ledger balance. The report should be received electronically via an online system by 8:00 am Eastern Time (ET) each day. Information should include, but not be limited to:

- 1) Daily closing ledger balance
- 2) Daily closing available balance
- 3) Daily opening available balance
- 4) Total Credits
- 5) Number of ACH Credits
- 6) Total Debits
- 7) Number of ACH Debits
- 8) Total Wire Transfers
- 9) Number of Wire Transfers
- 10) Detail of Wire Transfers
- 11) Detail of ACH Debits
- 12) Detail of ACH Credits

4.4.4.2 Vendor should provide a sample of each of the reports available to the STO listed in 4.4.4.1.

4.4.4.3 Vendor should discuss any additional reports pertinent to ACH processing and provide examples of any additional reports discussed in this response.

4.4.4.4 Vendor should discuss its ability to provide a monthly bank statement report with ability to download via CSV or Excel format, available one business day following the previous month set forth in requirements 4.5.4.3. The report should reflect all transactions (debits and credits) and balances to reconcile the account. The bank statement report should include, but not be limited to, the following fields or information:

1. Date
2. Description of Activity
3. Amount
4. Total of Credits
5. Total of Debits
6. Balance Summary

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- 4.4.4.5 Vendor should provide a sample bank statement report for ACH services set forth in requirements 4.5.4.2.
- 4.4.4.6 Vendor should describe its back-up systems available for all reports required in the event the regular system is not working.
- 4.4.4.7 Vendor should describe its ability of importing and exporting reports/files in standard (e.g., Microsoft Office) spreadsheet or database formats.
- 4.4.4.8 Vendor should describe how it will invoice the STO monthly for maintaining an account and providing ACH services set forth in requirements 4.5.1.11. The STO desires an electronic invoice. Provide an example of a monthly invoice and account analysis.
- 4.4.4.9 Vendor should provide a method to offset bank fees on the DDA accounts. This offset may be in the form of an earnings credit or other appropriate mechanism. Earnings will offset against amounts due the Vendor for services under the contract/purchase order issued pursuant to this RFP as part of the monthly invoicing process. Any fees applicable should **ONLY** be listed on the Cost Proposal (Attachment C).

### 4.4.5. System and Securities

- 4.4.5.1 The STO desires the ability to access its accounts online in real time (at time of request). Vendor should describe its capabilities to provide this type of access. The detailed description should include, but not be limited to:
  - 1. System specifications including platform, connectivity, and speed.
  - 2. User profile ability at both account and function levels.
  - 3. Audit and edit controls.
  - 4. Ability to export files. Describe the available formats.
    - a. Level of detail maintained for Wire and ACH activity.
    - b. Online wire initiation.
  - 5. A listing and examples of standard reports.
  - 6. Ad hoc reporting ability.
- 4.4.5.2 Vendor should describe its ability to accept file transmissions through an internet browser via a secure website or SFTP. The STO's preferred method is SFTP.
- 4.4.5.3 Vendor should provide warehousing capabilities for pending transactions. For State of West Virginia holidays, when State offices are closed and most financial institutions are open, the STO may transmit a file to the ODFI which contains

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settlement dates beyond the normal two-day credit, one-day debit settlement guidelines. At those times, the Vendor, acting as the ODFI, should be able to warehouse the transactions and release them to the ACH at the appropriate time. Describe the process which will be used and the warehousing capabilities for pending transactions.

- 4.4.5.4 Vendor should describe in detail its Disaster Recovery Plan as it relates to ACH processing functionality set forth in requirements 4.5.4.4.
- 4.4.5.5 Vendor should include the notification process to the STO in the event of a disaster.
- 4.4.5.6 Vendor should describe the back-up facility it has for primary systems used to provide the services required in this RFP.
- 4.4.5.7 Vendor should provide any contractual information for disaster recovery back-up systems provided by a third party.
- 4.4.5.8 Vendor should describe the time it will take to recover/recreate a day's activity.
- 4.4.5.9 Vendor should provide information on how often the disaster recovery plan is tested and include test dates with a copy of the results of the test and how long it took to switch over to the recovery site.
- 4.4.5.10 Vendor should describe the security features of the ACH processing system, including the types of user and system accesses, audit trails, etc.

**4.5. Mandatory Requirements**

**The following mandatory requirements must be met by the Vendor as a part of the submitted proposal. Failure on the part of the Vendor to meet any of the mandatory specifications shall result in the disqualification of the proposal.** The terms “must”, “will”, “shall”, “minimum”, “maximum”, or “is/are required” identify a mandatory item or factor. Decisions regarding compliance with any mandatory requirements shall be at the sole discretion of the Purchasing Division.

**4.5.1 Basic Minimum Qualifications**

- 4.5.1.1 Vendor must certify it does not engage in the boycott of energy companies as outlined in 4.2.1.

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- 4.5.1.2 Vendor must meet all currently applicable National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA) requirements and any updates thereto, all as reflected at [nacha.org](http://nacha.org).
- 4.5.1.3 Vendor must maintain one or more demand deposit accounts (DDA) in the name of the West Virginia State Treasurer, ACH Processing Account. Any account changes must be approved by the STO. The accounts will be used for processing ACH files and receiving items returned from those files and receiving funds originating by other sources. Each DDA account will contain a reserve balance to fund returns. A standing wire transfer will be utilized daily for the total daily available balance, less any required reserve amounts for returned items and earnings credits, to an STO designated financial institution no later than 10:45 am Eastern Time (ET).
- 4.5.1.4 Vendor must be able to adapt to reasonable changes in State systems, procedures, technology, and needs.
- 4.5.1.5 Vendor must be properly licensed to do business in and with the State of West Virginia.
- 4.5.1.6 Vendor must be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and must provide to the STO with the Proposal proof of FDIC coverage that includes the amount of coverage and the term of coverage. The vendor must also provide such other information regarding FDIC coverage as the STO may require.
- 4.5.1.7 Vendor must be a member of the Federal Reserve Bank or must be capable of processing Automated Clearing House (ACH) transactions and other services through the Federal Reserve Bank.
- 4.5.1.8 Vendor must have ACH originating financial institution capabilities.
- 4.5.1.9 Vendor must be a designated state depository or be eligible as a designated state depository and able to post any required collateral as described in the collateral policies and procedures handbook. Exhibit A
- 4.5.1.10 Vendor must have sufficient assets of at least Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00) and currently be capable of providing services as large, complex, and sophisticated as those currently used by the STO. Each Vendor must provide a statement reflecting the Vendor's size, net worth, assets, and a description of other accounts or operations similar in size and complexity.
- 4.5.1.11 Vendor will invoice the STO in arrears no more frequently than on a monthly basis for fees and services. Supporting documentation must accompany the invoice.

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4.5.1.12 Vendor must provide an account analysis with the monthly invoice which includes a breakdown of all charged transaction items.

### **4.5.2 Implementation and Training**

4.5.2.1 Vendor must begin conversion planning within 45 days of the contract award.

4.5.2.2 Vendor must provide a dedicated contact person to manage the contract/purchase order and to assist with problem resolution during STO business hours.

4.5.2.3 Vendor must advise the STO of any changes to the contact person or key personnel assigned to the STO account.

4.5.2.4 Vendor must provide initial on-site and in-person training at no cost to the STO.

4.5.2.5 Vendor must provide training materials and user manuals.

4.5.2.6 Vendor must conduct bi-weekly implementation meetings, or at the discretion of the STO, and provide a status report two (2) days prior to the meeting.

4.5.2.7 Vendor must provide a dedicated implementation project lead.

4.5.2.8 Vendor must provide professional staff who will provide the required services to the STO, training STO staff as may be necessary and resolving any problems which may arise out of the conversion to and use of such services.

### **4.5.3 ACH Processing Services**

4.5.3.1 Vendor must accommodate the STO's unique routing number with the Federal Reserve and be able to accommodate a correspondent relationship with the STO using the same unique routing number. The STO will distribute this number to all Vendors who initiate credits to the STO. The Vendor operating under this RFP will use the STO's routing number for receipt processing activities. Origination activity from the STO does not need to reflect the STO's routing number in the file header information.

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- 4.5.3.2 Vendor must provide confirmation on originated files advising that the file(s) was received intact and has passed any necessary inspection. The STO requires the confirmation to include the total dollar amount and item count of each file received and processed by the Vendor.
- 4.5.3.3 Vendor must notify the STO immediately of any problems in the ACH file that would prevent transmission of the file.
- 4.5.3.4 Vendor must allow the STO to transmit at least \$500 million in a single day.
- 4.5.3.5 Vendor must be able to receive and process multiple daily transmissions from the STO and forward the information through the ACH network at the next available opportunity.
- 4.5.3.6 Vendor must notify the STO of any returned ACH transaction within twenty-four (24) hours of the receipt of the returned transaction. A secured method of notification must be made electronically via SFTP, in a NACHA formatted text file.
- 4.5.3.7 Vendor must accept any EDI format that is transmitted to it.
- 4.5.3.8 Vendor must provide the STO file of transactions to the STO's routing number within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt in a NACHA formatted text file through SFTP.

**4.5.4 Reporting**

- 4.5.4.1 Vendor must provide a quarterly report, provided by the STO, verified by affidavit, of the amount of state funds on deposit, signed by the President or Cashier, in accordance with the STO's Collateral Policy.
- 4.5.4.2 Vendor must provide a monthly hard-copy bank statement within five (5) business days following the previous month.
- 4.5.4.3 Vendor must provide a monthly bank statement report with the ability to download in CSV or Excel format, available one business day following the previous month.
- 4.5.4.4 Vendor must have a disaster recovery plan which enables the STO to maintain daily operations.



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4.5.4.5 Vendor must have an electronic means of providing daily reports, including the Current Day Report and the Previous Day Report. The "daily ledger balance" for the processing account is the reserve amount used for returns.

**4.5.5 Hardware and Software**

4.5.5.1 Vendor must provide a password-protected banking system operating via secure Internet browser.

4.5.5.2 Vendor must provide an account validation API service for web debit payments.

4.5.5.3 All web applications must be compatible with the latest version of Microsoft Edge (Chromium engine). All web communications whether remote or internal, must be secured using a minimum of TLS v1.2. Any required cipher suites, protocols or encryption technology that has been publicly exploited (published CVE) must be immediately remediated upon discovery, including any aforementioned minimum-security requirements. Vendor that provides local or remote web applications must not require Java, Silverlight, Adobe Flash, Active X Controls or any additional third-party plugins or dependencies.

**4.6. Oral Presentations:** The Agency has the option of requiring oral presentations of all Vendors participating in the RFP process. If this option is exercised, it would be listed in the Schedule of Events (Section 1.3) of this RFP. Please note: Oral presentations are listed in Section 1.3; therefore, oral presentations will be conducted in accordance with applicable policies and procedures. During oral presentations, Vendors may not alter or add to their submitted proposal, but only clarify information. A description of the materials and information to be presented is provided below:

**4.6.1. Process:** After evaluation of the Technical portions of the Proposals, the Evaluation Committee will determine if oral presentations are needed. If the Evaluation Committee decides to have oral presentations, Vendors that have met the mandatory requirements and the minimum acceptable score (MAS) will be invited to an oral presentation either in Charleston, West Virginia or via Microsoft Teams. The time, location and format of oral presentations will be provided at the time of scheduling.

**4.6.2. Time Allotment:** The Vendors will have up to three (3) hours to demonstrate their products and services and answer questions from the Evaluation Committee. Vendors must be prepared to answer questions regarding their proposals, demonstrate any software or other products and describe the services to be provided. Discussions about the Vendor should be minimal; the focus should be on the technical ability of the services being offered. Nothing presented may alter the contents of the written proposal.

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- 4.6.3. Participants:** Vendors may have up to three (3) persons at the oral presentations. The person who would be responsible for the STO's account must attend and participate in the presentation. All participants must be present. The STO reserves the right to request oral presentation be completed via Microsoft Teams.
- 4.6.4. Proposal Submitted Not Subject to Change:** The STO will not receive information from any Vendor beyond that contained in its proposal.
- 4.6.5. Notification:** Vendors requested to make an oral presentation will be contacted by the STO Purchasing Division buyer to set a time for presentations.
- 4.6.6. Presentations:** Vendor and STO personnel will communicate during presentations without being in violation of the quiet period requirement.

## SECTION FIVE: VENDOR PROPOSAL

- 5.1. Economy of Preparation:** Proposals should be prepared simply and economically providing a straightforward, concise description of the Vendor's abilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Emphasis should be placed on completeness and clarity of the content.
- \*\* NOTE \*\* Vendors proposals should not exceed 30 pages excluding any requested exhibits or attachments.**
- 5.2. Incurring Cost:** Neither the State nor any of its employees or officers shall be held liable for any expenses incurred by any Vendor responding to this RFP, including but not limited to preparation, delivery, or travel.
- 5.3. Proposal Format:** Vendors should provide responses in the format listed below:
- Title Page:** State the RFP subject, number, Vendor's name, business address, telephone number, fax number, name of contact person, e-mail address, and Vendor signature and date.
- Table of Contents:** Clearly identify the material by section and page number.
- Attachment A:** Within the attached response sheet (**Attachment A: Vendor Response Sheet**), Vendor should provide the following: firm and staff qualifications and experience in completing similar projects; references; copies of any staff certifications or degrees applicable to this project; proposed staffing plan; descriptions of past projects completed entailing the location of the project, project manager name and contact information, type of project, and what the project goals and objectives were and how they were met.

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Also, describe the approach and methodology proposed for this project. This should include how each of the goals and objectives listed is to be met.

**Attachment B:** Complete **Attachment B: Mandatory Specification Checklist**. By signing and dating this attachment, the Vendor acknowledges that they meet or exceed each of these specifications as outlined in 4.5 of Section Four: Project Specifications. The State reserves the right to require documentation detailing how each is met at its discretion.

**Attachment C:** Complete **Attachment C: Cost Sheet** included in this RFP and submit in a separate sealed envelope. Cost should be clearly marked.

**Oral Presentations:** If established by the Agency in the Schedule of Events (Section 1.3), all Vendors participating in this RFP that have met the requirements specified in the RFP will be required to provide an oral presentation, based on the criteria set in Section 4.6. During oral presentations, Vendors may not alter or add to their submitted proposal, but only to clarify information.

**5.4. Proposal Submission:** Proposals must be received in **two distinct parts**: technical and cost.

- **Technical proposals** must not contain any cost information relating to the project.
- **Cost proposal** shall be sealed in a separate envelope and will not be opened initially.

**Vendor is to provide ONE (1) original Technical and ONE (1) original Cost proposal.**

**Vendor is to provide seven (7) convenience copies of its Technical proposal.**

**Vendor is requested to provide an exact copy of the Technical response on a diskette, CD-ROM, DVD or USB flash drive in Adobe PDF or Microsoft Word with its proposal or immediately upon request by the designated buyer/contact person named within the solicitation document.**

All proposals must be submitted to the STO Purchasing Division **prior** to the date and time stipulated in the RFP as the opening date. All bids will be dated, and time stamped to verify official time and date of receipt. Bids not received prior to the proposal opening date and time as required shall be immediately disqualified. All submissions must be in accordance with the provisions listed below and in Section Two: Instructions to Bidders Submitting Bids above.

**5.5. Technical Bid Opening:** The STO Purchasing Division will open and announce only the technical proposals received prior to the date and time specified in the Request for Proposal. The technical proposals shall then be provided to the Agency evaluation committee.

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**5.6. Cost Bid Opening:** The STO Purchasing Division shall schedule a date and time to publicly open and announce cost proposals when the STO Purchasing Division has approved the technical recommendation of the evaluation committee. All cost bids for qualifying proposals will be opened. Cost bids for non-qualifying proposals will also be opened but shall not be considered. A proposal may be deemed non-qualifying for a number of reasons including, but not limited to, the bidder's technical proposal failing to meet the minimum acceptable score and the bidder's technical proposal failing to meet a mandatory requirement of the contract. Certain information, such as technical scores and reasons for disqualification, will not be available until after the contract award.

## SECTION SIX: EVALUATION AND AWARD

**6.1 Evaluation Process:** Proposals will be evaluated by a committee of three (3) or more individuals against the established criteria with points deducted for deficiencies. The Vendor who demonstrates that they meet all of the mandatory specifications required; and has appropriately presented within their written response and/or during the oral demonstration (if applicable) their understanding in meeting the goals and objectives of the project; and attains the highest overall point score of all Vendors shall be awarded the contract. The STO reserves the right to contact any Vendor to clarify or elaborate on the proposal. No new or additional matter may be discussed. The selection of the successful Vendor will be made by a consensus of the evaluation committee.

**6.2 Evaluation Criteria:** All evaluation criteria is defined in the specifications section and based on a 250 point total score. Cost shall represent a minimum of 60 of the 250 total points.

The following are the evaluation factors and maximum points possible for technical point scores:

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| • Technical Proposal | 140 Points Possible       |
| • Oral interview     | 50 Points Possible        |
| • Cost               | <u>60 Points Possible</u> |

**Total** 250 Points Possible

Each cost proposal cost will be scored by use of the following formula for all Vendors who attained the minimum acceptable score:

$$\frac{\text{Lowest price of all proposal}}{\text{Price of Proposal being evaluated}} \times 60 = \text{Price Score}$$

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- 6.2.1** Technical Evaluation: The Agency evaluation committee will review the technical proposals, deduct points where appropriate, and make a final written recommendation to the Purchasing Division.
- 6.2.2** Minimum Acceptable Score: Vendors must score a minimum of 70% (98 points) of the total technical points possible. All Vendors not attaining the minimum acceptable score (MAS) shall be considered as non-qualifying. A proposal may be deemed non-qualifying for a number of reasons including, but not limited to, the bidder's technical proposal failing to meet the minimum acceptable score and the bidder's technical proposal failing to meet a mandatory requirement of the contract. Cost bids for non-qualifying proposals will also be opened but shall not be considered. Certain information, such as technical scores and reasons for disqualification, will not be available until after the contract award.
- 6.2.3** Cost Evaluation: The Agency evaluation committee will review the cost proposals, assign appropriate points, and make a final recommendation to the Purchasing Division.

## **SECTION SEVEN: VENDOR PROTESTS**

### **7.1 Types of Protests**

#### **7.1.1 Protests of Requirements, Specifications or Terms**

By issuing the RFP, the STO intends to encourage competition among eligible Vendors. Any protest, complaint or problem with the RFP, including any requirement, specification or term contained in the RFP or any combination thereof, must be filed in writing with the Deputy Treasurer of Purchasing no later than three (3) working days prior to the Proposal Opening Date specified in the RFP. Protests received after that date will not be considered.

#### **7.1.2 Protests of Award**

After selection of the apparent successful Vendor, the Deputy Treasurer of Purchasing will send a written Notice to each Vendor regarding the award. Each Vendor will have until the date specified in the notice to file a written protest as to the award. Protests received after that date will not be considered.

### **7.2 Written Letter of Protest**

The written letter of protest must contain the name and address of the protesting Vendor, the RFP number, a statement explaining why the protest has been filed, the relief sought, and any other information that may assist the Deputy Treasurer of Purchasing in reaching a decision on the

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matter. The Deputy Treasurer of Purchasing must receive the letter of protest by the appropriate deadline to be considered.

## **7.3 Review of Protest and Issuing Decision**

The STO will review the letter of protest and issue a written decision. The STO may contact the protestor or any other entity he or she considers necessary to reach a decision. Opening of the proposals, evaluation of the proposals or award of the purchase order may be delayed, as considered appropriate by the STO.

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## **Attachment A: Vendor Response Sheet**

### **Section 4.3 Qualifications & Experience**

*Provide a response regarding the following: firm and staff qualifications and experience in completing similar projects; references; copies of any staff certifications or degrees applicable to this project; proposed staffing plan; descriptions of past projects completed entailing the location of the project, project manager name and contact information, type of project, and what the project goals and objectives were and how they were met.*

**Section 4, Subsection 4.3.1:** Vendor should provide an overview and history of its organization, including parent and/or subsidiary companies and the number of employees. Provide the address of the office location(s) that will service the STO.

### **Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.3.2:** References: Vendor should provide at least three (3) references, two (2) from current customers and one (1) from former customers, all similar size and structure to the State of West Virginia, if available, to which similar services were provided (See Exhibit A). All or none of these clients may be contacted by one or more members of the Evaluation Committee to determine the ability of the Vendor and the level of satisfaction with the Vendor. Furthermore, the STO reserves the right to contact any person or entity it believes prudent to inquire about the Vendor. List should include the following information for each reference:

- a. Entity name and contract manager with current contact information.
- b. Start and End dates of services provided.
- c. List of services provided in comparison to those sought through this RFP.

### **Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.3.3:** Explain any current or anticipated litigation, or other legal proceeding or government investigation, to which Vendor is a party.

### **Vendor Response:**

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**Section 4, Subsection 4.3.4:** Vendor should provide a resume for each individual who will be directly involved as support staff for the STO account. Include their experience in working with public entities and describe their anticipated roles with regard to the STO account as well as how many years in this industry and how many years with the company.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4.4 Project & Goals** The project goals and objectives are:

Vendor needs to demonstrate the qualifications, competence and capacity of the financial institution and its staff to provide the services offered in its proposal. Do not presume the STO knows your work. *Even if the Vendor has previously provided or currently provides the services, it must address the specifications as any other Vendor would.* The Technical Proposal should address all the specifications.

**Only proposals meeting mandatory requirements contained in section 4.5 will be evaluated.**

All documents or forms requested should be provided in a separate document to your proposal labeled "Miscellaneous" in the order requested.

All required documents should be provided with Vendor's proposal.

In providing responses, restate each question in bold face type with your response directly below. Keep responses clear and concise. The proposal of the successful Vendor will be incorporated in the purchase order issued by the STO.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.** ACH Processing Services

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.1:** Vendor should describe the procedures for maintaining an ACH processing account for the STO.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.2:** The STO desires flexibility in transmission times. Vendor should provide a daily processing schedule and describe the time cutoffs for accepting transmissions prior to the creation and release of payments based on type. Vendor must not list any fees in its response. Any fees applicable should **ONLY** be listed on the Cost Proposal (Attachment C)

**Vendor Response:**



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**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.3:** Vendor should describe the time frames for deleting/canceling payments prior to the creation and release into the payment system.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.4:** Vendor should provide an approximate timeframe needed to process a one hundred thousand (100,000) record NACHA formatted file from the time the Vendor receives the file until the STO receives the confirmation of file processing.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.5:** Vendor should describe its problem resolution procedures and include a list of support staff, staff availability, 24/7 hotline for problem resolution. The STO prefers a dedicated person available 24/7 set forth in requirements 4.5.2.2.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.6:** Vendor should describe the available methods the Vendor will use to receive files initiated by the STO set forth in requirements 4.5.3.5. The STO's preferred method is utilizing a SFTP. Include all formats and communication methods available, as well as alternative methods in case of primary failure.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.7:** Vendor should describe the types of transaction confirmations it provides for originated files set forth in requirements 4.5.3 2. The STO prefers an electronic confirmation. Provide examples.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.8:** Vendor should describe its system controls to protect data integrity, (i.e., ensuring data is not lost, duplicated, compromised, etc.)

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.9:** Vendor should describe the retention and inquiry capabilities for payment and remittance detail. List all alternatives.

**Vendor Response:**

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**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.10:** Vendor should describe the process of returning an ACH payment on the STO receipt account set forth in the requirements 4.5.3.6.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.1.11:** Vendor should describe the process of the standing wire transfer set forth in the requirements 4.5.1.3. The STO prefers a standing wire completion by 10:00 am Eastern Time (ET).

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.2.** Implementation and Conversion Process

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.2.1:** Assuming a contract start date of March 1, 2023, Vendor should provide a projected timeline which reflect the following criteria for a successful operation of its ACH services. The date is not binding for any other purpose and is only to be used for planning purposes.

- a. dates of installation
- b. conversion process
- c. implementation
- d. training

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.2.2:** Vendor should provide its proposed implementation team, including the team that will train the STO staff; provide staff qualifications and experience, and discuss how and if these individuals will continue to be involved with the agreement/purchase order for this RFP after implementation set forth in requirements 4.5.2.8.

- i. The STO desires follow up training as needed. Vendor should describe and include a sufficient post-implementation training plan should it be needed for new system upgrades, new STO staff or as a retraining tool for previously trained individuals.
- ii. Vendor should provide samples of any policies and procedures that are included as part of the implementation process.
- iii. Vendor should describe its plan to assist the STO with testing and subsequently transitioning the file transmissions to its institution. Vendor should include a description of all testing procedures.

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- iv. Vendor should provide any training materials and user manuals set forth in requirement 4.5.2.5.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.3.** Hardware and Software

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.3.1:** Vendor should describe the hardware and software which will be used and/or required by the Vendor and/or the STO to establish the required accounts. Please expressly identify any additional hardware or software requirements the STO will need and whether the Vendor will provide the hardware or software or if the STO must obtain it elsewhere. Describe any special licensing, permits or other such requirements which may apply to the STO. Vendor must not list any fees in its response. Any fees applicable should **ONLY** be listed on the Cost Proposal (Attachment C)

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.3.2:** In the event of communications failure, the STO strongly desires that the Vendor should provide a secondary method for receiving the ACH file. The method should include encrypted e-mail and/or secondary electronic communication. Vendor should describe in detail your proposed method(s).

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.3.3:** Vendor should describe the account validation used for web debit payments set forth in requirements 4.5.5.2. Describe the capabilities, requirements, and features of your API for ACH account validation. Vendor must not list any fees in its response. Any fees applicable should **ONLY** be listed on the Cost Proposal (Attachment C).

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.3.4:** Vendor should describe and provide information on any third-party vendor it would utilize to execute this contract. Information should include, but not be limited to the following:

- Name of company.
- Type of functionality performed.
- Relationship to Vendor.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.** Reports

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**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.1:** The Vendor should discuss its ability to provide the following daily reports set forth in requirements 4.5.4.5:

- a. Current Day Reporting Report: "Current day reporting" means the notification of any amounts that have been received in the account since the previous bank ledger posting. The STO prefers reports to be available electronically via an online system no later than 8:00 am Eastern Time (ET) each day. Information should include, but not be limited to:
  - 1) Daily current ledger balance
  - 2) Daily current available balance
  - 3) Detail of ACH Credits
  - 4) Total Credits
  - 5) Detail of ACH Debits
  - 6) Total Debits
  - 7) Grand Totals
  
- b. Previous Day Reporting Report: "Previous day report" means a report that shows all activity that occurred in the account that has posted to the bank ledger on the date of the last day's ledger posting. The report should reflect all activity that posted on the previous day, including the initiated wire, and the ledger balance. The report should be received electronically via an online system by 8:00 am Eastern Time (ET) each day. Information should include, but not be limited to:
  - 1) Daily closing ledger balance
  - 2) Daily closing available balance
  - 3) Daily opening available balance
  - 4) Total Credits
  - 5) Number of ACH Credits
  - 6) Total Debits
  - 7) Number of ACH Debits
  - 8) Total Wire Transfers
  - 9) Number of Wire Transfers
  - 10) Detail of Wire Transfers
  - 11) Detail of ACH Debits
  - 12) Detail of ACH Credits

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.2:** Vendor should provide a sample of each of the reports available to the STO listed in 4.4.4.1.

**Vendor Response:**

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**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.:** Vendor should discuss any additional reports pertinent to ACH processing and provide examples of any additional reports discussed in this response.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.4:** Vendor should discuss its ability to provide a monthly bank statement report with ability to download in CSV or Excel format, available one business day following the previous month set forth in requirements 4.5.4.3. The report should reflect all transactions (debits and credits) and balances to reconcile the account. The bank statement report should include, but not be limited to, the following fields or information:

1. Date
2. Description of Activity
3. Amount
4. Total of Credits
5. Total of Debits
6. Balance Summary

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.5:** Vendor should provide a sample bank statement report for ACH services set forth in requirements 4.5.4.2.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.6:** Vendor should describe its back-up systems available for all reports required in the event the regular system is not working.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.7:** Vendor should describe its ability of importing and exporting reports/files in standard (e.g., Microsoft Office) spreadsheet or database formats.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.8:** Vendor should describe how it will invoice the STO monthly for maintaining an account and providing ACH services set forth in requirements 4.5.1.11. The STO desires an electronic invoice. Provide an example of a monthly invoice and account analysis.

**Vendor Response:**

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**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.4.9:** Vendor should provide a method to offset bank fees on the DDA accounts. This offset may be in the form of an earnings credit, or other appropriate mechanism. Earnings will offset against amounts due the Vendor for services under the contract/purchase order issued pursuant to this RFP as part of the monthly invoicing process. Any fees applicable should **ONLY** be listed on the Cost Proposal (Attachment C)

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5. System and Securities**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.1:** The STO desires the ability to access its accounts online in real time (at time of request). Vendor should describe its capabilities to provide this type of access. The detailed description should include, but not be limited to:

1. System specifications including platform, connectivity, and speed.
2. User profile ability at both account and function levels.
3. Audit and edit controls.
4. Ability to export files. Describe the available formats.
  - a. Level of detail maintained for Wire and ACH activity.
  - b. Online wire initiation.
5. A listing and examples of standard reports.
6. Ad hoc reporting ability.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.2:** Vendor should describe its ability to accept file transmissions through an internet browser via a secure website or SFTP. The STO's preferred method is SFTP.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.3:** Vendor should provide warehousing capabilities for pending transactions. For State of West Virginia holidays, when State offices are closed and most financial institutions are open, the STO may transmit a file to the ODFI which contains settlement dates beyond the normal two-day credit, one-day debit settlement guidelines. At those times, the Vendor acting as the ODFI, should be able to warehouse the transactions and release them to the ACH at the appropriate time. Describe the process which will be used and the warehousing capabilities for pending transactions.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.4:** Vendor should describe in detail its Disaster Recovery Plan as it relates to ACH processing functionality set forth in requirements 4.5.4.4.

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**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.5:** Vendor should include the notification process to the STO in the event of a disaster.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.6:** Vendor should describe the back-up facility it has for primary systems used to provide the services required in this RFP.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.7:** Vendor should provide any contractual information for disaster recovery back-up systems provided by a third party.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.8:** Vendor should describe the time it will take to recover/recreate a day's activity.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.9:** Vendor should provide information on how often the disaster recovery plan is tested and include test dates with a copy of the results of the test and how long it took to switch over to the recovery site.

**Vendor Response:**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.4.5.10:** Vendor should describe the security features of the ACH processing system, including the types of user and system accesses, audit trails, etc.

**Vendor Response:**

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## **Attachment B: Mandatory Specification Checklist**

### **Section 4.5 Mandatory Requirements**

The following mandatory requirements must be met by the Vendor as a part of the submitted proposal. Failure on the part of the Vendor to meet any of the mandatory specifications shall result in the disqualification of the proposal. The terms “must”, “will”, “shall”, “minimum”, “maximum”, or “is/are required” identify a mandatory item or factor. Decisions regarding compliance with any mandatory requirements shall be at the sole discretion of the Purchasing Division.

#### **Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1 Basic Minimum Qualifications**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.1:** Vendor must certify that it does not engage in the boycott of energy companies as outlined in 4.2.1.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No. By answering yes, Vendor certifies it does not engage in the boycott of energy companies as outlined in 4.2.1.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.2:** Vendor must meet all currently applicable National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA) requirements and any updates thereto, all as reflected at [nacha.org](http://nacha.org).

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.3:** Vendor must maintain one or more demand deposit accounts (DDA) in the name of the West Virginia State Treasurer, ACH Processing Account. Any account changes must be approved by the STO. The accounts will be used for processing ACH files and receiving items returned from those files and receiving funds originating by other sources. Each DDA account will contain a reserve balance to fund returns. A standing wire transfer will be utilized daily for the total daily available balance, less any required reserve amounts for returned items and earnings credits, to an STO designated financial institution no later than 10:45 am Eastern Time (ET).

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.4:** Vendor must be able to adapt to reasonable changes in State systems, procedures, technology, and needs.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.5:** Vendor must be properly licensed to do business in and with the State of West Virginia.



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**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.6:** Vendor must be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and must provide to the STO with the Proposal proof of FDIC coverage that includes the amount of coverage and the term of coverage. The Vendor must also provide such other information regarding FDIC coverage as the STO may require.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.7:** Vendor must be a member of the Federal Reserve Bank or must be capable of processing Automated Clearing House (ACH) transactions and other services through the Federal Reserve Bank.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.8:** Vendor must have ACH originating financial institution capabilities.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.9:** Vendor must be a designated state depository or be eligible as a designated state depository and able to post any required collateral as described in the collateral policies and procedures handbook. Exhibit A.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.10:** Vendor must have sufficient assets of at least Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000.00) and currently be capable of providing services as large, complex and sophisticated as those currently used by the STO. Each Vendor must provide a statement reflecting the Vendor's size, net worth, assets, and a description of other accounts or operations similar in size and complexity.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.11:** Vendor will invoice the STO in arrears no more frequently than monthly for fees and services. Supporting documentation must accompany the invoice.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

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**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.1.12:** Vendor must provide an account analysis with the monthly invoice which includes a breakdown of all charged transaction items.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**4.5.2 Implementation and Training**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.2.1:** Vendor must begin conversion planning within 45 days of the contract award.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.2.2:** Vendor must provide a dedicated contact person to manage the contract/purchase order and to assist with problem resolution during STO business hours.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.2.3:** Vendor must advise the STO of any changes to the contact person or key personnel assigned to the STO account.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.2.4:** Vendor must provide initial on-site and in-person training at no cost to the STO.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.2.5:** Vendor must provide training materials and user manuals.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.2.6:** Vendor must conduct bi-weekly implementation meetings, or at the discretion of the STO, and provide a status report two (2) days prior to the meeting.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.2.7:** Vendor must provide a dedicated implementation project lead.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

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**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.2.8:** Vendor must provide professional staff who will provide the required services to the STO, training STO staff as may be necessary and resolving any problems that arise out of the conversion to and use of such services.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**4.5.3 ACH Processing Services**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.3.1:** Vendor must accommodate the STO's unique routing number with the Federal Reserve and be able to accommodate a correspondent relationship with the STO using the same unique routing number. The STO will distribute this number to all Vendors who initiate credits to the STO. The Vendor operating under this RFP will use the STO's routing number for receipt processing activities. Origination activity from the STO does not need to reflect the STO's routing number in the file header information.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.3.2:** Vendor must provide confirmation on originated files advising that the file(s) was received intact and has passed any necessary inspection. The STO requires the confirmation to include the total dollar amount and item count of each file received and processed by the Vendor.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.3.3:** Vendor must notify the STO immediately of any problems in the ACH file that would prevent transmission of the file.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.3.4:** Vendor must allow the STO to transmit at least \$500 million in a single day.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.3.5:** Vendor must be able to receive and process multiple daily transmissions from the STO and forward the information through the ACH network at the next available opportunity.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

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**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.3.6:** Vendor must notify the STO of any returned ACH transaction within twenty-four (24) hours of the receipt of the returned transaction. A secured method of notification must be made electronically via SFTP, in a NACHA formatted text file.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.3.7:** Vendor must accept any EDI format that is transmitted to it.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.3.8:** Vendor must provide the STO file of transactions to the STO's routing number within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt in a NACHA formatted text file through SFTP.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

#### 4.5.4 Reporting

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.4.1:** Vendor must provide a quarterly report, provided by the STO, verified by affidavit, of the amount of state funds on deposit, signed by the President or Cashier, in accordance with the STO's Collateral Policy.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.4.2:** Vendor must provide a monthly hard-copy bank statement within five (5) business days following the previous month.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.4.3:** Vendor must provide a monthly bank statement report with the ability to download in CSV or Excel format, available one business day following the previous month.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.4.4:** Vendor must have a disaster recovery plan which enables the STO to maintain daily operations.

**Vendor Response:** Yes or No.

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.4.5:** Vendor must have an electronic means of providing daily reports, including the Current Day Report and the Previous Day Report. The "daily ledger balance" for the processing account is the reserve amount used for returns.

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**Vendor Response: Yes or No.**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.5 Hardware and Software**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.5.1:** Vendor must provide a password-protected banking system operating via secure Internet browser.

**Vendor Response: Yes or No.**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.5.2:** Vendor must provide an account validation API service for web debit payments.

**Vendor Response: Yes or No.**

**Section 4, Subsection 4.5.5.3:** All web applications must be compatible with the latest version of Microsoft Edge (Chromium engine). All web communications whether remote or internal, must be secured using a minimum of TLS v1.2. Any required cipher suites, protocols or encryption technology that has been publicly exploited (published CVE) must be immediately remediated upon discovery, including any aforementioned minimum-security requirements. Vendor that provides local or remote web applications must not require Java, Silverlight, Adobe Flash, Active X Controls or any additional third-party plugins or dependencies.

**Vendor Response: Yes or No.**

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By signing below, I certify that I have reviewed this Request for Proposal in its entirety; understand the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein; that I am submitting this proposal for review and consideration; that I am authorized by the bidder to execute this bid or any documents related thereto on bidder's behalf; that I am authorized to bind the bidder in a contractual relationship; and that, to the best of my knowledge, the bidder has properly registered, or will register, with any State agency that may require registration.

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(Company)

---

(Representative Name, Title)

---

(Contact Phone/Fax Number)

---

(Date)

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## **Attachment C: Cost Sheet**

*Cost information below as detailed in the Request for Proposal and submitted in a separate sealed envelope. Cost should be clearly marked.*

**WVSTO RFP Attachment C**

**Cost Proposal Form: STO**

**Vendor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vendor must complete this Cost Proposal Form and submit it in a separate, sealed envelope, marked “Cost Proposal” with its Proposal.** Include the unit fee and total cost for each. All fees shall remain fixed for the initial term of the contract. Please complete each category; if the Vendor does not designate a fee for a specific item, mark it as “zero” cost.

Vendor hereby proposes to provide the basic Services as anticipated below.

**1. SERVICES**

| <b>Description of Services</b>         | <b>Monthly Estimate</b> | <b>Unit Rate Per Transaction or Item per Month</b> | <b>Total Monthly Cost (a x b = c)</b> |
|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
|  | <b>(a)</b>              | <b>(b)</b>   | <b>(c)</b>                            |
| <b>A. DDA Accounts</b>                 |                         |  |                                       |
| Account Maintenance                    | 1                       | \$ _____<br>per month                              | \$                                    |
|  |                         |  |                                       |
| <b>B. Per Transaction or Item Fees</b> |                         |  |                                       |
| <b>Automated Clearing House</b>        |                         |  |                                       |
| 1. Monthly Maintenance Fee             | 1                       | \$   | \$                                    |
| 2. Credits originated                  | 250,000                 | \$   | \$                                    |
| 3. Debits Originated                   | 50,000                  | \$   | \$                                    |
| 4. Rejected Items                      | 5                       | \$   | \$                                    |
| 5. Notification of Change              | 500                     | \$   | \$                                    |
| 6. Addenda Records Originated          | 200,000                 | \$   | \$                                    |
| 7. Addenda Records Received            | 20,000                  | \$   | \$                                    |
| 8. Debit Received                      | 100                     | \$   | \$                                    |



|  |      |    |    |
|--|------|----|----|
| 9. Credits Received                      | 100  | \$ | \$ |
| 10. Transmission<br>Input Files          | 40   | \$ | \$ |
| 11. Return Items                         | 500  | \$ | \$ |
| 12. Unauthorized ACH<br>Returns          | 30   | \$ | \$ |
| 13. Account Validation<br>– Web Debits   | 2000 | \$ | \$ |
|  |      |    |    |
| <b>Wire Transfers</b>                    |      |    |    |
| 1. Outgoing<br>Repetitive Wires          | 20   | \$ | \$ |
| 2. Incoming Wire<br>Transfers            | 1    | \$ | \$ |
|  |      |    |    |
| <b>Information Services</b>              |      |    |    |
| 1. Monthly<br>Maintenance                | 1    | \$ | \$ |
| 2. Previous Day<br>Transactions          | 400  | \$ | \$ |
| 3. Current Day<br>Transaction            | 400  | \$ | \$ |
| 4. Previous Day<br>Transaction<br>Report | 25   | \$ | \$ |
| 5. EDI/ACH<br>Remittance<br>Reports      | 25   | \$ | \$ |
| 6. Current Day<br>Transaction<br>Report  | 25   | \$ | \$ |
|  |      |    |    |
| <b>EDI Monthly<br/>Maintenance</b>       |      |    |    |
| 1. Payments<br>Received                  | 240  | \$ | \$ |

|   |     |           |           |
|---|-----|-----------|-----------|
| 2. EDI Translation  | 175 | \$        | \$        |
| 3. EDI Reports  | 175 | \$        | \$        |
|   |     |           |           |
| <b>Other</b>  |     |           |           |
| 1. Electronically received monthly bank statement                             | 1   | \$        | \$        |
| 2. Notification ACH transmission file received and processed                  | 20  | \$        | \$        |
| 3. Electronic acceptance of file transmissions                                | 20  | \$        | \$        |
| 4. EDI payment systems  | 1   | \$        | \$        |
| 5. Electronic receipt of account activity                                     | 1   | \$        | \$        |
|   |     |           |           |
| <b>SUBTOTAL</b>   |     |           | <b>\$</b> |
|   |     |           |           |
| PLEASE LIST ANY COSTS ASSOCIATE WITH THE REQUIRED SERVICES NOT ITEMIZED ABOVE |     | \$        | \$        |
|   |     |           |           |
|   |     |           |           |
|   |     |           |           |
|   |     |           |           |
|   |     |           |           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  |     | <b>\$</b> | <b>\$</b> |

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

**2. Fixed Cost (additional lines may be added as necessary):**

| Item | Unit Cost | Total Monthly Cost |
|------|-----------|--------------------|
|      | \$        | \$                 |
|      |           |                    |
|      |           |                    |
|      |           |                    |
|      |           |                    |
|      |           |                    |
|      |           |                    |

**3. VARIABLE COSTS (additional lines may be added as necessary):**

| Item | Volume | Unit Cost | Total Monthly Cost |
|------|--------|-----------|--------------------|
|      |        |           |                    |
|      |        |           |                    |
|      |        |           |                    |
|      |        |           |                    |
|      |        |           |                    |

**4. ONE TIME COSTS:**

| Item | Total Cost |
|------|------------|
|      | \$         |
|      |            |
|      |            |
|      |            |
|      |            |

**TOTAL COSTS(1-4):\$\_\_\_\_\_**

**The following volumes, based on the General Background Information found in section 1.5, should be assumed for calculating estimated per unit costs:**

20 business days in a month x 2 daily files = 40 files per month

**Any vendor wishing to include variable costs requiring volumes must submit a question to the STO during the Question & Answer portion of the RFP process. The STO will provide volumes to be used for the cost proposal.**

**Vendor hereby covenants, agrees and acknowledges that Vendor will provide the Services specified in the RFP and contained in its Technical Proposal for the amount(s) proposed on this Cost Proposal Form and that the person signing this Cost Proposal Form has authority to bind the Vendor.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Authorized Signature**

**EXHIBIT A**

**Collateral Policy and Procedures**



**Riley Moore  
State Treasurer**

**January 2021**

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## **Purpose:**

The purpose of the Collateral Policy and Procedures is to ensure compliance with state code sections §12-1-4 and §12-1-5 which governs bonds pledged by depositories and limitations on amounts of deposits. These policies and procedures are published to provide a comprehensive guide to depositories which have pledged or will need to pledge collateral with the State Treasurer's Office (STO).

## **Policy:**

The STO reviews all collateral requests from approved state depositories. Any requests will be approved by the STO in accordance with West Virginia code §12-1-4 and §12-1-5. The STO will request balances for all state accounts on a quarterly basis from approved state depositories to ensure all state funds are properly collateralized.

## **Procedures:**

### **I. Why is collateral required?**

A. Deposits of state funds in excess of the amount insured by an agency of the federal government (for example FDIC insurance) must be separately collateralized in accordance with §12-1-5 to minimize the state's financial risk.

B. *§12-1-5. Limitation on amount of deposits.*

*The amount of state funds on deposit in any depository in excess of the amount insured by an agency of the federal government shall be secured by a deposit guaranty bond issued by a valid bankers surety company or by other securities acceptable to the treasurer in an amount of at least one hundred two percent of the amount on deposit. The value of the collateral shall be determined by the treasurer.*

C. The amount of state funds in excess of insured amounts must at least be 102% of the market value of the pledge collateral.

1. The value of collateral is determined by the safekeeping agent designated by the STO. This is currently Branch Banking and Trust Company (BB&T).

### **II. Types of Acceptable Collateral**

A. The following items are acceptable forms of collateral to pledge for deposits held for the State of West Virginia:

1. Bonds of the United States
2. Bonds of the Federal Land Banks
3. Bonds of Federal Home Loan Banks

4. Bonds of the State of West Virginia or any county, district or municipality of this state
5. Federal Home Loan letters of credit
6. Other bonds, securities or letters of credit approved by the State Treasurer

### **III. How the Amount of Collateral Needed is Determined**

- A. Depositories are required to provide balances for all state accounts and time deposits on a quarterly basis.
- B. The market value of all pledged collateral is obtained from the safekeeping agent of the STO. Although the STO is the final determining authority of the market value.
- C. The state funds deposited at the depository are totaled by Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN).
- D. Each FEIN total is then reduced by the amount covered by FDIC insurance.
- E. Any FEIN total greater than zero after the FDIC insurance deduction is then totaled and compared to 102% of the current market value for all collateral pledged for the depository.
  1. If 102% of the collateral total is greater than the adjusted balance total, no additional is required.
  2. If the adjusted balance is greater than 102% of the collateral total, additional collateral is required until the adjusted balance is less than 102% of the market value of the total collateral.
- F. Depositories need to monitor their collateral position in regards to the fluctuating balances to determine if they need to change their collateral position frequently.
- G. The STO reserves the right to require a larger balance of collateral to be pledged by any financial institution.

### **IV. Delivery of Collateral**

- A. Federal Home Loan Bank Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit may be faxed to 304-340-1511 or emailed to [CollateralGroup@wvsto.com](mailto:CollateralGroup@wvsto.com).
- B. DTC eligible securities and US government securities must first be approved by the STO.



1. Complete the attached Collateral Request Form (see instructions) and email it to [CollateralGroup@wvsto.com](mailto:CollateralGroup@wvsto.com).
2. The email must be sent from an authorized individual. This information must be provided to the STO prior to the request.
3. The STO will review the request and accept or deny the request via email.
4. If approved, the STO will contact their safekeeping agent to authorize the delivery or receipt of the security. It is the responsibility of the requesting financial institution to notify their safekeeping agent.

## **V. Contact Information**

- A. If a depository has any questions, contact the STO at 304-558-3599 or 866-243-9010.
- B. Questions may also be submitted via email at [CollateralGroup@wvsto.com](mailto:CollateralGroup@wvsto.com).

## Completing the Collateral Request Form

All collateral requests must complete the Collateral Request Form except for Federal Home Loan Bank Irrevocable Letter of Credit requests.

1. **Pledge/Release** – Select Pledge for a security that will be delivered to the STO safekeeping agent or Release for a security that will be delivered from the STO safekeeping agent.
2. **Delivery Instructions for BB&T** – Select the appropriate delivery method, either DTC Eligible Securities or US Government Securities, and enter your 10 digit BB&T collateral account number in the account number field. This information must be provided for both pledge and release requests.
3. **Delivery Instructions for Collateralized Bank** – Select the appropriate delivery method, either DTC Eligible Securities or US Government Securities, and provide the required information. This information must be provided for both pledge and release requests. Your safekeeping agent should be able to provide this information to you when needed.
4. **Receive Free From/Deliver Free To** – This is the name of your financial institution.
5. **Delivery Date** – This is the date the trade should settle.
6. **Description of Collateral** – Provide the requested information for the collateral to be considered for the request.

The completed request should be emailed to the STO at [CollateralGroup@wvsto.com](mailto:CollateralGroup@wvsto.com) by an authorized individual on file with the STO. Authorized individuals should be updated with the STO as needed.

The STO will respond to the email accepting or denying the request. If the request is accepted, it is the depository's responsibility to notify their safekeeping agent of the delivery to/from the STO.

Any questions should contact the STO at 304-558-3599 or 866-243-9010. Questions may also be emailed to [CollateralGroup@wvsto.com](mailto:CollateralGroup@wvsto.com).



**PLEDGE (RECEIVE FREE) OF COLLATERAL SECURITIES**  
**or**  
 **RELEASE (DELIVER FREE) OF COLLATERAL SECURITIES**

The following security is/will be pledged as collateral to secure public deposits of the State of West Virginia and/or any agency of the State and is delivered to BB&T as agent of the State or is released to our custody per the following instructions:

**DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS FOR BB&T**  
Please select the appropriate delivery method:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DTC Eligible Securities<br>DTC # 5385- Branch Banking &<br>Trust Co.<br>Account # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> US Government Securities<br>BB&T NC<br><b>ABA # 053101121 BB&amp;T Acct: 1050</b><br>Account # _____ |
|--|---|

**DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLATERALIZED BANK**  
Please select the appropriate delivery method:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DTC Eligible Securities<br>DTC # _____<br>Agent ID # _____<br>Institution ID # _____<br>Account # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> US Government Securities<br>Bank Wire Address _____<br>ABA # _____<br>Account # _____ |
|--|--|

Receive Free from/Deliver Free to \_\_\_\_\_  
Requesting Bank Name/Client Name  
Delivery Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION OF COLLATERAL:**

**CUSIP Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Security Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Issue Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Maturity Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Coupon Rate:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Face Value:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Approximate Market Value:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WVSTO use only:**

**Authorized Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Approval Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WVSTO Office Contacts:**

Please send completed form to:  
[CollateralGroup@wvsto.com](mailto:CollateralGroup@wvsto.com)  
or contact us at (304)558-3599 for questions.