Request for Proposal (“RFP”) #Q9461

Request for Consulting Search Firm

Procurement Services
University of Northern Iowa
103 Gilchrist Hall
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0008
Email: molly.ungs@uni.edu

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Please note: an electronic version of this Request for Proposal can be downloaded from: http://www.uni.edu/obo/purchasing/current-bid-solicitations
Section I
Proposal Instructions and Conditions

1.1 Purpose of RFP
The University of Northern Iowa (also referred to as “University” or “UNI”) intends to retain the services of a qualified consulting firm, to provide a search to identify candidates for the Provost and Executive Vice President.

1.2 Description of the University of Northern Iowa
The University of Northern Iowa, located in Cedar Falls, Iowa was founded in 1876. Today, the campus covers 940 acres and consists of five colleges: Business Administration; Education; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Humanities, Arts and Sciences; and Graduate College. Approximately 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students are currently enrolled.

1.3 RFP Contact/Representatives: All inquiries or requests for clarification or interpretation or to notify the University of errors or omissions relating to this Request must be directed to the DESIGNATED CAMPUS CONTACT:

Molly Ungs
Purchasing Agent
103 Gilchrist Hall
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0008
Telephone (319)273-6448
molly.ungs@uni.edu

1.4 Proposal Submission
Proposals submitted must be comprehensive by including all products, services and costs necessary to meet the requirements of this request. Proposals must be received by Procurement Services, molly.ungs@uni.edu, 103 Gilchrist Hall, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0008, by 3:00 P.M., CST, on January 29, 2021. Any proposal received after the time specified for the receipt of proposals may not be considered and may be returned unopened to the sender as non-responsive. Electronic responses must be submitted to molly.ungs@uni.edu.

1.5 Company Confirmation Each Company, by submitting a proposal, acknowledges its representatives have:
1.5.1 Read and completely understood the proposal documents contained in this RFP.
1.5.2 Based their proposal upon the requirements described in the proposed Contract Documents.
1.5.3 Caused the proposal to be signed by an authorized representative.

1.6 Receipt and Opening of Proposals
1.6.1 UNI reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals and to waive any irregularities, technicalities, or informalities in proposals if such waiver does not substantially change the offer or provide an unfair competitive advantage to any Company. UNI reserves the right to request additional documents or proposal clarifications after the due date and time for proposal submission.

1.6.2 No proposals submitted by use of oral, telephonic, or facsimile methods, nor any modifications to previously submitted proposals made by any of these methods, will be considered. If a proposal is sent by
mail, Company should make allowance for the time required for such transmission.

1.6.3 Company's legally authorized representative (Officer of Company) shall sign the proposal. The official name, address, telephone, fax number and email addresses are to be stated on the proposal form.

1.6.4 No responsibility will be attached to any person for premature opening of a proposal not properly identified.

1.6.5 The laws of the State of Iowa require the contents of all proposals be placed in the public domain and be open to inspection by interested parties. Proposals will be available for public viewing after a contract has been finalized with the awarded Company. Trade secrets or proprietary information that are recognized as such and are protected by law may be withheld, if clearly identified as such in the proposal unless disclosure is required by a court order. Proposals marked entirely confidential or proprietary may be rejected. Pricing information, management fees, financial arrangements, and other offers cannot be considered proprietary information.

**Failure to list all proprietary sections of the submitted proposal in the space provided on the Form of Proposal, shall relieve UNI personnel from any responsibility, should such information be viewed by the public, a competitor, or in any way be released.**

1.6.6 All opened proposals become the property of UNI and will not be returned to the Company.

1.6.7 Prior to the date and time designated for receipt of proposals, proposals submitted early may be withdrawn only by written notice to the RFP representative. Such notice must be received by the representative prior to the designated date and time for receipt of proposals.

1.6.8 Prices and Terms shall remain firm for acceptance for ninety calendar days after the proposal submission date. No proposal may be modified or withdrawn during this 90-calendar days period.

1.6.9 All erasures or corrections are to be initialed by the person(s) signing the proposal.

1.6.10 Failure to comply with the requirements of this RFP or evidence of unfair bidding procedures may be cause for rejection of the proposal. Failure to supply information requested may also be cause for rejection of the RFP as being non-responsive.

1.7 **Prerogatives of the University**
This solicitation does not commit the University to award a contract or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a proposal and submission of proposals, costs incurred in making necessary studies for the preparation of proposals, or any travel or personnel expenses associated with trips to UNI. The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals received; to negotiate with any qualified respondent or respondents; or to cancel, in part or in its entirety, this RFP.

1.8 **Short List Suppliers/Negotiations**
Upon completion of proposal review, evaluation, and scoring, UNI reserves the right to identify a shortlist of suppliers who will best serve the University. This group of suppliers may be asked to give an onsite
presentation to the University RFP evaluation committee and other UNI representatives. The University reserves the right to conduct negotiations/multiple rounds of negotiations until the University reaches satisfaction that a competitive and mutually beneficial contract can be awarded to the most responsive Supplier(s). During these negotiations, UNI reserves the right to accept revisions of proposals and negotiate price. Negotiations will be structured to safeguard information and ensure that all Suppliers in the competitive range are treated fairly.

1.9 **Addenda**
Any and all interpretations, corrections, revisions, and amendments shall be issued by UNI Procurement Services to all known holders of proposed Contract Documents in the form of written addenda. Except for addenda modifying the proposal due date or canceling the Request for Proposal, such addenda shall be issued so as to be received at least three (3) days prior to the time set for receipt of proposals. All addenda so issued shall become part of the Contract Documents and shall be acknowledged in the Form of Proposal.

1.10 **Qualification of Company**
1.10.1 UNI shall make such investigations as deemed necessary to determine the ability of Company to provide the expected services.

1.10.2 UNI reserves the right to reject any proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Company fails to satisfy UNI, or that said Company is not properly qualified to carry out the obligations specified herein.

1.10.3 UNI reserves the right to award based on the proposal(s) determined to be in its best interest.

1.10.4 Company must be licensed to do business in the State of Iowa and comply with all applicable laws and provisions.

1.10.5 Company shall procure all necessary permits and licenses and abide by all applicable laws, regulations and ordinances of all federal, state, and local governments in which work under this contract is performed. Company shall pay any sales, use, personal property and other taxes arising out of this contract and the transaction contemplated hereby. Any other taxes levied upon this contract, the transaction, or the equipment or services delivered pursuant hereto shall be the responsibility of Company.

1.11 **Exceptions to Contract Documents**
Company shall clearly state in the submitted proposal any exceptions to, or deviations from, the Specifications of Section III, and any exceptions to the provisions, terms, and conditions of this RFP included in Section I and Terms and Conditions of the Contract in Section II. Such exceptions or deviations will be considered in evaluating the proposals. Any exceptions should be noted on Attachment A and returned with the submitted proposal. Companies are cautioned that exceptions taken to this RFP may cause their proposal to be rejected at the sole discretion of UNI.

1.12 **Preference Laws**
UNI will give preference to purchasing from Iowa based businesses if the proposals submitted are comparable in pricing and their ability to meet all other criteria is comparable.

1.13 **Gratuities**
The laws of the State of Iowa provide that it is a criminal offense to offer, promise, or give anything of value
or benefit to a state employee with the intent to influence that employee’s acts, opinion, judgment or exercise of discretion with respect to that employee’s duties.

1.14 Availability of Contract to Other Entities
All other agencies of the State of Iowa, Independent Purchasing Authorities and all political subdivisions of the State of Iowa may make purchases pursuant to the Base Contract and/or Ancillary Contracts. A Buyer may include additional contractual requirements and the Company agrees to be bound by the additional requirements if it accepts the Purchase Instrument.

1.15 Copyrights
By submitting a bid proposal, the Company agrees that the University may copy the bid proposal for purposes of facilitating the evaluation of the bid proposal or to respond to requests for public records. The Company consents to such copying by submitting a bid proposal and warrants that such copying will not violate the rights of any third party.

1.16 Proposal Evaluation
The University will select a Company on the basis of proposals received in response to this RFP and any other information the University acquires regarding a company’s ability to perform. The University will evaluate proposals and may select one or more companies based on responses to this RFP. All proposals submitted in response to this RFP will be reviewed for responsiveness by the purchasing agent prior to referral to the evaluation committee. A committee will then evaluate all responsive proposals in accordance with the criteria described below.

The contract will be awarded to the Company(ies) whose overall offer is deemed to be the most advantageous to the University as determined by the evaluation committee. In preparing responses, offerors should describe in great detail how they propose to meet the scope of work/specifications detailed in this RFP. Significant consideration will be given to estimated cost, but price will not be the sole determining factor.

The Evaluation Criteria utilized for this Request for Proposal will be based upon, but not limited to, the following criteria, listed in no particular order:

1.16.1 Cost of Services
1.16.2 Company’s concentration in similar positions
1.16.3 Ability to provide satisfactory client list/references
1.16.4 Form of Proposal response
1.16.5 Demonstrated expertise/experience in placing higher education and/or nonprofit organization professionals in positions at the Provost and Executive Vice President level
1.16.6 Successful experience compiling a diverse applicant pool, placement and retention of diverse candidates, and commitment to Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity
1.16.7 Qualifications of personnel assigned to work with UNI
1.16.8 Demonstrated relationships with higher education professionals in Provost and Executive Vice President positions.
The following terms and conditions will apply to any contractual agreement awarded as a result of this RFP.

2.1 Terms
2.1.1 University
The University is the University of Northern Iowa. The term University means the University or the University's authorized representative. The University may be referred to as “University” or “UNI”.

2.1.2 Company
The Company is the person or organization proposing or offering to contract for goods or services. The term Company means the Company or the Company's authorized representative. The Company may also be referred to as the Supplier. This RFP may be awarded to multiple Companies - therefore, ‘Companies’ may also be referred to as Company.

2.1.3 The Product
The Product comprises of the goods and/or services required by the Company to fulfill the needs of this RFP.

2.1.4 The Agreement
The Agreement refers to the contractual agreement between UNI and the awarded Company, detailed in the Contract Documents and signed by both parties, and incorporating the RFP and Company’s response by reference. The Agreement may be referred to as “Contract” or “Agreement”.

2.1.5 Contract Documents
The Contract Documents shall consist of this RFP (Proposal Instructions and Conditions, Terms and Conditions of the Contract, Scope of Work/Specifications, Proposal Content, Form of Proposal, and all attachments), any subsequent Addenda Issued by UNI, Company's response to this RFP, and any contractual agreement that results from this RFP.

2.2 Non-appropriation of Funds
Notwithstanding other provisions of any award resulting from this RFP, if funds anticipated for the fulfillment of this agreement are at any time not forthcoming or insufficient, either through the failure of the Iowa Legislature or the federal government to provide funds or the program under which funds were provided is altered, then UNI shall have the right to terminate this agreement without penalty by giving not less than thirty (30) days written notice documenting the lack of funding or program change.

2.3 Immunity from Liability
Every person who is a party to this Agreement is hereby notified and agrees that UNI, and its agents, successors, and assigns are immune from liability and suit for or from Company's activities involving third parties and arising from this Agreement.

2.4 Indemnification
To the fullest extent permitted by law, Company shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless UNI, its agents,
successors, and assigns, the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, and the State of Iowa from and against all claims, damages, losses, and expenses, including but not limited to attorneys’ fees, arising out of or resulting from the performance and compliance with the terms and obligations of the Agreement, provided that any such claim, damage, loss, or expense (1) is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property, including the loss of use resulting therefrom, and (2) is caused in whole or in part by any negligent act or omission of Company, its subcontractor, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder. Such obligation shall not be construed to negate, abridge, or otherwise reduce any other right or obligation of indemnity which would otherwise exist as to any party or person.

In any and all claims against UNI, its agents, successors, and assigns, the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, and the State of Iowa by any employee of Company, and subcontractors, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, the indemnification obligation shall not be limited in any way by any definition or boundary on the amount or type of damages, compensation or benefits payable by or for Company or any subcontractor under workers’ compensation acts, disability benefit acts or other employee benefit acts.

2.5 Code of Fair Practice

The Company shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, veteran status, or any other basis where protected by law, except where it relates to a bona fide occupational qualification. In the event of the Company’s noncompliance with this clause or with any related federal or state regulations, this contract may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the Company may be declared ineligible for further contracts with the Board of Regents, State of Iowa.

2.6 Subcontractors

Company is specifically advised that any person, firm, or other party to whom it is proposed to award a subcontract under this Agreement must be approved in advance, in writing, and be acceptable to UNI. The Company is responsible for all acts of its subcontractors, as well as, the subcontractors’ performance of delegated duties. Company shall be solely responsible for payment to all subcontractors or secondary suppliers that the Company may engage for the completion of any contractual agreement with UNI.

2.7 Insurance

Company shall obtain and maintain the minimum insurance coverages set forth below. By requiring such minimum insurance, UNI shall not be deemed or construed to have assessed the risk that may be applicable to the Company arising from the Company’s business operation. The Company shall assess its own risk and if it deems appropriate, maintain higher limits and/or broader coverages. The Company is not relieved of any liability or other obligations assumed or pursuant to the Contract by reason of its failure to obtain or maintain insurance in sufficient amounts, duration, or types.

Minimum insurance coverages and requirements are as follows:

- **Worker’s Compensation and Employer’s Liability**
  - Statutory Limits
- **Commercial General Liability**
  - $1,000,000 Each Occurrence
  - $2,000,000 General Aggregate
**Commercial Auto Liability** (including owned, non-owned, hired, or rented vehicles)
$1,000,000 Each Occurrence

**Umbrella Liability**
$1,000,000 Each Occurrence
$1,000,000 General Aggregate

The State of Iowa, the University of Northern Iowa, and the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, shall be named on the Commercial General Liability, Commercial Auto Liability, and Umbrella Liability policies as additional insureds. Failure to maintain insurance coverage throughout the life of any resulting contract, consistent with the provisions of this Section, shall be considered a breach of contract. As evidence of the above, the Company will submit certificates of insurance on an annual basis. The certificates shall also provide that should the policy be cancelled or materially changed, thirty (30) day written notice prior to the effective date for the change or cancellation, shall be given directly to UNI.

Company agrees to waive all rights of subrogation against UNI, the State of Iowa, the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, the Regent institutions, their employees and agents for any claim filed against Company or other firms associated with the Agreement.

### 2.8 Amendments to the Agreement
When awarded, the Agreement shall not be changed, modified, altered, or amended in any respect without the mutual consent of the parties hereto, which consent shall be evidenced by a written amendment to the Agreement executed by both parties.

### 2.9 Laws
Terms and provisions of this Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Iowa, and any and all litigation or actions commenced in connection with this Agreement shall be instituted in the appropriate courts in the State of Iowa.

### 2.10 Assignment
The award of this RFP may not be assigned, transferred, sold or subcontracted by Company without the prior written consent of UNI. Should selected Company be purchased (in whole or in part) by another organization or should Company wish to assign, transfer, or subcontract the Agreement to another Company, UNI shall have the right to terminate the Agreement upon written notification, without penalty to UNI.

### 2.11 Taxes
The University is exempt from Federal Excise Taxes, and no payment will be made for any taxes levied on Company’s employees’ wages. The University is exempt from State and Local Sales and Use Taxes on the services. Tax Exemption Certificates will be furnished upon request.

### 2.12 Access to Company Records/Audits
The Company agrees to keep and provide full access to all records that pertain to UNI throughout the period that the Agreement remains in effect and for a minimum of seven (7) years after the Agreement is terminated, unless required to retain for a longer period by state or federal statute. The University reserves the right to audit such records and employ the Auditor of the State of Iowa or any other auditor the University deems appropriate to perform an audit of Company records. Should such audit disclose incorrect billings or improprieties, the University reserves the right to charge Company for the cost of the audit and pursue appropriate reimbursement.
2.13 Termination

2.13.1 If Company is adjudged bankrupt or makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, if a receiver is appointed on account of Company's insolvency, if Company repeatedly refuses or fails to supply enough employees, management staff, or equipment to adequately provide timely delivery or services for UNI, or if Company is otherwise guilty of a substantial violation of the Contract Documents, UNI may terminate the Agreement after giving Company a minimum thirty (30) days written notice, without penalty to UNI.

2.13.2 In any case where Company has failed to provide equipment and services or has provided nonconforming equipment and services, UNI shall provide a Cure Notice. If after notice, Company continues to be in default, UNI may procure services from another source and terminate the Agreement, without penalty to UNI. Company may be required to pay UNI the difference if a higher cost Company is selected.

2.13.3 With the mutual agreement of both parties, the Agreement may be terminated on an agreed date prior to the end of the contract period without penalty to either party.

2.13.4 The University may terminate the Agreement without penalty for any reason by giving a 30 calendar day notice.

2.14 Severability of the Agreement

In the event any one or more of the provisions contained herein shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision, but shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained. Further, in the event that any provision shall be held to be unenforceable by virtue of its scope, but may be made enforceable by a limitation thereof, such provision shall be deemed to be amended to the minimum extent necessary to render it enforceable under the laws of the jurisdiction in which enforcement is sought.

2.15 Open Competition

2.15.1 Where, in these contract documents, reference is made to materials, trade names, catalog numbers or articles of certain manufacture, it is done for the purpose of establishing a basis of comparative quality, type or style and not for the purpose of limiting competition. It shall be understood that such method of description is not intended to exclude other items, processes, similar designs, or kinds of materials, but is intended merely as a means of establishing a standard of comparison. Other manufacturing processes may be used, if, in the opinion of UNI, they are acceptable in serviceability, durability, quality, functional capabilities and design.

2.15.2 UNI reserves the right to reject any substitute article or material, and/or the associated bid which, in UNI's opinion, does not meet the standard of quality established by such a reference in the contract documents.

2.15.3 Companies offering other than the items specified shall submit, with their bid, catalog cuts, brochures, and detailed specifications covering the items on which they are bidding. Any deviation from the contract documents contained in this bid shall be noted by the company on the Bid Compliance Form. (See Attachment A.)
2.15.4 The company is expected to fully comply with the Contract Documents in this bid solicitation. In the event the Company's materials or equipment do not conform, and those deviations have not been stated on Attachment A, the company will be responsible for furnishing materials and equipment, which fully conform at no change in their bid price.

2.16 **Guarantee**

2.17 **Export Control**
Company acknowledges that a foreign national(s) may use the device/technology/and or data you propose, at the University. Company shall comply with all U.S. export controls laws and regulations, including but not limited to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), 22 CFR Parts 120 through 130, and the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), 15 CFR Parts 730 through 799, in the performance of this Agreement. In the absence of available license exemptions/exceptions, Company shall be responsible for obtaining the appropriate licenses or other authorizations, if required, for exports of hardware, technical data, and software, or for the provision of technical assistance. Company shall be responsible for all regulatory record keeping requirements associated with the use of licenses and license exemptions/exceptions. Company shall be responsible for obtaining the appropriate licenses or other authorizations, if required, for exports of hardware, technical data, and software, or for the provision of technical assistance. Company shall be responsible for all regulatory record keeping requirements associated with the use of licenses and license exemptions/exceptions. Prior to disclosing or transferring to University any hardware, technical data, software or product utilizing any such data, which is subject to export controls under federal law, Company shall notify the University in writing of the nature and extent of the export control. The University shall have the right to decline any such technical data or product utilizing such data. In the event Company sends any such technical data or product that is subject to export control, without notice of the applicability of such export control, the University has the right to immediately terminate the Agreement.

2.18 **Energy Star Purchases**
Whenever possible, UNI will purchase equipment that is rated energy efficient by this joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.

2.19 **Hazardous Material**
All packaging, transportation and handling of hazardous materials shall be in accordance with applicable federal and state regulations including, but not limited to, the Material Safety Data Sheet provision of O.S.H.A. Hazard Communication Standard 29 CFR 1910.1200, and Iowa Administrative Code.
2.20 **Clean Air and Water Certification** –

Company certifies by filling this order that its facility is not on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) List of Violating Facilities. Company will immediately notify University Procurement Services of the receipt of any communication indicating that any company’s facilities are under consideration to be listed on the EPA List of Violating Facilities.

2.21 **Federal Subcontract** –

If this agreement constitutes a sub agreement under a prime contract with a federal agency, the terms and conditions of the prime contract shall prevail.

2.22 **Conflict of Interest** –

Should Company be a State of Iowa official, a paid employee of the University or any other State of Iowa agency, a member of the General Assembly or a legislative employee, Company will be considered a ‘conflict of interest vendor.’ In addition, should any individual who is a paid employee of the University or State of Iowa Agency be a partner in Company’s firm or receive consulting payments, a conflict of interest exists. Whenever Company represents a conflict of interest or whenever there is a disclosure of indication of a conflict of interest, Company must have approval by the University prior to bidding on the RFP.

2.23 **Code of Conduct** –

University of Northern Iowa is committed to socially and environmentally responsible purchasing consistent with the values in our strategic plan. The University of Northern Iowa expects high quality in the products, services and business practices of all of its business partners. This commitment enjoys broad support on campus.

2.24 **Most Favored Nation** –

Company represents that the terms, conditions and prices established under the Contract Documents are equal to or better than those offered to other comparable colleges, universities or public institutions. If during the term of the Contract, Company offers more favorable terms, conditions or prices to another institution, comparable universities, colleges, Company agrees to notify the University. The Contract shall be amended to reflect the more favorable terms, conditions or prices.
3.1 Company’s Duties – To assist in its efforts, UNI anticipates retaining the services of a qualified consulting/search firm (also referred to as “Company”). Duties of the selected Company will include, but may not be limited to the following:

3.1.1 The Company shall invest time, at the beginning of the process, acquiring knowledge about UNI and the Cedar Valley, and shall seek to promote both to viable candidates.

3.1.2 Company shall put forth efforts to locate qualified candidates and make recommendations to UNI of potential advertising publications for this position (ads to be approved and placed by UNI), including, but not limited to, the major educational media, affirmative action sources and major state and national media.

3.1.3 The Company shall research and recruit a diverse pool of qualified applicants.

3.1.4 The Company shall maintain communication with any nominee for the position and seek to proactively convert nominees into applicants.

3.1.5 Company shall check credentials and verify other information provided by candidates who are selected for an interview. UNI will give final approval of the on-campus interview pool.

3.1.6 Company will work with Search Committees’ staff persons, UNI’s Human Resources Office and Compliance and Equity Management to comply with UNI’s data collection requirements, policies and procedures.

3.1.7 Company will become familiar with UNI’s hiring practices and will abide by all UNI policies and procedures with respect to recruiting and interviewing candidates. Proposal should define Company’s record keeping processes in detail, in particular regarding recruiting, and how those processes are in compliance with the refined applicant definition in 41 CFR60-1.

3.1.8 Travel for interview candidates will be arranged by the Company or UNI’s travel agency, as determined after discussion between Company and University. No travel arrangements are to be made prior to candidate approval by UNI.

3.1.9 The University will provide a suggested search timeline to the Company. This will include dates for periodic updates, candidate recommendations, report on candidate qualifications, etc. This timeline will further clarify who is responsible for the execution of each objective and target date. Company will verify feasibility of timeline. UNI will have final approval of recommended time-line. UNI desires to move quickly.

3.1.10 The Company will advise the UNI Search Committee concerning which candidates do not meet minimum required qualifications and which meet the minimum required qualifications, in their estimation. The Company will also advise the Search Committee concerning the extent to which qualified candidates meet the preferred qualifications. UNI retains final determination of qualified candidates.
3.1.1 Should the quality of the pool warrant it, the Company shall assist the Search Committee with arrangements for an initial round of telephone, video or off-campus screening interviews.

3.1.12 The Company shall verify accuracy of key information provided in the curriculum vitae or resumes of the pool of potential finalists (approximately 10-15).

3.1.13 The Company shall provide the Search Committee a brief summary of qualifications/rankings on all other applicants. Company to identify reasons why candidates are not moved forward in the process, including if candidates do not meet minimum qualifications.

3.1.14 The Company shall provide the Search Committee with the Company’s recommendation of (a minimum of) five highly qualified candidates for the position and provide the Committee with the Company’s professional evaluation of each, including the results of reference checks.

3.1.15 The Company shall conduct background checks on all of the candidates invited to interview on campus before each candidate arrives on campus. The Company shall explain their procedures for this and detail their process for securing permission from the candidates to do the checks.

3.1.16 Company must subscribe to the highest standards of integrity and principles of quality, diversity, equity, and ethical practice.

3.1.17 Company must be committed to conducting equitable searches to foster diversity and the highest quality of leadership for the higher education community.

3.1.18 Company must be knowledgeable of the laws, especially in the State of Iowa, relating to the confidentiality of candidates and Iowa Open Records Law.

3.2 University Duties- The University will perform the following duties:

3.2.1 The Chair of the UNI Search Committee will serve as the liaison between the Company and relevant UNI offices for various approvals.

3.2.2 UNI will approve and place advertisements for position.

3.2.3 UNI will prepare itinerary for on-campus interviews for finalists.

3.2.4 UNI will gather input and feedback on the candidates who are interviewed.

3.2.5 UNI will determine and secure internal approval of interview pools.

3.2.6 UNI will conduct final background checks on the candidate to whom the position is ultimately offered and may, at its discretion, conduct additional reference checks on any candidate.

3.2.7 UNI will make hiring decision and negotiate salary.
It is important that responses contain enough information to permit UNI’s evaluation team to fully understand the Company’s capabilities. UNI is requesting responses to this RFP that, at a minimum, include the following:

4.1 Form of Proposal
Form of Proposal completed and signed by Company’s representative.

4.2 References
Company is to submit a list of three references for which they have performed similar work. References should include client name, address, phone number, email, work performed for client, and date of work. Preferred references should be from placements of individuals in positions similar to the Provost and Executive Vice President position. Attach as Supplement 1.

4.3 Company Profile
The Company should provide a one-page company profile listing history (how long has company been in business), employee make-up, state of proprietorship, partnership, or incorporation. Include a complete listing of colleges and universities for which Company has provided successful searches for in the past five years. Provide the number of successful searches similar to the Provost and Executive Vice President position in the past five years. Also, include any other pertinent information that can be used to evaluate Company. Attach as Supplement 2.

4.4 Specific Experience
The Company should describe experience placing individuals in comparable positions for other higher education institutions. Include the level of involvement and any relationship with professional organizations pertinent to the Provost and Executive Vice President position. Please include experience and strategy for compiling a diverse applicant pool as well as success in moving diverse candidates to placement and retention at institutions. Attach as Supplement 3.

4.5 Staff Profile
The Company should include a profile including: degrees, training, years of experience, etc. of specific staff members that, if awarded, would be involved on the project with UNI. Attach as Supplement 4.

4.6 Process and Timeline
Describe the process to be utilized in fulfilling the requirements of the RFP and an explanation of timeline the Company would anticipate working with UNI. Include a timeline of your proposed process. This should include necessary meetings with candidates and the University. Attach as Supplement 5.

4.7 Fees
Company should detail the proposed compensation/fees for the work to be performed for UNI. Include your Hiring Guarantee policy as an option for UNI to consider. Include all reimbursable and non-reimbursable expenses. Attach as Supplement 6.

4.8 Additional Services
Describe any additional services the Company would provide which would enhance the search process and provide successful results. Be sure to include fees for these services if applicable. Attach as Supplement 7.
5.1 The undersigned Company, in response to Request for Proposal Number Q9461 having examined the Proposal Requirements, this Form of Proposal, and all of the Contract Documents, hereby proposes to provide services in accordance with the proposed Contract Documents.

5.2 Company acknowledges receipt of the following Addenda, which are a part of the Contract Documents:


5.3 Proprietary Information Please list all information or sections that you consider proprietary. Note that pricing and financial arrangements cannot be considered as proprietary information. The sections of this Proposal listed below represent trade secrets or proprietary information.

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5.4 Company understands that University of Northern Iowa reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, waive irregularities or technicalities in any proposal, and accept any proposal in whole or in part which it deems to be in its best interest.

Yes ____
No _____

5.5 Company has provided all parties involved with a copy of the RFP.

Yes ____
No _____

5.6 Company has read, understands, and agrees to all Proposal Instructions and Conditions contained in Section I & II of this RFP.

Yes ____
No _____

NOTE: If No, please list exceptions on Attachment A.

5.7 The University is interested in doing business with Suppliers electronically. We currently have the ability to deposit payments for invoices directly into a Supplier’s bank account. Please indicate if you accept electronic payments and what method: _______________________. Please indicate the percentage discount for the University for processing your payments electronically _______________________. In the event of bid award, the University will not be responsible for payment of any credit card processing fees associated with the payment of invoices via a credit card.
5.8 Company hereby certifies by signing below: that this proposal is genuine and is not made in the interest of or on behalf of any undisclosed person, company, or corporation; (b) that Company has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other Company to put in a false or sham proposal; (c) that Company has not solicited or induced any person, company, or corporation to refrain from bidding; and (d) that Company has not sought by collusion or kickback to obtain any advantage over any other Company or over UNI.

5.9 The Company has not altered or modified the original content of the Request for Proposal document or any associated documents, including the Cost Worksheet.

5.10 The company is not currently debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment by any federal or state entity. The undersigned agrees to notify the University of Northern Iowa of any change in this status, should one occur, until such time as an award has been made under this procurement.

5.11 Company Information

Business Name: __________________________________________

Federal I.D. Number: ____________________________

Official Address: ______________________________________

__________________________________________

Address of service location for UNI:

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

Company's State or Foreign Country of Residence ____________________

Company Telephone Number _____________________________

Fax Number ___________________________________________

Company Contact _______________________________________

Telephone Number for this Contact ____________________________

E-Mail for this Contact ______________________________________

Authorized Signature _______________________________________

Typewritten or Printed Signature ______________________________ Date _______
ATTACHMENT A
EXCEPTIONS/BID COMPLIANCE FORM
#Q9461

**NOTE:** If you do not comply or partially comply with terms or conditions of this RFP, indicate those sections and the counter term or condition below. Failure to include a term or condition or this form indicates that you are in complete compliance with those terms or conditions as stated in the RFP. Additional copies may be made as necessary.

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RFP #Q9461

Proposal Compliance Form

Please note: Proposal may be considered incomplete unless the following are included with offer. Indicate compliance by placing a checkmark in the space provided: All documents should be included in the order provided below. This form should be returned with the proposal as the last page.

Compliance

[ ] Form of Proposal completed and signed by Company’s authorized official
[ ] Attachment A (Exceptions)
[ ] Supplement 1 (References)
[ ] Supplement 2 (Company Profile)
[ ] Supplement 3 (Specific Experience)
[ ] Supplement 4 (Staff Profile)
[ ] Supplement 5 (Process and Timeline)
[ ] Supplement 6 (Fees)
[ ] Supplement 7 (Additional Services)

Proposals must be received by January 29, 2021 3:00pm CST