REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

2023-24 School Year

VENDED MEALS

National School Lunch Program
School Breakfast Program
After-School Snack Program

Due Date

May 5, 2023, 1:00 PM

1130 East Walnut Ave, Orange, CA 92867
INTRODUCTION

TLC Public Charter School (hereinafter referred to as the school food authority [SFA]) is requesting proposals for their vended meal service at our school campus(es) located at:

TLC 1 - 1130 East Walnut Ave, Orange, CA 92867
TLC 2 - 250 S Yorba St, Orange, CA 92869

Respondents should not construe from this notice that the SFA intends to enter into a fixed-price contract with the Respondent unless, in the opinion of the SFA, it is in the best interest of the SFA to do so. The SFA reserves the right to negotiate final contractual terms with the successful Respondent.

The SFA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, and to waive any errors or corrections in a proposal or in the proposal process. The SFA will award the contract based on a review and analysis of the proposals that determines which proposal best meets the needs of the SFA. Following the review and analysis of all responsive proposals, the SFA will make a recommendation to their Board at its regularly scheduled meeting.

RESPONSE DATE / TIMELINE

RFP Contact: Yesica Valencia (yesica.valencia@tlccharter.org), Terra Cataldo (info@tlccharter.org), and Jenna Foster (jenna@sfwgroup.org).

Timeline of Events:

- RFP Posted: Friday April 7, 2023
- Pre-bid Conference (virtual): Friday April 14, 2023, 11:00 AM
  - Click here to join the meeting
- Questions Due: Monday April 17, 2023, 1:00 PM
- Tasting Sample Drop-Off: Friday April 28, 2023, 1:00 PM
- Proposals Due: Friday May 5, 2023, 1:00 PM

Submit digital copies to yesica.valencia@tlccharter.org, info@tlccharter.org, and jenna@sfwgroup.org. Hard copy submissions are not required.

SCOPE OF WORK

The SFA is seeking an organization to provide meals under the following Federal programs:

- The National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- School breakfast Program (SBP)
- After-School Snack Program
Food vendors will be required to provide:

- Provide appropriate utensils, napkins and trays as needed for the meals.
- Provide consistent quality control.
- Provide responsible and responsive account manager.
- NSLP compliant meals/snacks (all meals must be eligible for state and federal reimbursement).
- NSLP menu recordkeeping (daily production records and/or delivery sheets) and planning necessary to receive reimbursements.
- Be familiar with State and Federal regulations pertaining to operations in a school setting.
- Comply with all state, county and city health and sanitation requirements. SFA reserves the right to inspect Vendor’s facilities at any time during the contract period.
- Has valid certifications and insurance documents.
- Has experience in managing USDA commodity program.
- Provides on-site marketing materials (signage)
- Provides a monthly graphic menu to be posted online and in visible areas

Food qualifications:

- Provide daily meals delivered unitized/prepackaged (preferred) OR bulk lunch
- Breakfast to follow a served meal pattern
- Lunch to follow an OVS meal pattern
- **Provide hot lunch option 3x per week at minimum**
- Provide fresh fruit and/or vegetable with every meal.
- **Provide fresh cut fruit at least twice per week**
- Provide a variety of both fruit and vegetables in a given week
- Provide lowfat or nonfat milk with each meal.
- No artificial colors or flavors.
- No hydrogenated oils.
- No artificial trans fats.
- No more than 30% of calories from total fat, and no more than 10% of calories from saturated fats.
- No overly processed foods.
- No high fructose corn syrup.
- No artificial preservatives, colors, flavors or sweeteners.
- No MSG.
- Foods with little or no added sugar.
- Meats shall be free of nitrates and nitrites.
- No animal by-products.
- No mechanically separated meats.
- No BHA & BHT.

Menu specifications:

- A focus on minimally processed foods
- Fresh cut fruit offered at least twice per week
- Emphasis on the utilization of local products
- Emphasis on environmentally conscious packaging and/or utensils

## Site Data

*This data is projected for the coming year and is subject to change.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sites</th>
<th>TLC - 1</th>
<th>TLC - 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grades in school</td>
<td>TK-1</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site address</td>
<td>1130 East Walnut Ave, Orange, CA 92867</td>
<td>250 S Yorba St, Orange, CA 92869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free/Reduced %</td>
<td>66% - CEP</td>
<td>66% - CEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SY24 Projected enrollment</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SY24 Number of operating days</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SY24 School start date</td>
<td>8/16/2023</td>
<td>8/16/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SY24 School end date</td>
<td>6/13/2024</td>
<td>6/13/2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SY24 Lunch start time</td>
<td>12:15-12:55 PM</td>
<td>12:15-1:35 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SY24 Breakfast start time</td>
<td>10:25-10:55 AM</td>
<td>10:15-10:45 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SY24 Snack start time</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast Participation (%)</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Participation (%)</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snack Participation (%)</td>
<td>TBD – Estimated 28%</td>
<td>TBD – Estimated 32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment List Provided by School</td>
<td>Convection Oven, Full Size Warming Unit, Double Door Refrigerator</td>
<td>Double Door Refrigerator, Full Size Warming Unit, Half Size Warming Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Breakfast Service</td>
<td>Prepackaged – grab &amp; go, delivered cold day-ahead</td>
<td>Prepackaged – grab &amp; go, delivered cold day-ahead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Lunch Service</td>
<td>Prepackaged or bulk – delivered cold day-ahead</td>
<td>Pre-packaged or bulk – deliver meals hot &amp; ready to serve by 11:00 AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**VENDOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Vendor shall be responsible for the following:

- Provide the necessary utensils and napkins in sufficient quantity for the number of meals ordered.

- Deliver meals to the school at times specified by SFA.

- Condition or care of meals until they are delivered to the school.

- Provide to SFA no later than **two (2) weeks prior** to the end of each month, a monthly menu covering the meals to be served for the following month in an electronic file.

- Provide SFA with sack lunches for field trips when requested. All meals for field trips must meet the appropriate meal pattern requirements. These meals must be charged at the contract price for breakfast or lunch, **additional fees not allowed**.

- Maintain the proper temperature of the components until they are delivered. Provide temperature logs upon request.

- Maintain all necessary records on the nutritional components and quantities of the meals served at SFA. All meals must have both a delivery record and production record to be maintained on site at the SFA.

**USDA Commodities**

1. The Vendor shall fully use, to the maximum extent possible, donated foods made available by the SFA solely for the purpose of providing benefits for the SFA's nonprofit school food program (7 CFR, Section 210.16[a][6]).

2. In accordance with 7 CFR, Section 250.53, the Vendor shall comply with the following provisions relating to the use of donated foods, as applicable:

   a) The Vendor must credit the SFA for the value of all donated foods (including both entitlement and bonus foods) received for use in the SFA’s meal service in the school year or fiscal year. The credit must include the value of donated foods contained in processed end products if the Vendor procures processed end products on behalf of the SFA, or acts as an intermediary in passing on the donated foods value of processed end products to the SFA (7 CFR, Section 250.51[a]).

   b) The Vendor shall account for the full value of donated foods (7 CFR, Section 250.51) by:
i) Subtracting the value of all donated foods received for use in the SFA’s food service from the SFA’s (monthly/quarterly) invoice, and

ii) Using the Average Price File for the school year in which the donated foods are received by the SFA. This listing is available from the USDA Food Distribution web page at [http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/processor-pricing-reports](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/processor-pricing-reports).

3. The Vendor will be responsible for any activities relating to donated foods in accordance with 7 CFR, Section 250.50(d), as applicable, and will ensure that such activities are performed in accordance with the applicable requirements in 7 CFR, Part 250.

4. The Vendor shall accept liability for any negligence on its part that results in any loss of, improper use of, or damage to donated foods.

5. The Vendor must use all donated beef, pork, and all processed end products, in the recipient agency’s food service, and must use all other donated foods, or commercially purchased foods of the same generic identity, of U.S. origin, and of equal or better quality than the donated foods, in the recipient agency’s food service (unless the contract specifically stipulates that the donated food, and not such commercial substitutes, be used) (7 CFR, Section 250.51[d]).

6. The Vendor shall ensure that the processing agreement’s value will be used in crediting the SFA for the value of donated foods contained in end products (7 CFR, Section 250.53[a][7]).

7. The method and frequency of crediting donated foods will be in accordance with 7 CFR, Section 250.51(b). The Vendor must ensure that it follows the negotiated method and frequency of crediting agreed upon by the parties.

8. The Vendor will provide assurance that it will not itself enter into the processing agreement with the processor required in subpart C of 7 CFR, Part 250 (7 CFR, Section 250.53[a][8]).

9. The Vendor will provide assurance that it will comply with the storage and inventory requirements for donated foods (7 CFR, Section 250.53[a][9]).

10. The Vendor will maintain records to document its compliance with requirements relating to donated foods, in accordance with 7 CFR, Section 250.54(b).

**SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES**

SFA will be responsible for the following:
• Weekly ordering of the number of meals needed for each day of the following week.

• Condition and care of meals once accepted upon delivery.

• Service of meals to students.

• Maintenance of the premises, equipment and facilities where meals will be served, and will adhere to the highest standards of cleanliness and sanitary practices to ensure compliance with state and local health and sanitation requirements related to the food service program.

• Distribution and collection of applications, determining student eligibility, counting meals served in accordance with eligibility, consolidation of counts of meals served to students, and claiming of meals for reimbursement.

• Maintenance of records required to substantiate free and reduced-price meals.

• Payment of invoices to the vendor using net 30 terms.
  
  o Vendor must submit MONTHLY invoices
  
  o No payment will be made for meals that are spoiled or unwholesome at time of service, do not meet the specifications, or do not otherwise meet the requirement of the agreement. However, no deduction will be made unless SFA provides written notification of the meal service for which the deduction is to be made, specifying the number of meals for which we intend to deduct payment and setting forth the reasons for the deduction. SFA will provide such notice no later than three (3) business days after the date the meal was served.

PROPOSAL SPECIFICATIONS

Contract Period:
The contract period will be **July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024**, with the option to renew up to four (4) one-year contracts.

Proposals must include:
• Description of services including but not limited to the following:
  o Menu development rationale
  o Placing orders
  o Nutrition advocacy
  o Duration and extent of experience in the operation of school meal services
  o Additional services

• Cost per meal

• **Sample of Smart Snack list with pricing available to order**
• Sample **21-day cycle menu for breakfast, lunch, and snack** including nutritional information showing compliance with federal and state meal program requirements.

• **Completed USDA Menu Worksheet, menu, and meal production record for snack** using the week May 22-26, 2023. (The SFA will begin the snack application process after the bid has been awarded).

• A copy of current health certifications for the food service facility in which it prepares meals for the NSLP.

• Proof of liability insurance and proposed indemnity language

• Materials/supplies provided

• 3 professional references from schools in similar size and location currently operating the National School Lunch Program

• Sample daily meal transport and production record

Please include the following certifications in your proposal and contract; attached within this document:

• Certificate of Independent Price Determination

• Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Ineligibility

• Certification Regarding Lobbying

• Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

• Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment

• Buy American

*Overly responsive proposals will not be considered*
Term of Contract (must be included in final contract)

The contract will be for one school year with the possibility of renewal up to four years.

This contract may be extended by the SFA and the VENDOR under the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commissioner of Education; however, pursuant to federal regulations CFR Part 210.16 (d), the contract between a school food authority and food service management company shall be of a duration of no longer than (1) one year; with the option to renew/extend annually with a maximum of (4) four years. Such renewals/extensions shall be executed prior to termination of the preceding contract period and shall not extend the original contract period beyond five years.

The SFA or the VENDOR may terminate the contract, for cause, by giving sixty (60) days written notice, except: If the VENDOR makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, or if a receiver is appointed on account of bidders insolvency. If anticipated revenues or commodity assistance from federal and State reimbursements are reduced and the VENDOR submits in writing a proposal of recommended changes necessary to maintain program solvency yet the SFA repeatedly refuses or fails to take appropriate action to maintain program solvency within thirty (30) days of receipt of said notice, the VENDOR may, without prejudice and within seven (7) days written notice, terminate the contract.

The SFA or VENDOR may terminate the contract, for convenience, by giving sixty (60) days advance written notice to the other party. Such notice shall set forth with sufficient specificity such party's reasons for contemplating termination. A VENDOR facilitating the termination for convenience clause must provide adequate advance notice, to the SFA that would permit the SFA sufficient time to arrange alternate food service.

Neither the VENDOR nor the SFA shall be responsible for any losses resulting if the fulfillment of the terms of the contract shall be delayed or prevented by wars, acts of public enemies, strikes, fires, floods, acts of God, or for any acts not within the control of either the VENDOR or the SFA, respectively, and which by the exercise of due diligence it is unable to prevent.

Contract Cost Adjustment: The SFA may negotiate at the end of each one year contract period for a cost increase not to exceed the annual percentage increase of the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers for the preceding year, provided it has been satisfactorily established by the VENDOR that there has been at least an equivalent increase in the amount of its cost of operation during the period of the contract.

The VENDOR shall comply with the Buy American Provision, including but not limited to 7 CFR 210.21, 7 CFR Part 200, and 7 CFR Part 250 for contracts that involve the purchase of food. The SFA reserves the right to review VENDOR purchase records to ensure compliance with the Buy American provision. The VENDOR shall provide Nutrition Fact labels and any other documentation requested by the SFA to ensure compliance with Buy American.
Buy American (must be included in final contract)

Section 104(d) amended section 12 of the NSLA (42 U.S.C. 1760) to require SFAs participating in the NSLP and SBP to purchase for those programs, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodities or products. For purposes of this provision, the term "domestic food commodity or product" means agricultural commodities produced in the U.S. and food products processed in the U.S. substantially using agricultural commodities that are produced in the U.S. (over 51 percent of the processed food comes from American produced products). The VENDOR shall certify the percentage of U.S. content in the products supplied to the SFA. The SFA reserves the right to review vendor purchase records to ensure compliance with Buy American provision. The VENDOR shall comply with the Buy American provision for contracts that involved the purchase of food as required by Title 7 CFR, part 210.21(d).

Requirements:

The SFA participates in meal programs that require the use of nonprofit school food service funds, to the maximum extent practicable, to buy domestic commodities or products for Program meals. A ‘domestic commodity or product’ is defined as one that is either produced in the U.S. or is processed in the U. S. substantially (51 percent or more by weight or volume) using agricultural commodities that are produced in the U. S. as provided in 7 CFR, sections 210.21(d) and 220.16(d). The VENDOR must:

1. **Submit certification statements for all processed agricultural products.** The VENDOR must provide written documentation to the SFA at the time of delivery for each processed agricultural product certifying that the food product was processed 100 percent domestically and that the percentage of domestic content in the food component of the processed food product is over 51 percent, by weight or volume.

   OR:

2. **Request SFA approval prior to delivering a nondomestic agricultural commodity or product.** If the VENDOR cannot comply with #1 above, the VENDOR must notify the SFA in writing 10 days prior to delivering a nondomestic agricultural commodity or product. This written notification must include the following:

   a) Whether the request to deliver a nondomestic food is because the product is not produced or manufactured domestically in sufficient and reasonably available quantities of a satisfactory quality, or competitive bids reveal the costs of a domestic product are significantly higher than the nondomestic product

   b) The pricing of both domestic and nondomestic products and/or availability data to justify the use of one of the two allowable exceptions

   c) A list of alternative domestic substitutes for the SFA to consider for delivery instead of the nondomestic agricultural product
## PROPOSAL CRITERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Minimum Standard</th>
<th>Evidence/Documents Required to Demonstrate</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>K-12 Experience in National School Lunch Program</td>
<td>A minimum of five years in K-12 food service management - specifically National School Lunch and Breakfast Program</td>
<td>Documentation of experience as outlined in company history. Documentation of participation in audits. Indicate Y/N if FSMC was responsible or any fiscal action.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>References</td>
<td>Vendor must provide at least three local customer references; must have satisfactory rating of at least 80%</td>
<td>Documentation of all K-12 organizations vendor has had contracts with in the past five years with contact information</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Financial Conditions/Stability</td>
<td>Three years of profitable financial performance; no petitions for bankruptcy by contractor or principals of contractor</td>
<td>Provide copies of company financial statement for past three years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Taste Test</td>
<td>Vendor must complete the mandatory registration and provide the requested sample entrees outlined in Exhibit A</td>
<td>Entrée samples will be graded upon appearance, taste, quality, and focus on utilizing fresh and local ingredients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Delivery Plan</td>
<td>Vendor must be able to meet all food safety laws and deliver meals in the packaging, manner, frequency and time requested</td>
<td>Description and location of facility where meals will be cooked/prepared, detailed delivery and logistics plan, detailed packaging and method to serve meals. Must submit current health permit and most recent inspection report **ADD ENVIRON PACKAGING **MIN 3 DAYS OF DELIVERY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Customer Service</td>
<td>Vendor must have a robust customer service department including procedures for proactive communication, organization chart, late delivery policy, conflict resolution</td>
<td>Submit systems and procedures for client customer service, state all methods of communication, provide corrective action plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Menu Appeal</td>
<td>Vendor must submit the current month 21-day menu for all meals platforms requested, showing components and portion size</td>
<td>Menus will be graded upon variety and appeal; ability to meet SFA specific menu preferences **HOT FOOD PERFERABLY DAILY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Provide a cost per meal as shown in the fee proposal table</td>
<td>Vendors will be ranked according to cost</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Taste Test – Please see Exhibit A for the full taste test instruction outline and scorecard.
Fee Proposal

All costs are based on the average daily participation below with 180 operating days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Breakfast Avg/Meals per Day</th>
<th>Lunch Avg/Meals per Day</th>
<th>Snack Avg/Meals per Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TLC – Site 1</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Estimated - 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TLC – Site 2</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Estimated - 40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TLC is expected to hold a summer program between June 19 – July 20, 2023 with a projected order of 10 breakfasts per day. TLC Public Charter School will need the awarded Respondent to provide summer breakfasts starting Monday July 3, 2023.

Scenario A: Prepackaged Breakfast, Lunch, & Snack

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meal Type</th>
<th>Annual # of meals</th>
<th>Fee per Meal</th>
<th>Annual Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>16,920</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>19,260</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>10,800</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSO Breakfast</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>47,100</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scenario B: Prepackaged Breakfast and Snack

Bulk Lunch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meal Type</th>
<th>Annual # of meals</th>
<th>Fee per Meal</th>
<th>Annual Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>16,920</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
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<td>19,260</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>10,800</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSO Breakfast</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>47,110</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fees should include food cost, milk (2 types delivered daily), food supplies including but not limited to napkins, utensils, condiments, and trays, and marketing materials/signage.

Additional Pricing Requested:
- Rental of one full-size retherm oven (for TLC 2)
- Biodegradable or recyclable utensils / packaging
- Smart Snacks available to order through vendor

The SFA shall award the contract to the lowest Responsive and responsible bidder or bid/offer most advantageous to the program with price and other factors considered [2 CFR, Section 200.320(c)(2)(iv)].
Respondent References
List three references to which the Respondent has provided meal vendor services within the past 3 years. Failure to complete and return this Attachment will cause your proposal to be rejected.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference 1</th>
<th>Reference 2</th>
<th>Reference 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Reference</td>
<td>Name of Reference</td>
<td>Name of Reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Address</td>
<td>Street Address</td>
<td>Street Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Zip Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Person</td>
<td>Contact Title</td>
<td>Contact Phone Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brief Description of Services Provided</td>
<td>Dates of Service</td>
<td>Dates of Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Service</td>
<td>Date of Service</td>
<td>Date of Service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date of Service

Date of Service

Date of Service

Date of Service

Date of Service

Date of Service

Date of Service
In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (PDF), from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant’s name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
   Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
   1400 Independence Avenue, SW
   Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

2. fax: 833-256-1665 or 202-690-7442; or

3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
Certifications Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters

Applicants should refer to the regulations cited below to determine the certification to which they are required to attest. Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature of this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 7 CFR, Part 3018, “New Restrictions on Lobbying,” 7 CFR, Part 3017, “Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” and 7 CFR, Part 3021, “Government-wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants).” The certification shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the SFA determines to award the covered transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement.

1. LOBBYING

As required by Title 31, U.S. Code (31 U.S.C.) Section 1352, and implemented at 7 CFR, Part 3018, for a person entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over $100,000, as defined at 7 CFR, Section 3018.105, the applicant certifies that:

(a) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal grant or cooperative agreement;

(b) If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying,” in accordance with these instructions; and

(c) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subgrants, contracts under grants and cooperative agreements, and subcontracts) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.
## Disclosure Of Lobbying Activities and Instructions

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352

(See next page for public burden disclosure)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Type of Federal Action:</th>
<th>2. Status of Federal Action:</th>
<th>3. Report Type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. Grant</td>
<td>b. Initial Award</td>
<td>b. Material change</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Cooperative agreement</td>
<td>c. Post-Award</td>
<td>For Material Change Only:</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Loan</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year_________ Quarter_______</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Loan guarantee</td>
<td></td>
<td>Date of last report____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>f. Loan insurance</td>
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<tr>
<th>4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity:</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prime</th>
<th>Subawardee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tier, if known</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>5. If Reporting Entity in No. 4 is Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime:</th>
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<tr>
<th>Congressional District, if known:</th>
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<tr>
<th>6. Federal Department/Agency:</th>
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<tr>
<th>7. Federal Program Name/Description:</th>
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<tr>
<th>CFDA Number, if applicable:</th>
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<th>8. Federal Action Number, if known:</th>
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<tr>
<th>9. Award Amount, if known:</th>
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</table>
10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant  
   (if individual, last name, first name, MI):

11. Information requested through this form is authorized by Title 31  
   U.S.C. Section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a 
   material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by 
   the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This 
   disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information 
   will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available 
   for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required 
   disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 
   and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature:</th>
<th>Print Name:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Title:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone No:</td>
<td>Date:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Standard Form (SF—LLL (Rev. 7-97)}
Instructions for Completion of SF-LLL, Disclosure Of Lobbying Activities

This disclosure form shall be completed by the reporting entity, whether subawardee or prime federal recipient, at the initiation or receipt of a covered federal action, or a material change to a previous filing, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. Section 1352. The filing of a form is required for each payment or agreement to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered federal action. Complete all items that apply for both the initial filing and material change report. Refer to the implementing guidance published by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for additional information.

1. Identify the type of covered federal action for which lobbying activity is and/or has been secured to influence the outcome of a covered federal action.
2. Identify the status of the covered federal action.
3. Identify the appropriate classification of this report. If this is a follow-up report caused by a material change to the information previously reported, enter the year and quarter in which the change occurred. Enter the date of the last previously submitted report by this reporting entity for this covered federal action.
4. Enter the full name, address, city, state, and zip code of the reporting entity. Include Congressional District, if known. Check the appropriate classification of the reporting entity that designates if it is, or expects to be, a prime or subaward recipient. Identify the tier of the subawardee, e.g., the first subawardee of the prime is the first tier. Subawards include but are not limited to subcontracts, subgrants, and contract awards under grants.
5. If the organization filing the report in item 4 checks “Subawardee,” then enter the full name, address, city, state, and zip code of the prime federal recipient. Include Congressional District, if known.
6. Enter the name of the federal agency making the award or loan commitment. Include at least one organizational level below agency name, if known. For example, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.
7. Enter the federal program name or description for the covered federal action (Item 1). If known, enter the full Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and loan commitments.
8. Enter the most appropriate federal identifying number available for the federal action identified in item 1 (e.g., RFP number; Invitation for Bid (IFB) number; grant announcement number; the contract, grant, or loan award number; the application/proposal control number assigned by the federal agency). Include prefixes, e.g., “RFP-DE-90-001.”
9. For a covered federal action where there has been an award or loan commitment by the federal agency, enter the federal amount of the award/loan commitment for the prime entity identified in item 4 or 5.
10. (a) Enter the full name, address, city, state, and zip code of the lobbying registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 engaged by the reporting entity identified in item 4 to influence the covered federal action.
(b) Enter the full names of the individual(s) performing services, and include full address if different from 10(a). Enter last name, first name, and middle initial (MI).
11. The certifying official shall sign and date the form, print his/her name, title, and phone number.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is OMB No. 0348-0046. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0046), Washington, DC 20503.
Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters

As required by Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, and implemented at 7 CFR Section 3017.510, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions, as defined at 7 CFR Section 3017.200:

A. The contractor certifies that it and its principals:
   (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency;
   
   (b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
   
   (c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and
   
   (d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

B. Where the applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, he or she shall attach an explanation to this application.

________________________________________________________________________
Contractor/Company Name Award Number, Contract Number, or Project Name
________________________________________________________________________

Name(s) and Title(s) of Authorized Representatives

________________________________________________________________________
Name(s) and Title(s) of Authorized Representatives

________________________________________________________________________
Signature(s) Date

Certificate of Independent Price Determination

Both the SFA and VENDOR shall execute this Certificate of Independent Price Determination.

________________________________________________________________________
Name of VENDOR Name of SFA
A. By submission of this offer, the offeror (VENDOR) certifies and, in the case of a joint offer, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization that in connection with this procurement:

1. The prices in this offer have been arrived at independently—without consultation, communication, or agreement—for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other offeror or with any competitor;
2. Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in this offer have not been knowingly disclosed by the offeror and will not knowingly be disclosed by the offeror prior to opening the case of an advertised procurement, directly or indirectly to any other offeror or to any competitor; and
3. No attempt has been made or will be made by the offeror to induce any person or firm to submit, or not to submit, an offer for the purpose of restricting competition.

B. Each person signing this offer on behalf of the offeror certifies that:
1. He or she is the person in the offeror’s organization responsible within the organization for the decision as to the prices being offered herein and has not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to (A)(1) through (A)(3) above; or
2. He or she is not the person in the offeror’s organization responsible within the organization for the decision as to the prices being offered herein, but that he or she has been authorized in writing to act as agent for the persons responsible for such decision in certifying that such persons have not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to (A)(1) through (A)(3) above and as their agent does hereby so certify; and he or she has not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to (A)(1) through (A)(3) above.

To the best of my knowledge, this vendor and its affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, and employees are not currently under investigation by any governmental agency and have not in the last three years been convicted or found liable for any act prohibited by state or federal law in any jurisdiction, involving conspiracy or collusion with respect to bidding on any public contract, except as follows (provide detail):

_____________________________________________________________________________________________


Signature of VENDOR’s Authorized Representative


Title


Date


In accepting this offer, the SFA certifies that no representative of the SFA has taken any action that may have jeopardized the independence of the offer referred to above.


Signature of SFA’s Authorized Representative


Title


Date


Note: Accepting a Respondent’s offer does not constitute award of the contract.
BYRD ANTI-LOBBYING AMENDMENT CERTIFICATION
(To be submitted with each bid or offer exceeding $100,000)

The undersigned, [Company] ____________________________ certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying,” in accordance with its instructions.

3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by 31, U.S.C. § 1352 (as amended by the LobbyingDisclosure Act of 1995). Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

The Contractor, [Company] ____________________________, certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of each statement of its certification and disclosure, if any. In addition, the Contractor understands and agrees that the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 3801 et seq., apply to this certification and disclosure, if any.

__________________________
Signature of Contractor’s Authorized Official

__________________________
Name and Title of Contractor’s Authorized Official

Date __________