

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) RFP NO. 23-32840-001

NOTE: If you download this RFP from the Department of Commerce website, you are responsible for sending your name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number to the RFP Coordinator in order for your organization to receive any RFP amendments or bidder questions/agency answers.

PROJECT TITLE: Statewide Office for Behavioral Health Advocacy Program

PROPOSAL DUE: May 2, 2022 at 4:59 PM, Pacific Time, Olympia, WA

ESTIMATED TIME PERIOD FOR CONTRACT: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2031

PROPOSER ELIGIBILITY: This procurement is open to those private nonprofit proposers that satisfy the minimum qualifications stated herein such as a demonstrated financial stability, qualifications for a behavioral health consumer advocate ombuds, does not have any conflicts of interest that would interfere with the duties as ombuds, and are available for work in Washington State.

CONTENTS OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

BACKGROUND

Engrossed second substitute house bill 1086 titled Office of Behavioral Health Consumer Advocacy was signed into law in May 2021 and was codified into Revised Code of Washington 71.40 Office of Behavioral Health Consumer Advocacy. The bill amended the Revised Code of Washington 71.24.350 Behavioral Health Ombuds Office. At the time this RFP was drafted, Washington Administrative Code 182 (Health Care Authority) and WAC 246 (Department of Health) have not been updated.

Pursuant to HB1086 and RCW 71.40.030, the Department of Commerce shall use a competitive bidding process to select a private nonprofit to provide behavioral health consumer advocacy services to patients, residents, and clients of behavioral health providers and facilities by July 1, 2022. The selected organization must show (a) demonstrated financial stability and meets the qualifications for the duties identified in this statute, and (b) does not have any conflicts of interest that would interfere with the duties identified in the statute.

Pursuant to RCW 71.40.130 it is the intent of the legislature that:

(1) Regional behavioral health ombuds programs existing prior to chapter 202, Laws of 2021 be integrated into this new statewide program and the ombuds from those programs be assessed and certified by the contracting advocacy organization as behavioral health consumer advocates, and for the state office of behavioral health consumer advocacy to provide the regional behavioral health ombuds programs with any additional training they may need to meet the requirements of RCW 71.40.050;

(2) There shall be a behavioral health consumer advocate office within the boundaries of the region served by each behavioral health administrative services organization;

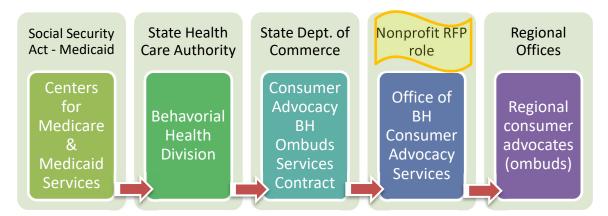
(3) Federal Medicaid requirements be complied with; and

(4) The department annually expend at least the amount expended on regional behavioral health ombuds services prior to July 25, 2021, on the office and for the procurement of services from the contracting advocacy organization under this chapter.

The Health Care Authority is designated as the single state Medicaid agency in Washington State. 42 CFR 431.10(e) states that "[t]he Medicaid agency may not delegate, to other than its own officials, the authority to supervise the plan or to develop or issue policies, rules, and regulations on program matters."

PURPOSE

Pursuant to RCW 39.26.120 titled Competitive solicitation, the Washington State Department of Commerce hereafter called "COMMERCE," is initiating this Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals from a private nonprofit organization interested in managing a program to provide behavioral health consumer advocacy / ombuds services statewide. The private nonprofit organization shall provide all program and staff support necessary to effectively protect the interests of residents, patients, and clients of behavioral health providers or facilities.



Per statute, the department must rename the office. Henceforth, it will be called the Office for Behavioral Health Advocacy (OBHA) and its employees / subcontractors will be known as Advocates.

COMMERCE intends to award one contract to provide the services described in this RFP.

1.2 OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

COMMERCE seeks to contract with a private nonprofit organization to provide behavioral health consumer advocacy services statewide.

The private nonprofit organization shall provide all program and staff support necessary to effectively protect the interests of residents, patients, and clients of behavioral health services, providers or facilities.

State behavioral health consumer advocacy services are provided in accordance with the provisions of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Code of Federal Regulations, Revised Code of Washington, Washington Administrative Code, and those federal or state statute or regulations that go into effect during the performance period of this solicitation and successive contracts.

The private nonprofit organization shall protect all Personal Information, records and data from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with 42 CFR §431.300 through §431.307, RCWs 70.02, 71.05, 71.34, in accordance with 42 CFR Part 2 and WAC 246-341. The private nonprofit organization shall have a process in place to ensure all components of its provider network and system understand and comply with confidentiality requirements for publicly funded behavioral health services. Pursuant to 42 CFR §431.301 and §431.302, personal information concerning applicants and recipients may be disclosed for purposes directly connected with the administration of this solicitation and the State Medicaid Plan.

The private nonprofit organization shall comport with all federal and state laws governing behavioral health consumer advocacy (Ombuds) services. Applicable laws and Regulations include, but are not limited to: Title XIX and Title XXI of the Social Security Act; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, regarding any education programs and activities; The Age Discrimination Act of 1975; The Rehabilitation Act of 2005; The Washington Medicaid False Claims Act and Federal False Claims Act (FCA); The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA); The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA); The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA or ACA); The Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act; The Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) and final rule; 21 C.F.R. Food and Drugs, Chapter 1 Subchapter C-Drugs-General; 42 C.F.R. Subchapter A, Part 2 – Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records; 42 C.F.R. Subchapter A, Part 8 – Certification of Opioid Treatment Programs; 45 C.F.R. 96 Block Grants; 45 C.F.R. 96.126 Capacity of Treatment for Intravenous Substance Abusers who Receive Services under Block Grant Funding; Chapter 70.02 RCW Medical Records – Health Care Information Access and Disclosure; Chapter 71.05 RCW Mental Illness; Chapter 71.24 RCW Community Mental Health Services Act; Chapter 71.34 RCW Mental Health Services for Minors; Chapter 246-341 WAC;

Chapter 388-810 WAC Administration of County Chemical Dependency Prevention Treatment and Support Programs: Chapter 43.20A RCW Department of Social and Health Services: Senate Bill 6312 (Chapter 225. Laws of 2014) State Purchasing of Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Treatment Services. Additionally, all federal and State professional and facility licensing and accreditation requirements/standards that apply to services performed, including but not limited to: All applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under Section 306 of the Clean Water Act (33 US 1368), Executive Order 11738, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regulations (40 C.F.R. Part 15), which prohibit the use of facilities included on the EPA List of Violating Facilities; Any violations with Federal Energy Policy and Conservation Act; Any applicable mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency that are contained in State Energy Conservation Plan, issued in compliance with the Federal Energy Policy and Conservation; Those specified in Title 18 RCW for professional licensing; Industrial Insurance – Title 51 RCW; Reporting of abuse as required by RCW 26.44.030; Federal Drug and Alcohol Confidentiality Laws in 42 C.F.R. Part 2; EEO Provisions; Copeland Anti-Kickback Act; Davis-Bacon Act: Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment: All Federal and State nondiscrimination laws and Regulations; American with Disabilities Act shall make reasonable accommodation for Individuals with disabilities, in accord with the Americans with Disabilities Act, for all Contracted services and shall assure physical and communication barriers shall not inhibit individuals with disabilities from obtaining contracted services; Any other requirements associated with the receipt of federal funds; Any services provided to an individual enrolled in Medicaid are subject to applicable Medicaid rules.

Either the Health Care Authority (as there is intergovernmental agreement funding involved) or COMMERCE may impose additional work objectives, tasks and duties than those cited herein.

The scope of work includes, but is not limited to the list below, and must be completed annually while assuring confidentiality and no conflict of interest.

- 1. Assist, investigate and advocate on behalf of Individuals, family members, and other interested parties while working to resolve any grievance regarding behavioral health services for service recipients. The Office for Behavioral Health Advocacy receives grievances from individuals, family members and other interested parties.
- 2. Identify, investigate, and resolve complaints and grievances that relate to actions, inactions, or decisions that may adversely affect the health, safety, welfare, or rights of residents, patients and clients but when necessary refer complaints to any appropriate state or local government agency;
- 3. Inform the residents, clients, patients, their representatives and others about their rights;
- 4. Ensure that residents, patients and clients and their representatives have regular and timely access to the services provided through the Office for Behavioral Health Advocacy and complainants receive timely responses from representatives of the program;
- 5. Represent the interests of residents, patients and clients before governmental agencies and seek administrative, legal, and other remedies to protect the health, safety, welfare, and rights of the residents, clients and patients including recommending changes in laws, regulations, policies, and actions that will further promote the interests, well-being and rights of residents, patients and clients;
- 6. Analyze, comment on, and monitor the development and implementation of federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and other governmental policies and actions, that pertain to the health, safety, welfare, and rights of the residents, patients and clients, with respect to behavioral health services and facilities in the state;
- 7. Establish procedures and certifications for the training and supervision of prospective regional ombuds, staff ombuds, and if applicable volunteer ombuds;
- 8. Assure that representative stakeholder advisory councils are established and maintained for the state and regional behavioral health consumer advocate programs;
- 9. Establish a grievance process for the receipt and review of grievances regarding the determinations or actions of any behavioral health consumer advocacy ombuds;
- 10. Establish a statewide uniform reporting system to collect and analyze data relating to complaints, grievances and conditions in behavioral health services and facilities for the purpose of identifying and resolving significant problems;
- 11. Use an ombuds / consumer advocates case management software platform protecting the confidentiality of these case records such that the office shall prepare, maintain, and retain,

accurate records, including appropriate medical records and administrative and financial records, in accordance with industry standards, applicable federal and state statutes and regulations, and state and federal sponsored health program requirements. Such records shall be maintained for the maximum period required by federal or state law;

12. Prepare ad hoc, annual, quarterly and monthly reports.

Reports		
Quarterly Report is to include statistics on the quality of services, complaints,		HCA and
	April 15, July	Commerce
facilities, and any recommendations for improved services for behavioral health	15, October 15	
consumers (RCW 71.40.040). The report may include		
 Cases, Complaints and Grievances Summary including resolutions, 		
 Complaint Type by Services / Provider / Facility Type, 		
 Complaint Examples, 		
 System Issues, 		
 Conflicts of Interest Organization, Staff and Volunteers plus Resolution, 		
• Retention of former local and regional Ombuds, ongoing retention rates,		
vacancies, recruitment efforts		
 Outreach Activities including visitations, materials dissemination and 		
education workshops provided,		
Program Activities,		
 Funds Expended (if pass through funding) 		
Annual Operating Plan – may include	July 31	Commerce
 Measurable objectives and outcomes, 		
Complaint resolution rates,		
 Advocacy and outreach goal achievements, 		
 Operational or endowment fundraising results, 		
Volunteer management, if applicable		
 Summary of last year's goals attainment 		
Annual audit	As completed	Commerce
Sub-grantee Monitor Reports	As completed	Commerce

1.3 MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Minimum qualifications include:

- Licensed to do business in the State of Washington or submit a statement of commitment that it will become licensed in Washington within thirty (30) calendar days of being selected as the Apparently Successful Contractor.
- Three years of experience delivering behavioral health based consumer advocacy services including but not limited to advocacy and supporting self-advocacy, dispute or problem resolution techniques, including investigation, mediation, and negotiation; and all applicable patient, resident, and client rights established by either state or federal law.
- Three years of experience with behavioral health services, providers and facilities and other related social services programs to include participation on local or regional behavioral health boards or committees, corresponding knowledge of local resources and cultural competence and lived experience with the behavioral health service system.
- Three years of demonstrated organizational financial stability.

Proposals that do not clearly meet or exceed all minimum qualifications listed above are non-responsive and will not be evaluated.

The above years of experience can be concurrent.

1.4 FUNDING

As of July 2021, the Health Care Authority (HCA) provides Ombuds quarterly trainings using \$75,000 in federal Mental Health Block Grant funds. After June 2022, these funds will be reimbursed to the Department of Commerce thru an inter-agency agreement for the Office to use to provide training to its staff and contractors.

Medicaid funding currently flows through managed care plans and HCA assumes no fiscal impact to the Medicaid funding, but that will be dependent on federal CMS approval.

As of July 2021, HCA contracts to ten regional Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organizations (BH-ASO) within the state. These BH-ASOs provide Ombuds services to non-Medicaid clients. HCA assumes that these state legislative appropriated funds will be provided directly to the new statewide entity for services to non-Medicaid clients.

Pursuant to the <u>enacted operating budget 21-23</u>, COMMERCE has a one-time \$ 661,200 in pass through funding from the state legislature for startup costs, the non-Medicaid clients and other office activities for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Future funding is dependent on state legislative appropriations and federal Medicaid formulas.

Commerce estimates the consumer advocacy / ombuds services consumed is \$2,000,000 per year for Medicaid clients and non-Medicaid clients combined.

Proposals in excess of \$3,000,000 per year will be considered non-responsive and will not be evaluated.

Any contract awarded as a result of this procurement is contingent upon the availability of funding. Future funding is not guaranteed but the performance of the behavioral health consumer advocacy must continue.

1.5 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance of any contract resulting from this RFP is tentatively scheduled to begin on or about July 1, 2022 and to end on June 30, 2031. Amendments extending the period of performance, if any, shall be at the sole discretion of COMMERCE.

COMMERCE reserves the right to extend the contract for two biennium (two-year) periods.

1.6 CONTRACTING WITH CURRENT OR FORMER STATE EMPLOYEES

Specific restrictions apply to contracting with current or former state employees pursuant to chapter 42.52 of the Revised Code of Washington. Proposers should familiarize themselves with the requirements prior to submitting a proposal that includes current or former state employees.

1.7 DEFINITIONS

Definitions for the purposes of this RFP include:

Apparent Successful Contractor/Bidder/Vendor/Grantee/Awardee: The proposer selected as the entity to perform the anticipated services, subject to completion of contract negotiations and execution of a written contract.

Contractor: Proposer(s) whose proposal has been accepted by COMMERCE and is awarded a fully executed, written contract. Also called Grantee, Awardee, Recipient, or Vendor.

COMMERCE or AGENCY: The Department of Commerce is the agency of the state of Washington that is issuing this RFP.

Proposal: A formal offer submitted in response to this solicitation.

Proposer: Individual, firm, organization, company, or other entity or group of entities that submits a proposal in order to attain a contract with COMMERCE.

Request for Proposals (RFP): Formal procurement document in which a service or need is identified but no specific method to achieve it has been chosen. The purpose of an RFP is to permit the proposer community to suggest various approaches to meet the need at or below a given funding level.

1.8 ADA

COMMERCE complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Proposers may contact the RFP Coordinator to receive this Request for Proposals in Braille or on tape.

2 GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PROPOSERSRFP COORDINATOR

The RFP Coordinator is the sole point of contact in COMMERCE for this procurement. All communication between the Proposer and COMMERCE upon release of this RFP shall be with the RFP Coordinator, as follows:

Name	Tammi Alexander
E-Mail Address	tammi.alexander@commerce.wa.gov

Any other communication will be considered unofficial and non-binding on COMMERCE. Proposers are to rely on written statements issued by the RFP Coordinator. *Communication directed to parties other than the RFP Coordinator may result in disqualification of the Proposer.*

2.2 ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES

Issue Request for Proposals	March 30
Question & answer period	April 13
Answers to Q&A posted no later than	April 18
Letters of Intent due	April 21
Proposals due	May 2
Evaluate proposals	May 19
Conduct oral interviews with finalists, if required	May 24
Announce "Apparent Successful Contractor" and send notification via e-mail to unsuccessful Proposers	May 27
Hold debriefing conferences (if requested)	May 31 – June 2
Negotiate contract	June 15
Begin contract work	July 1

COMMERCE reserves the right to revise the above schedule.

2.3 LETTER OF INTENT REQUIRED

A bidder's Letter of Intent must be received by the RFP Coordinator by the date specified in Section 2.2. **Proposals received by those who did not timely submit a Letter of Intent will be disqualified.**

Submitting a Letter of Intent is not binding and the submitter may choose not to propose without penalty.

Letters of Intent should be on organization letterhead and include the RFP number, a statement of intent to submit a proposal to this RFP, and identify the organization's contact person. Email the letter of intent to the RFP coordinator **no later than 4:59 pm, Pacific Time**, in Olympia, Washington, on *April 21, 2022*.

2.4 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

The proposal must be received by the RFP Coordinator **no later than 4:59 pm**, **Pacific Time**, in Olympia, Washington, on *May 2, 2022*.

Proposals must be submitted electronically as an attachment to an e-mail to the RFP Coordinator, at the e-mail address listed in Section 2.1. Attachments to e-mail shall be in Microsoft Word format or

PDF. Zipped files cannot be received by COMMERCE and cannot be used for submission of proposals. The cover submittal letter and the Certifications and Assurances form must have a scanned signature of the individual within the organization authorized to bind the Proposer to the offer. COMMERCE does not assume responsibility for problems with Proposer's e-mail. If COMMERCE email is not working, appropriate allowances will be made.

Proposals may not be transmitted using facsimile transmission.

Proposers should allow sufficient time to ensure timely receipt of the proposal by the RFP Coordinator. Late proposals will not be accepted and will be automatically disqualified from further consideration, unless COMMERCE e-mail is found to be at fault at COMMERCE'S sole determination. Requests for deadline extensions will not be granted. All proposals and any accompanying documentation become the property of COMMERCE and will not be returned.

2.5 PROPRIETARY INFORMATION AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Proposals submitted in response to this competitive procurement shall become the property of COMMERCE. All proposals received shall remain confidential until the Apparent Successful Contractor is announced; thereafter, the proposals shall be deemed public records as defined in Chapter 42.56 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

Any information in the proposal that the Proposer desires to claim as proprietary and exempt from disclosure under the provisions of Chapter 42.56 RCW, or other state or federal law that provides for the nondisclosure of your document, must be clearly designated. The information must be clearly identified and the particular exemption from disclosure upon which the Proposer is making the claim must be cited. Each page containing the information claimed to be exempt from disclosure must be clearly identified by the words "Proprietary Information" printed on the lower right hand corner of the page. Marking the entire proposal exempt from disclosure or as Proprietary Information will not be honored.

If a public records request is made for the information that the Proposer has marked as "Proprietary Information," COMMERCE will notify the Proposer of the request and of the date that the records will be released to the requester unless the Proposer obtains a court order enjoining that disclosure. If the Proposer fails to obtain the court order enjoining disclosure, COMMERCE will release the requested information on the date specified. If a Proposer obtains a court order from a court of competent jurisdiction enjoining disclosure pursuant to Chapter 42.56 RCW, or other state or federal law that provides for nondisclosure, COMMERCE shall maintain the confidentiality of the Proposer's information per the court order.

A charge will be made for copying and shipping, as outlined in RCW 42.56. No fee shall be charged for inspection of contract files, but twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the RFP Coordinator is required. All requests for information should be directed to the RFP Coordinator.

2.6 REVISIONS TO THE RFP

In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFP, addenda will be provided via e-mail to all individuals who have made the RFP Coordinator aware of their interest. Addenda will also be published on Washington's Electronic Bid System (WEBS). The website can be located at https://fortress.wa.gov/ga/webs/. For this purpose, the published questions and answers and any other pertinent information shall be provided as an addendum to the RFP and will be placed on the website. Such addenda will also be published on an Agency page, located at http://www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/current-opportunities/.

If you downloaded this RFP from the Agency website located at <u>www.commerce.wa.gov</u>, you are responsible for sending your name, e-mail address, and telephone number to the RFP Coordinator in order for your organization to receive any RFP addenda.

COMMERCE also reserves the right to cancel or to reissue the RFP in whole or in part, prior to execution of a contract.

2.7 DIVERSE BUSINESS INCLUSION PLAN

Proposers will be required to submit a Diverse Business Inclusion Plan with their proposal. In accordance with legislative findings and policies set forth in RCW 39.19, the state of Washington encourages participation in all contracts by firms certified by the office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE), set forth in RCW 43.60A.200 for firms certified by the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs, and set forth in RCW 39.26.005 for firms that are Washington Small Businesses. Participation may be either on a direct basis or on a subcontractor basis. However, no preference on the basis of participation is included in the evaluation of Diverse Business Inclusion Plans submitted, and no minimum level of minority- and women-owned business participation is required as a condition for receiving an award. Any affirmative action requirements set forth in any federal governmental rules included or referenced in the contract documents will apply.

COMMERCE has the following agency goals:

10% participation by Minority Owned Business 6% participation by Women Owned Business 5% participation by Veteran Owned Business 5% participation by Small Businesses

2.8 ACCEPTANCE PERIOD

Proposals must provide 60 days for acceptance by COMMERCE from the due date for receipt of proposals.

2.9 COMPLAINT PROCESS

Vendors may submit a complaint to COMMERCE based on any of following:

- a) The solicitation unnecessarily restricts competition;
- b) The solicitation evaluation or scoring process is unfair; or
- c) The solicitation requirements are inadequate or insufficient to prepare a response.

A complaint may be submitted to COMMERCE at any time prior to 5 days before the bid response deadline. The complaint must meet the following requirements:

- a) The complaint must be in writing;
- b) The complaint must be sent to the RFP coordinator in a timely manner;
- c) The complaint should clearly articulate the basis for the complaint; and
- d) The complaint should include a proposed remedy.

The RFP coordinator will respond to the complaint in writing. The response to the complaint and any changes to the solicitation will be posted on WEBS. The Director of COMMERCE will be notified of all complaints and will be provided a copy of COMMERCE'S response. The complaint may not be raised again during the protest period. COMMERCE'S action or inaction in response to the complaint will be final. There will be no appeal process.

2.10 RESPONSIVENESS

All proposals will be reviewed by the RFP Coordinator to determine compliance with administrative requirements and instructions specified in this RFP. The Proposer is specifically notified that failure to comply with any part of the RFP may result in disqualification of the proposal as incomplete and/or non-responsive.

Disqualified Proposers will be notified after the announcement of the Apparently Successful Contractor(s).

Disqualified Proposers will be afforded a Debriefing consistent with Section 4.5.

COMMERCE reserves the right at its sole discretion to waive minor administrative irregularities.

2.11 MOST FAVORABLE TERMS

COMMERCE reserves the right to make an award without further discussion of the proposal submitted. Therefore, the proposal should be submitted initially on the most favorable terms which the Proposer can propose. There will be no best and final offer procedure. COMMERCE reserves the right to contact a Proposer for clarification of its proposal.

The Apparent Successful Contractor should be prepared to accept this RFP for incorporation into a contract resulting from this RFP. Contract negotiations may incorporate some, or all, of the Proposer's proposal. It is understood that the proposal will become a part of the official procurement file on this matter without obligation to COMMERCE.

2.12 CONTRACT GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

The apparent successful contractor will be expected to enter into a contract which is substantially the same as the sample contract and its general terms and conditions attached as Exhibit D. This sample contract is for information and review only and should not be returned with your proposal. In no event is a Proposer to submit its own standard contract terms and conditions in response to this solicitation. The Proposer may submit exceptions as allowed in the Certifications and Assurances form, Exhibit A to this solicitation. All exceptions to the contract terms and conditions must be submitted as an attachment to Exhibit A, Certifications and Assurances form. COMMERCE will review requested exceptions and accept or reject the same at its sole discretion.

2.13 COSTS TO PROPOSE

COMMERCE will not be liable for any costs incurred by the Proposer in preparation of a proposal submitted in response to this RFP, travel to or conduct of a presentation, or any other activities related to responding to this RFP.

2.14 NO OBLIGATION TO CONTRACT

This RFP does not obligate the state of Washington or COMMERCE to contract for services specified herein.

2.15 REJECTION OF PROPOSALS

COMMERCE reserves the right at its sole discretion to reject any and all proposals received without penalty and not to issue a contract as a result of this RFP.

2.16 COMMITMENT OF FUNDS

The Director of COMMERCE or delegate is the only individual who may legally commit COMMERCE to the expenditures of funds for a contract resulting from this RFP. No cost chargeable to the proposed contract may be incurred before receipt of a fully executed contract.

2.17 ELECTRONIC PAYMENT

The state of Washington prefers to utilize electronic payment in its transactions. The successful contractor will be provided a form to complete with the contract to authorize such payment method.

2.18 INSURANCE COVERAGE

The Contractor is to furnish COMMERCE with a certificate(s) of insurance executed by a duly authorized representative of each insurer, showing compliance with the insurance requirements set forth within the contract.

The Contractor shall, at its own expense, obtain and keep in force insurance coverage which shall be maintained in full force and effect during the term of the contract. The Contractor shall furnish evidence in the form of a Certificate of Insurance that insurance shall be provided, and a copy shall be forwarded to COMMERCE within fifteen (15) days of the contract effective date. Standard insurance requirements are included within the sample contract and its special terms and conditions attached as Exhibit D.

3. PROPOSAL CONTENTS

Proposals must be written in English and submitted electronically via email to the RFP Coordinator in the order noted below:

- 1. Letter of Submittal
- 2. Certifications and Assurances (Exhibit A to this RFP)
- 3. Technical Proposal
- 4. Management Proposal
- 5. Cost Proposal
- 6. Diverse Business Inclusion Plan (Exhibit B to this RFP)
- 7. Workers' Rights Certification (Exhibit C to this RFP)

Proposals must provide information in the same order as presented in this document with the same headings. This will not only be helpful to the evaluators of the proposal, but should assist the Proposer in preparing a thorough response.

The technical proposal and management proposal combined page count must not exceed 80 pages in length using typical font sizes, margins and formatting for business correspondence.

Items marked "mandatory" must be included as part of the proposal for the proposal to be considered responsive, however, these items are not scored. Items marked "scored" are those that are awarded points as part of the evaluation conducted by the evaluation team.

3 PROPOSAL CONTENTSLETTER OF SUBMITTAL AND CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES (MANDATORY)

The Letter of Submittal and the attached Certifications and Assurances form (Exhibit A to this RFP) must be signed and dated by a person authorized to legally bind the Proposer to a contractual relationship, e.g., the President or Executive Director if a corporation, the managing partner if a partnership, or the proprietor if a sole proprietorship.

Along with introductory remarks, the Letter of Submittal is to include by attachment the following information about the Proposer and any proposed subcontractors:

- **A.** Name, address, principal place of business, telephone number, and fax number/e-mail address of legal entity or individual with whom contract would be written.
- **B.** Name, address, and telephone number of each principal officer (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, etc.)
- **C.** Legal status of the Proposer (sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, etc.) and the year the entity was organized to do business as the entity now substantially exists.
- **D.** Federal Employer Tax Identification number or Social Security number and the Washington Uniform Business Identification (UBI) number issued by the state of Washington Department of Revenue. If the Proposer does not have a UBI number, the Proposer must state that it will become licensed in Washington within thirty (30) calendar days of being selected as the Apparently Successful Contractor.
- **E.** Location from which the Proposer would operate.
- F. Identify any state employees or former state employees employed or on the firm's governing board as of the date of the proposal. Include their position and responsibilities within the Proposer's organization. If following a review of this information, it is determined by COMMERCE that a conflict of interest exists, the Proposer may be disqualified from further consideration.

3.2 TECHNICAL PROPOSAL (SCORED)

The Technical Proposal must contain a comprehensive description of services including the following elements:

- **A. Program Approach/Methodology**: Describe your organization's planned program approach/methodology to the scope of work listed in Section 1.2. This section should convey Proposer's understanding of the proposed program.
- **B.** Work Plan: Describe how your organization will complete the scope of work listed in Section 1.2. This section must contain sufficient detail to convey to members of the evaluation team the Proposer's knowledge of the topics and skills necessary to successfully administer the program. Include a program schedule indicating when the elements of the work will be completed. Include any required involvement of COMMERCE staff. The Proposer may also present any creative approaches that might be appropriate and may provide any pertinent supporting documentation.
- **C. Project Schedule**: Include a project schedule indicating when the elements of the work will be completed. Project schedule must ensure that any deliverables requested are met.
- **D.** Outcomes and Performance Measurement: Describe the impacts/outcomes the Proposers propose to achieve as a result of the delivery of these services including how these outcomes would be monitored, measured and reported to the state agency.
- **E. Risks:** The Proposer must identify potential risks that are considered significant to the success of the program. Include how the Proposer would propose to effectively monitor and manage these risks, including reporting of risks to the COMMERCE contract manager.
- **F. Deliverables**: Fully describe deliverables to be submitted under the proposed contract. Deliverables must support the requirements set forth in Section 1.2, Objectives and Scope of Work. Include how these outcomes would be monitored, measured and reported to the state agency.
- **G.** Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Describe how your organization currently integrates the values of DEI into the delivery of services and the composition of your organization.

3.3 MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

A. Program Management (SCORED)

- 1. **Program Team Structure and Internal Controls**: Provide a description of the proposed program team structure and internal controls to be used during the course of the program including any subcontractors. Provide an organizational chart of your firm indicating lines of authority for personnel involved in performance of this potential contract and relationships of this staff to other programs or functions of the firm. This chart must also show lines of authority to the next senior level of management. Include who within the firm will have prime responsibility and final authority for the work. Demonstrate the organization's financial stability. This could include, but is not limited to, providing copies of financial audits, balance sheets, income statements, letters of credit, debt ratio calculations, etc. to show the proposer's financial health compared to industry standards.
- 2. **Staff Qualifications and Experience**: Identify staff, including subcontractors, who will be assigned to the potential contract, indicating the responsibilities and qualifications of such personnel, and include the amount of time each will be assigned to the project. Provide resumes for the named staff, which include information on the individual's particular skills related to this project, education, experience, significant accomplishments and any other pertinent information. The Proposer must commit that staff identified in its proposal will actually perform the assigned work. Any staff substitution must have the prior approval of

the AGENCY. Show staff experience with behavioral health services, providers and facilities and other related social services programs to include participation on local or regional behavioral health boards or committees, corresponding knowledge of local resources and cultural competence and lived experience with the behavioral health service system

3. State Office Characteristics: Discuss how the statewide office will incorporate lived experience for its consumer advocates / subcontractors, its criteria to determine whether to retain current regional and local consumer advocates / ombuds as employees / subcontractors or not, its plan to sustain participation by geographically local consumer advocates on local / regional committees and boards related to behavioral health, demonstrate culturally competent communications and outreach materials in its execution of its services, continue to provide educational forums to staff, clients, providers and constituents, sustain and enhance visitations to facilities and providers, continue the open door philosophy including warm handoffs to constituents querying for assistance or information, and how it will ensure knowledge of the local resources and its currency for its employees / subcontractors should it not retain the current local ombuds.

B. Experience of the Proposer (SCORED)

- 1. Describe the experience the Proposer and any subcontractors have in the following areas:
 - a. Does your organization have three years of experience delivering consumer advocacy services? Describe.
 - b. Does your organization have three years of experience with behavioral health care and substance use disorder providers, services and facilities? Describe.
 - c. Does your organization have three years of experience with Behavioral Health and Recovery services? Describe.
- 2. Indicate other relevant experience that indicates the qualifications of the Proposer, and any subcontractors, for the performance of the potential contract.
- 3. Include a list of contracts the Proposer has had during the last five years that relate to the Proposer's ability to perform the services needed under this RFP. List contract reference numbers, contract period of performance, contact persons, telephone numbers, and fax numbers/e-mail addresses.

C. Related Information (MANDATORY)

- 1. If the Proposer or any subcontractor contracted with the state of Washington during the past 24 months, indicate the name of the agency, the contract number and project description and/or other information available to identify the contract.
- If the Proposer's staff or subcontractor's staff was an employee of the state of Washington during the past 24 months, or is currently a Washington State employee, identify the individual by name, the agency previously or currently employed by, job title or position held and separation date.
- 3. If the Proposer has had a contract terminated for default in the last five years, describe such incident. Termination for default is defined as notice to stop performance due to the Proposer's non-performance or poor performance and the issue of performance was either (a) not litigated due to inaction on the part of the Proposer, or (b) litigated and such litigation determined that the Proposer was in default.
- 4. Submit full details of the terms for default including the other party's name, address, and phone number. Present the Proposer's position on the matter. COMMERCE will evaluate the facts and may, at its sole discretion, reject the proposal on the grounds of the past experience. If no such termination for default has been experienced by the Proposer in the past five years, so indicate.

D. References (MANDATORY)

List names, addresses, telephone numbers, and fax numbers/e-mail addresses of three (3) business references for the Proposer and three (3) business references for the lead staff person for whom work has been accomplished (totaling six references) and briefly describe the type of service provided. Do not include current COMMERCE staff as references. By submitting a proposal the Proposer and any partners or agents authorize COMMERCE to contact these references and others, who from COMMERCE'S perspective, may have pertinent information. COMMERCE may or may not, at COMMERCE'S discretion, contact references. COMMERCE may evaluate references at COMMERCE'S discretion.

E. OMWBE Certification (OPTIONAL AND NOT SCORED)

Include proof of certification issued by the Washington State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE) if certified minority-, women-, or veteran-owned firm(s) will be participating on this project. For more information please visit: <u>http://www.omwbe.wa.gov</u>.

3.4 COST PROPOSAL

The maximum fee for this contract must not exceed the amount specified in section 1.4 to be considered responsive to this RFP.

The evaluation process is designed to award this procurement not necessarily to the Proposer of least cost, but rather to the Proposer whose proposal best meets the requirements of this RFP. However, Proposers are encouraged to submit proposals which are consistent with state government efforts to conserve resources.

A. Identification of Costs (SCORED)

Identify all costs in U.S. dollars including expenses to be charged for performing the services necessary to accomplish the objectives of the contract. The Proposer is to submit a fully detailed budget including staff costs and any expenses necessary to accomplish the tasks and to produce the deliverables under the contract. Proposers are required to collect and pay Washington state sales and use taxes, as applicable.

Costs for subcontractors are to be broken out separately. Please note if any subcontractors are certified by the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises.

B. Computation

The score for the cost proposal will be computed by dividing the lowest cost bid received by the Proposer's total cost proposal and multiply the result against the cost proposal points possible (10 points).

 $x = \frac{\text{Lowest Cost Bid Received}}{\text{Consultant's Cost Proposal}}$

Cost Computation = (x) (Cost Proposal Points Possible)

4 EVALUATION AND CONTRACT AWARDEVALUATION PROCEDURE

Responsive proposals will be evaluated strictly in accordance with the requirements stated in this solicitation and any addenda issued. The evaluation of proposals shall be accomplished by an evaluation team(s), to be designated by COMMERCE, which will determine the ranking of the proposals.

COMMERCE, at its sole discretion, may elect to invite the top-scoring Proposers as finalists for an oral presentation.

The RFP Coordinator may contact the Proposer for clarification of any portion of the Proposer's proposal. Proposers are not permitted to submit, or resubmit, any materials of any kind after the date and time stated in section 2.5 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS.

4.2 EVALUATION BREAKDOWN

The following weighting will be assigned to the proposal for evaluation purposes:

 Technical Proposal – 72% Program Approach/Methodology (10 points) Work Plan (20 points) Risks (20 points) Deliverables (12 points) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (10 points) 	72 points
 Management Proposal – 18% Program Team Structure and Internal Controls (6 points) Staff Qualifications and Experience (6 points) State Office Characteristics (6 points) 	18 points
Cost Proposal – 10% The cost is computed in accordance with section 3.4(B) and the result is then added to the combined score for the Technical and Management Proposals.	10 points
Workers' Rights Certification – Those firms which certify they do not require their employees to sign an individual arbitration clause as a condition of employment will receive an extra 3% added to their cost proposal score. Provide electronic copy of signed Attachment C to receive bonus.	1 point bonus (maximum bonus)
Diverse Business Ownership Certification - Those firms certified by the office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE) will receive an extra 2% added to their cost proposal score and those firms certified by the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs will receive an extra 2% added to their cost proposal score. Provide electronic copies of certifications to receive bonus.	
Lived Experience - Those firms employing or subcontracting persons with behavioral health lived experience pursuant to WAC 182-538D-262 will receive an extra 3% added to their cost proposal score. Please provide electronic copies of any attestations of the lived experience qualifications to receive bonus.	

COMMERCE reserves the right to award the contract to the **Proposer** whose proposal is deemed to be in the best interest of COMMERCE and the state of Washington.

4.3 ORAL PRESENTATIONS MAY BE REQUIRED

After evaluating the written proposals COMMERCE may elect to schedule oral presentations of the finalists. Should oral presentations become necessary, COMMERCE will contact the top-scoring firm(s) from the written evaluation to schedule a date, time, and location. Commitments made by the Proposer at the oral interview, if any, will be considered binding.

The scores from the written evaluation and the oral presentation combined together will determine the Apparent Successful Contractor.

4.4 NOTIFICATION TO PROPOSERS

COMMERCE will notify the Apparent Successful Bidder of their selection in writing upon completion of the evaluation process. Proposers whose proposals were not selected for further negotiation or award will be notified separately by e-mail.

4.5 DEBRIEFING OF UNSUCCESSFUL PROPOSERS

Any Proposer who has submitted a proposal and received been notified that they were not selected for contract award may request a debriefing. The request for a debriefing conference must be received by the RFP Coordinator within three (3) business days after the Unsuccessful Proposer Notification is e-mailed or faxed to the Proposer. Debriefing requests must be received by the RFP Coordinator no later than 5:00 PM, local time, in Olympia, Washington, on the third business day following the transmittal of the Unsuccessful Proposer Notification. The debriefing must be scheduled within three (3) business days of the request.

Discussion at the debriefing conference is strictly limited to the following:

- Evaluation and scoring of that Proposer's proposal;
- Any written comments from evaluators;
- Review of proposer's final score in comparison with the other final scores *without* identifying the other Proposers or reviewing their proposals.

Comparisons between proposals or evaluations of the other proposals will not be allowed.

Debriefing conferences may be conducted in person or on the telephone or by other electronic means and will be scheduled for a maximum of thirty (30) minutes.

4.6 **PROTEST PROCEDURE**

Protests may be made only by Proposers who submitted a response to this solicitation document and who have participated in a debriefing conference. Upon completing the debriefing conference, the Proposer is allowed five (5) business days to file a protest of the acquisition with the RFP Coordinator. Protests must be received by the RFP Coordinator no later than 5:00 PM, local time, in Olympia, Washington on the fifth business day following the debriefing. Protests must be submitted by email or facsimile, but must then be followed by the document with an original signature.

Proposers protesting this procurement shall follow the procedures described below. Protests that do not follow these procedures shall not be considered. This protest procedure constitutes the sole administrative remedy available to Proposers under this procurement.

All protests must be in writing, addressed to the RFP Coordinator, and signed by the protesting party or an authorized Agent. The protest must state the RFP number, the grounds for the protest from the list below with specific facts and complete statements of the action(s) being protested. A description of the relief or corrective action being requested should also be included.

Only protests stipulating an issue of fact concerning the following subjects shall be considered:

- A matter of bias, discrimination, or conflict of interest on the part of an evaluator;
- Errors in computing the score;

Non-compliance with procedures described in this procurement document or COMMERCE policy.

Protests not based on procedural matters will not be considered. Protests will be rejected as without merit if they address issues such as: 1) an evaluator's professional judgment on the quality of a proposal, or 2) COMMERCE'S assessment of its own and/or other agencies needs or requirements.

Upon receipt of a protest, a protest review will be held by COMMERCE. The COMMERCE Director or an employee delegated by the Director who was not involved in the procurement will consider the record and all available facts and issue a decision within ten (10) business days of receipt of the protest. If additional time is required, the protesting party will be notified of the delay.

In the event a protest may affect the interest of another Proposer that also submitted a proposal, such Proposer will be given an opportunity to submit its views and any relevant information on the protest to the RFP Coordinator.

The final determination of the protest shall:

- Find the protest lacking in merit and uphold COMMERCE'S action; or
- Find only technical or harmless errors in COMMERCE'S acquisition process and determine COMMERCE to be in substantial compliance and reject the protest; or
- Find merit in the protest and provide COMMERCE options which may include:
 - o Correct the errors and re-evaluate all proposals, and/or
 - o Reissue the solicitation document and begin a new process, or
 - $_{\odot}$ Make other findings and determine other courses of action as appropriate.

If COMMERCE determines that the protest is without merit, COMMERCE will enter into a contract with the Apparent Successful Contractor(s).apparently successful contractor. If the protest is determined to have merit, one of the alternatives noted in the preceding paragraph will be taken.

5. RFP EXHIBITS

- Exhibit A Certifications and Assurances
- Exhibit B Diverse Business Inclusion Plan
- Exhibit C Workers' Rights Certification
- Exhibit D Service Contract with General Terms and Conditions

CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES

I/we make the following certifications and assurances as a required element of the proposal to which it is attached, understanding that the truthfulness of the facts affirmed here and the continuing compliance with these requirements are conditions precedent to the award or continuation of the related contract:

- 1. I/we declare that all answers and statements made in the proposal are true and correct.
- 2. The prices and/or cost data have been determined independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement with others for the purpose of restricting competition. However, I/we may freely join with other persons or organizations for the purpose of presenting a single proposal.
- 3. The attached proposal is a firm offer for a period of 60 days following receipt, and it may be accepted by COMMERCE without further negotiation (except where obviously required by lack of certainty in key terms) at any time within the 60-day period.
- 4. In preparing this proposal, I/we have not been assisted by any current or former employee of the state of Washington whose duties relate (or did relate) to this proposal or prospective contract, and who was assisting in other than his or her official, public capacity. If there are exceptions to these assurances, I/we have described them in full detail on a separate page attached to this document.
- 5. I/we understand that COMMERCE will not reimburse me/us for any costs incurred in the preparation of this proposal. All proposals become the property of COMMERCE, and I/we claim no proprietary right to the ideas, writings, items, or samples, unless so stated in this proposal.
- 6. Unless otherwise required by law, the prices and/or cost data which have been submitted have not been knowingly disclosed by the Proposer and will not be knowingly disclosed by him/her prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other Proposer or to any competitor.
- 7. I/we agree that submission of the attached proposal constitutes acceptance of the solicitation contents and the attached sample contract and general terms and conditions. If there are any exceptions to these terms, I/we have described those exceptions in detail on a page attached to this document.
- 8. No attempt has been made or will be made by the Proposer to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition.
- 9. I/we grant COMMERCE the right to contact references and others who may have pertinent information regarding the ability of the Proposer and the lead staff person to perform the services contemplated by this RFP.
- 10. If any staff member(s) who will perform work on this contract has retired from the State of Washington under the provisions of the 2008 Early Retirement Factors legislation, his/her name(s) is noted on a separately attached page.
- 11. I/we are not debarred from doing business with the state of Washington or the United States.

We (check one):

- □ **are** submitting proposed Contract exceptions. (See Section 2.12, Contract and General Terms and Conditions.) If Contract exceptions are being submitted, I/we have attached them to this form.
- □ **are not** submitting proposed Contract exceptions (*default if neither are checked*).

On behalf of the Proposer submitting this proposal, my signature below attests to the accuracy of the above statement as well as my authority to bind the submitting organization.

Signature of Proposer

Date

EXHIBIT B

DIVERSE BUSINESS INCLUSION PLAN

Do you anticipate using, or is your organization, a State Certified Minority Business?	Yes No
Do you anticipate using, or is your organization, a State Certified Women's Business?	Y/N □ □
Do you anticipate using, or is your organization, a State Certified Veteran Business? Y/N	Y/N □ □
Do you anticipate using, or is your organization, a Washington State Small Business? Y/N	

If you answered No to all of the questions above, please explain:

Please list the approximate percentage of work to be accomplished by each group:

Minority	%
Women	%
Veteran	%
Small Business	%

Please identify the person in your organization who will manage your Diverse Inclusion Plan responsibility:

Name:	
Phone:	
E-Mail:	

CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION EXECUTIVE ORDER 18-03 – WORKERS' RIGHTS WASHINGTON STATE GOODS & SERVICES CONTRACTS

Pursuant to the Washington State Governor's Executive Order 18-03 (dated June 12, 2018), the Washington State Department of Commerce is seeking to contract with qualified entities and business owners who certify that their employees are not, as a condition of employment, subject to mandatory individual arbitration clauses and class or collective action waivers.

Solicitation No.: 23-32840-001

I hereby certify, on behalf of the organization identified below, as follows (check one):

□ NO MANDATORY INDIVIDUAL ARBITRATION CLAUSES AND CLASS OR COLLECTIVE ACTION WAIVERS FOR EMPLOYEES. This organization does <u>NOT</u> require its employees, as a condition of employment, to sign or agree to mandatory individual arbitration clauses or class or collective action waivers.

OR

□ MANDATORY INDIVIDUAL ARBITRATION CLAUSES AND CLASS OR COLLECTIVE ACTION WAIVERS FOR EMPLOYEES. This organization requires its employees, as a condition of employment, to sign or agree to mandatory individual arbitration clauses or class or collective action waivers.

OR

□ This organization certifies it has no employees.

I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the certifications herein are true and correct and that I am authorized to make these certifications on behalf of the organization listed herein.

ME:	Print full legal entity name of orga	anization	
:	Signature of authorized person	Printed N	lame
e:	Title of person signing certificate	Place:	Print city and state where signed
e:			

Return to Procurement Coordinator as part of your complete response.

EXHIBIT D

Services Contract with

<Individual or contractor organization here>

through

<Name of COMMERCE program issuing/administering contract here>

For

<List project title, if applicable, and/or describe the primary purpose for the funding or the intended outcome/deliverables in approx. 25 words or less>

Start date: <Month> <Day>, <Year>

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Attachment A, Scope of Work

Attachment B, Budget

FACE SHEET

Washington State Department of Commerce <Select Division, Board, or Commission> <Insert Unit or Office> <Insert Program(s) and/or Project(s)>

1. Contractor Doing Business As (optional)					ional)
<pre><insert legal="" name=""> <insert address="" mailing=""> <insert address="" physical=""> <insert location=""></insert></insert></insert></insert></pre>	Insert legal name> <insert dba="" name=""> Insert mailing address> <insert address="" dba="" mailing=""> Insert physical address> <insert address="" dba="" physical=""></insert></insert></insert>				
3. Contractor Representati	ve	4. COMMERCI	E Representativ	ve	
<insert name=""> <insert title=""> <insert phone=""> <insert fax=""> <insert e-mail=""></insert></insert></insert></insert></insert>		<insert name=""> <insert title=""> <insert phone=""> <insert fax=""> <insert e-mail=""></insert></insert></insert></insert></insert>		<insert address="" mailing=""> <insert address="" physical=""> <insert location=""></insert></insert></insert>	
5. Contract Amount	6. Funding Source		7. Start Date		8. End Date
<insert \$="" amount=""></insert>	Federal: State: Other:	□ N/A: □	<insert date=""></insert>		<insert date=""></insert>
9. Federal Funds (as appli	cable)		CFDA Nu	umber	
<insert \$="" amount=""></insert>	Federal Agency:		<insert n<="" td=""><td>umber></td><td></td></insert>	umber>	
10 - 15 <i>1</i>	<insert name=""></insert>				
10. Tax ID #	11. SWV #	12. UBI #		13. DUNS #	
<insert number=""></insert>	<insert number=""></insert>	<insert number=""></insert>		<insert number=""></insert>	
14. Contract Purpose					
<briefly contract<="" describe="" td=""><td>purpose></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></briefly>	purpose>				
COMMERCE, defined as the Department of Commerce, and the Contractor, as defined above, acknowledge and accept the terms of this Contract and attachments and have executed this Contract on the date below to start as of the date and year referenced above. The rights and obligations of both parties to this Contract are governed by this Contract and the following other documents incorporated by reference: Contractor Terms and Conditions including Attachment "A" - <insert title="">, Attachment "B" - <insert title="">, Attachment "C" - <insert title="">, <etc.></etc.></insert></insert></insert>					start as of the date and by this Contract and the
FOR CONTRACTOR		FOR COMMERCE			
<insert name="">, <insert title=""></insert></insert>		<insert name="">, <insert title=""></insert></insert>			
Date		Date			
		APPROVED AS BY ASSISTAN APPROVAL OI	T ATTORNEY	-	RAL

Last revision 10/13/2020

1. <u>CONTRACT MANAGEMENT</u>

The Representative for each of the parties shall be responsible for and shall be the contact person for all communications and billings regarding the performance of this Contract.

The Representative for COMMERCE and their contact information are identified on the Face Sheet of this Contract.

The Representative for the Contractor and their contact information are identified on the Face Sheet of this Contract.

2. <u>COMPENSATION</u>

COMMERCE shall pay an amount not to exceed \$ for the performance of all things necessary for or incidental to the performance of work as set forth in the Scope of Work. Contractor's compensation for services rendered shall be based on the following rates or in accordance with the following terms:

EXPENSES

Contractor shall receive reimbursement for travel and other expenses as identified below or as authorized in advance by COMMERCE as reimbursable. The maximum amount to be paid to the Contractor for authorized expenses shall not exceed \$, which amount is included in the Contract total above.

Such expenses may include airfare (economy or coach class only), other transportation expenses, and lodging and subsistence necessary during periods of required travel. Contractor shall receive compensation for travel expenses at current state travel reimbursement rates.

3. BILLING PROCEDURES AND PAYMENT

COMMERCE will pay Contractor upon acceptance of services provided and receipt of properly completed invoices, which shall be submitted to the Representative for COMMERCE [not more often than monthly.]

The invoices shall describe and document, to COMMERCE's satisfaction, a description of the work performed, the progress of the project, and fees. The invoice shall include the Contract Number . If expenses are invoiced, provide a detailed breakdown of each type. A receipt must accompany any single expenses in the amount of \$50.00 or more in order to receive reimbursement.

Payment shall be considered timely if made by COMMERCE within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of properly completed invoices. Payment shall be sent to the address designated by the Contractor.

COMMERCE may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Contract or withhold payments claimed by the Contractor for services rendered if the Contractor fails to satisfactorily comply with any term or condition of this Contract.

No payments in advance or in anticipation of services or supplies to be provided under this Agreement shall be made by COMMERCE.

Invoices and End of Fiscal Year

Invoices are due on the 20th of the month following the provision of services.

Final invoices for a state fiscal year may be due sooner than the 20th and Commerce will provide notification of the end of fiscal year due date.

The grantee must invoice for all expenses from the beginning of the contract through June 30, regardless of the contract start and end date.

Duplication of Billed Costs

The Contractor shall not bill COMMERCE for services performed under this Agreement, and COMMERCE shall not pay the Contractor, if the Contractor is entitled to payment or has been or will be paid by any other source, including grants, for that service.

Disallowed Costs

The Contractor is responsible for any audit exceptions or disallowed costs incurred by its own organization or that of its subcontractors.

COMMERCE may, in its sole discretion, withhold ten percent (10%) from each payment until acceptance by COMMERCE of the final report or completion of the project.

4. SUBCONTRACTOR DATA COLLECTION

Contractor will submit reports, in a form and format to be provided by Commerce and at intervals as agreed by the parties, regarding work under this Contract performed by subcontractors and the portion of Contract funds expended for work performed by subcontractors, including but not necessarily limited to minority-owned, woman-owned, and veteran-owned business subcontractors. "Subcontractors" shall mean subcontractors of any tier.

5. INSURANCE

The Contractor shall provide insurance coverage as set out in this section. The intent of the required insurance is to protect the state should there be any claims, suits, actions, costs, damages or expenses arising from any loss, or negligent or intentional act or omission of the Contractor or Subcontractor, or agents of either, while performing under the terms of this Contract. Failure to maintain the required insurance coverage may result in termination of this Contract.

The insurance required shall be issued by an insurance company authorized to do business within the state of Washington. Except for Professional Liability or Errors and Omissions Insurance, the insurance shall name the state of Washington, its agents, officers, and employees as additional insureds under the insurance policy. All policies shall be primary to any other valid and collectable insurance. The Contractor shall provide COMMERCE thirty (30) calendar days' advance notice of any insurance cancellation, non-renewal or modification.

The Contractor shall submit to COMMERCE within fifteen (15) calendar days of the Contract start date OR a written request by COMMERCE, a certificate of insurance which outlines the coverage and limits defined in this insurance section. During the term of the Contract, if required or requested, the Contractor shall submit renewal certificates not less than thirty (30) calendar days prior to expiration of each policy required under this section.

The Contractor shall provide, at COMMERCE's request, copies of insurance instruments or certifications from the insurance issuing agency. The copies or certifications shall show the insurance coverage, the designated beneficiary, who is covered, the amounts, the period of coverage, and that COMMERCE will be provided thirty (30) days' advance written notice of cancellation.

The Contractor shall provide insurance coverage that shall be maintained in full force and effect during the term of this Contract, as follows:

Commercial General Liability Insurance Policy. Provide a Commercial General Liability Insurance Policy, including contractual liability, written on an occurrence basis, in adequate quantity to protect against legal liability arising out of contract activity but no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Additionally, the Contractor is responsible for ensuring that any Subcontractors provide adequate insurance coverage for the activities arising out of subcontracts.

Automobile Liability. In the event that performance pursuant to this Contract involves the use of vehicles, owned or operated by the Contractor or its Subcontractor, automobile liability insurance shall be required. The minimum limit for automobile liability is \$1,000,000 per occurrence, using a Combined Single Limit for bodily injury and property damage.

Professional Liability, Errors and Omissions Insurance. The Contractor shall maintain Professional Liability or Errors and Omissions Insurance. The Contractor shall maintain minimum limits of no

less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence to cover all activities by the Contractor and licensed staff employed or under contract to the Contractor. The state of Washington, its agents, officers, and employees need *not* be named as additional insureds under this policy.

Fidelity Insurance. Every officer, director, employee, or agent who is authorized to act on behalf of the Contractor for the purpose of receiving or depositing funds into program accounts or issuing financial documents, checks, or other instruments of payment for program costs shall be insured to provide protection against loss:

- **A.** The amount of fidelity coverage secured pursuant to this Contract shall be \$100,000 or the highest of planned reimbursement for the Contract period, whichever is lowest. Fidelity insurance secured pursuant to this paragraph shall name COMMERCE as beneficiary.
- **B.** Subcontractors that receive \$10,000 or more per year in funding through this Contract shall secure fidelity insurance as noted above. Fidelity insurance secured by Subcontractors pursuant to this paragraph shall name the Contractor as beneficiary.

6. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

In the event of an inconsistency in this Contract, the inconsistency shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order:

- Applicable federal and state of Washington statutes and regulations
- Special Terms and Conditions
- General Terms and Conditions
- Attachment A Scope of Work
- Attachment B Budget

1. DEFINITIONS

As used throughout this Contract, the following terms shall have the meaning set forth below:

- **A.** "Authorized Representative" shall mean the Director and/or the designee authorized in writing to act on the Director's behalf.
- B. "COMMERCE" shall mean the Department of Commerce.
- **C.** "Contract" or "Agreement" means the entire written agreement between COMMERCE and the Contractor, including any Exhibits, documents, or materials incorporated by reference. E-mail or Facsimile transmission of a signed copy of this contract shall be the same as delivery of an original.
- **D.** "Contractor" shall mean the entity identified on the face sheet performing service(s) under this Contract, and shall include all employees and agents of the Contractor.
- **E.** "Personal Information" shall mean information identifiable to any person, including, but not limited to, information that relates to a person's name, health, finances, education, business, use or receipt of governmental services or other activities, addresses, telephone numbers, social security numbers, driver license numbers, other identifying numbers, and any financial identifiers.
- **F.** "State" shall mean the state of Washington.
- **G.** "Subcontractor" shall mean one not in the employment of the Contractor, who is performing all or part of those services under this Contract under a separate contract with the Contractor. The terms "subcontractor" and "subcontractors" mean subcontractor(s) in any tier.

2. ACCESS TO DATA

In compliance with RCW 39.26.180, the Contractor shall provide access to data generated under this Contract to COMMERCE, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee, and the Office of the State Auditor at no additional cost. This includes access to all information that supports the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Contractor's reports, including computer models and the methodology for those models.

3. ADVANCE PAYMENTS PROHIBITED

No payments in advance of or in anticipation of goods or services to be provided under this Contract shall be made by COMMERCE.

4. ALL WRITINGS CONTAINED HEREIN

This Contract contains all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the parties. No other understandings, oral or otherwise, regarding the subject matter of this Contract shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the parties hereto.

5. <u>AMENDMENTS</u>

This Contract may be amended by mutual agreement of the parties. Such amendments shall not be binding unless they are in writing and signed by personnel authorized to bind each of the parties.

6. <u>AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) OF 1990, PUBLIC LAW 101-336, also referred to as</u> the "ADA" 28 CFR Part 35

The Contractor must comply with the ADA, which provides comprehensive civil rights protection to individuals with disabilities in the areas of employment, public accommodations, state and local government services, and telecommunications.

7. ASSIGNMENT

Neither this Contract, nor any claim arising under this Contract, shall be transferred or assigned by the Contractor without prior written consent of COMMERCE.

8. ATTORNEYS' FEES

Unless expressly permitted under another provision of the Contract, in the event of litigation or other action brought to enforce Contract terms, each party agrees to bear its own attorneys' fees and costs.

9. CONFIDENTIALITY/SAFEGUARDING OF INFORMATION

- **A.** "Confidential Information" as used in this section includes:
 - i. All material provided to the Contractor by COMMERCE that is designated as "confidential" by COMMERCE;
 - **ii.** All material produced by the Contractor that is designated as "confidential" by COMMERCE; and
- iii. All personal information in the possession of the Contractor that may not be disclosed under state or federal law. "Personal information" includes but is not limited to information related to a person's name, health, finances, education, business, use of government services, addresses, telephone numbers, social security number, driver's license number and other identifying numbers, and "Protected Health Information" under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).
- B. The Contractor shall comply with all state and federal laws related to the use, sharing, transfer, sale, or disclosure of Confidential Information. The Contractor shall use Confidential Information solely for the purposes of this Contract and shall not use, share, transfer, sell or disclose any Confidential Information to any third party except with the prior written consent of COMMERCE or as may be required by law. The Contractor shall take all necessary steps to assure that Confidential Information or violation of any state or federal laws related thereto. Upon request, the Contractor shall provide COMMERCE with its policies and procedures on confidentiality. COMMERCE may require changes to such policies and procedures as they apply to this Contract whenever COMMERCE reasonably determines that changes are necessary to prevent unauthorized disclosures. The Contractor shall make the changes within the time period specified by COMMERCE. Upon request, the Contractor shall immediately return to COMMERCE any Confidential Information that COMMERCE reasonably determines has not been adequately protected by the Contractor against unauthorized disclosure.
- **C.** Unauthorized Use or Disclosure. The Contractor shall notify COMMERCE within five (5) working days of any unauthorized use or disclosure of any confidential information, and shall take necessary steps to mitigate the harmful effects of such use or disclosure.

10. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Notwithstanding any determination by the Executive Ethics Board or other tribunal, COMMERCE may, in its sole discretion, by written notice to the CONTRACTOR terminate this contract if it is found after due notice and examination by COMMERCE that there is a violation of the Ethics in Public Service Act, Chapters 42.52 RCW and 42.23 RCW; or any similar statute involving the CONTRACTOR in the procurement of, or performance under this contract.

Specific restrictions apply to contracting with current or former state employees pursuant to chapter 42.52 of the Revised Code of Washington. The CONTRACTOR and their subcontractor(s) must identify any person employed in any capacity by the state of Washington that worked with the COMMERCE program executing this Contract, including but not limited to formulating or drafting the legislation, participating in grant procurement planning and execution, awarding grants, and monitoring grants, during the 24-month period preceding the start date of this Contract. Identify the individual by name, the agency previously or currently employed by, job title or position held, and separation date. If it is determined by COMMERCE that a conflict of interest exists, the CONTRACTOR may be disqualified from further consideration for the award of a Contract.

In the event this contract is terminated as provided above, COMMERCE shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against the CONTRACTOR as it could pursue in the event of a breach of the contract by the CONTRACTOR. The rights and remedies of COMMERCE provided for in this clause shall not

be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law. The existence of facts upon which COMMERCE makes any determination under this clause shall be an issue and may be reviewed as provided in the "Disputes" clause of this contract.

11. COPYRIGHT

Unless otherwise provided, all Materials produced under this Contract shall be considered "works for hire" as defined by the U.S. Copyright Act and shall be owned by COMMERCE. COMMERCE shall be considered the author of such Materials. In the event the Materials are not considered "works for hire" under the U.S. Copyright laws, the Contractor hereby irrevocably assigns all right, title, and interest in all Materials, including all intellectual property rights, moral rights, and rights of publicity to COMMERCE effective from the moment of creation of such Materials.

"Materials" means all items in any format and includes, but is not limited to, data, reports, documents, pamphlets, advertisements, books, magazines, surveys, studies, computer programs, films, tapes, and/or sound reproductions. "Ownership" includes the right to copyright, patent, register and the ability to transfer these rights.

For Materials that are delivered under the Contract, but that incorporate pre-existing materials not produced under the Contract, the Contractor hereby grants to COMMERCE a nonexclusive, royalty-free, irrevocable license (with rights to sublicense to others) in such Materials to translate, reproduce, distribute, prepare derivative works, publicly perform, and publicly display. The Contractor warrants and represents that the Contractor has all rights and permissions, including intellectual property rights, moral rights and rights of publicity, necessary to grant such a license to COMMERCE.

The Contractor shall exert all reasonable effort to advise COMMERCE, at the time of delivery of Materials furnished under this Contract, of all known or potential invasions of privacy contained therein and of any portion of such document which was not produced in the performance of this Contract. The Contractor shall provide COMMERCE with prompt written notice of each notice or claim of infringement received by the Contractor with respect to any Materials delivered under this Contract. COMMERCE shall have the right to modify or remove any restrictive markings placed upon the Materials by the Contractor.

12. DISPUTES

Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, when a dispute arises between the parties and it cannot be resolved by direct negotiation, either party may request a dispute hearing with the Director of COMMERCE, who may designate a neutral person to decide the dispute.

The request for a dispute hearing must:

- be in writing;
- state the disputed issues;
- state the relative positions of the parties;
- state the Contractor's name, address, and Contract number; and
- be mailed to the Director and the other party's (respondent's) Contract Representative within three (3) working days after the parties agree that they cannot resolve the dispute.

The respondent shall send a written answer to the requestor's statement to both the Director or the Director's designee and the requestor within five (5) working days.

The Director or designee shall review the written statements and reply in writing to both parties within ten (10) working days. The Director or designee may extend this period if necessary by notifying the parties.

The decision shall not be admissible in any succeeding judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding.

The parties agree that this dispute process shall precede any action in a judicial or quasi-judicial tribunal.

Nothing in this Contract shall be construed to limit the parties' choice of a mutually acceptable alternate dispute resolution (ADR) method in addition to the dispute hearing procedure outlined above.

13. DUPLICATE PAYMENT

COMMERCE shall not pay the Contractor, if the Contractor has charged or will charge the State of Washington or any other party under any other contract or agreement, for the same services or expenses.

14. GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE

This Contract shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the state of Washington, and the venue of any action brought hereunder shall be in the Superior Court for Thurston County.

15. INDEMNIFICATION

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the state of Washington, COMMERCE, agencies of the state and all officials, agents and employees of the state, from and against all claims for injuries or death arising out of or resulting from the performance of the contract. "Claim" as used in this contract, means any financial loss, claim, suit, action, damage, or expense, including but not limited to attorney's fees, attributable for bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death, or injury to or the destruction of tangible property including loss of use resulting therefrom.

The Contractor's obligation to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless includes any claim by Contractor's agents, employees, representatives, or any subcontractor or its employees.

The Contractor expressly agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State for any claim arising out of or incident to Contractor's or any subcontractor's performance or failure to perform the contract. Contractor's obligation to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State shall not be eliminated or reduced by any actual or alleged concurrent negligence of State or its agents, agencies, employees and officials.

The Contractor waives its immunity under Title 51 RCW to the extent it is required to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the state and its agencies, officers, agents or employees.

16. INDEPENDENT CAPACITY OF THE CONTRACTOR

The parties intend that an independent contractor relationship will be created by this Contract. The Contractor and its employees or agents performing under this Contract are not employees or agents of the state of Washington or COMMERCE. The Contractor will not hold itself out as or claim to be an officer or employee of COMMERCE or of the state of Washington by reason hereof, nor will the Contractor make any claim of right, privilege or benefit which would accrue to such officer or employee under law. Conduct and control of the work will be solely with the Contractor.

17. INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE COVERAGE

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable provisions of Title 51 RCW, Industrial Insurance. If the Contractor fails to provide industrial insurance coverage or fails to pay premiums or penalties on behalf of its employees as may be required by law, COMMERCE may collect from the Contractor the full amount payable to the Industrial Insurance Accident Fund. COMMERCE may deduct the amount owed by the Contractor to the accident fund from the amount payable to the Contractor by COMMERCE under this Contract, and transmit the deducted amount to the Department of Labor and Industries, (L&I) Division of Insurance Services. This provision does not waive any of L&I's rights to collect from the Contractor.

18. <u>LAWS</u>

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, codes, regulations and policies of local, state, and federal governments, as now or hereafter amended.

19. LICENSING, ACCREDITATION AND REGISTRATION

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal licensing, accreditation and registration requirements or standards necessary for the performance of this Contract.

20. LIMITATION OF AUTHORITY

Only the Authorized Representative or the Authorized Representative's delegate by writing (delegation to be made prior to action) shall have the express, implied, or apparent authority to alter, amend, modify, or waive any clause or condition of this Contract. Furthermore, any alteration, amendment, modification, or waiver or any clause or condition of this contract is not effective or binding unless made in writing and signed by the Authorized Representative.

21. NONCOMPLIANCE WITH NONDISCRIMINATION LAWS

During the performance of this Contract, the Contractor shall comply with all federal, state, and local nondiscrimination laws, regulations and policies. In the event of the Contractor's non-compliance or refusal to comply with any nondiscrimination law, regulation or policy, this Contract may be rescinded, canceled or terminated in whole or in part, and the Contractor may be declared ineligible for further contracts with COMMERCE. The Contractor shall, however, be given a reasonable time in which to cure this noncompliance. Any dispute may be resolved in accordance with the "Disputes" procedure set forth herein.

The funds provided under this contract may not be used to fund religious worship, exercise, or instruction. No person shall be required to participate in any religious worship, exercise, or instruction in order to have access to the facilities funded by this contract.

22. PAY EQUITY

The Contractor agrees to ensure that "similarly employed" individuals in its workforce are compensated as equals, consistent with the following:

- A. Employees are "similarly employed" if the individuals work for the same employer, the performance of the job requires comparable skill, effort, and responsibility, and the jobs are performed under similar working conditions. Job titles alone are not determinative of whether employees are similarly employed;
- **B.** Contractor may allow differentials in compensation for its workers if the differentials are based in good faith and on any of the following:

(i) A seniority system; a merit system; a system that measures earnings by quantity or quality of production; a bona fide job-related factor or factors; or a bona fide regional difference in compensation levels.

(ii) A bona fide job-related factor or factors may include, but not be limited to, education, training, or experience that is: Consistent with business necessity; not based on or derived from a gender-based differential; and accounts for the entire differential.

(iii) A bona fide regional difference in compensation level must be: Consistent with business necessity; not based on or derived from a gender-based differential; and account for the entire differential.

This Contract may be terminated by the Department, if the Department or the Department of Enterprise services determines that the Contractor is not in compliance with this provision.

23. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Political activity of Contractor employees and officers are limited by the State Campaign Finances and Lobbying provisions of Chapter 42.17A RCW and the Federal Hatch Act, 5 USC 1501 - 1508.

No funds may be used for working for or against ballot measures or for or against the candidacy of any person for public office.

24. PUBLICITY

The Contractor agrees not to publish or use any advertising or publicity materials in which the state of Washington or COMMERCE's name is mentioned, or language used from which the connection with

the state of Washington's or COMMERCE's name may reasonably be inferred or implied, without the prior written consent of COMMERCE.

25. <u>RECAPTURE</u>

In the event that the Contractor fails to perform this Contract in accordance with state laws, federal laws, and/or the provisions of this Contract, COMMERCE reserves the right to recapture funds in an amount to compensate COMMERCE for the noncompliance in addition to any other remedies available at law or in equity.

Repayment by the Contractor of funds under this recapture provision shall occur within the time period specified by COMMERCE. In the alternative, COMMERCE may recapture such funds from payments due under this Contract.

26. <u>RECORDS MAINTENANCE</u>

The Contractor shall maintain books, records, documents, data and other evidence relating to this contract and performance of the services described herein, including but not limited to accounting procedures and practices that sufficiently and properly reflect all direct and indirect costs of any nature expended in the performance of this contract.

The Contractor shall retain such records for a period of six years following the date of final payment. At no additional cost, these records, including materials generated under the contract, shall be subject at all reasonable times to inspection, review or audit by COMMERCE, personnel duly authorized by COMMERCE, the Office of the State Auditor, and federal and state officials so authorized by law, regulation or agreement.

If any litigation, claim or audit is started before the expiration of the six (6) year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved.

27. REGISTRATION WITH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

If required by law, the Contractor shall complete registration with the Washington State Department of Revenue.

28. <u>RIGHT OF INSPECTION</u>

The Contractor shall provide right of access to its facilities to COMMERCE, or any of its officers, or to any other authorized agent or official of the state of Washington or the federal government, at all reasonable times, in order to monitor and evaluate performance, compliance, and/or quality assurance under this contract.

29. SAVINGS

In the event funding from state, federal, or other sources is withdrawn, reduced, or limited in any way after the effective date of this Contract and prior to normal completion, COMMERCE may suspend or terminate the Contract under the "Termination for Convenience" clause, without the ten calendar day notice requirement. In lieu of termination, the Contract may be amended to reflect the new funding limitations and conditions.

30. <u>SEVERABILITY</u>

The provisions of this contract are intended to be severable. If any term or provision is illegal or invalid for any reason whatsoever, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the contract.

31. SITE SECURITY

While on COMMERCE premises, Contractor, its agents, employees, or subcontractors shall conform in all respects with physical, fire or other security policies or regulations.

32. SUBCONTRACTING

The Contractor may only subcontract work contemplated under this Contract if it obtains the prior written approval of COMMERCE.

If COMMERCE approves subcontracting, the Contractor shall maintain written procedures related to subcontracting, as well as copies of all subcontracts and records related to subcontracts. For cause, COMMERCE in writing may: (a) require the Contractor to amend its subcontracting procedures as they relate to this Contract; (b) prohibit the Contractor from subcontracting with a particular person or entity; or (c) require the Contractor to rescind or amend a subcontract.

Every subcontract shall bind the Subcontractor to follow all applicable terms of this Contract. The Contractor is responsible to COMMERCE if the Subcontractor fails to comply with any applicable term or condition of this Contract. The Contractor shall appropriately monitor the activities of the Subcontractor to assure fiscal conditions of this Contract. In no event shall the existence of a subcontract operate to release or reduce the liability of the Contractor to COMMERCE for any breach in the performance of the Contractor's duties.

Every subcontract shall include a term that COMMERCE and the State of Washington are not liable for claims or damages arising from a Subcontractor's performance of the subcontract.

33. SURVIVAL

The terms, conditions, and warranties contained in this Contract that by their sense and context are intended to survive the completion of the performance, cancellation or termination of this Contract shall so survive.

34. TAXES

All payments accrued on account of payroll taxes, unemployment contributions, the Contractor's income or gross receipts, any other taxes, insurance or expenses for the Contractor or its staff shall be the sole responsibility of the Contractor.

35. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE

In the event COMMERCE determines the Contractor has failed to comply with the conditions of this contract in a timely manner, COMMERCE has the right to suspend or terminate this contract. Before suspending or terminating the contract, COMMERCE shall notify the Contractor in writing of the need to take corrective action. If corrective action is not taken within 30 calendar days, the contract may be terminated or suspended.

In the event of termination or suspension, the Contractor shall be liable for damages as authorized by law including, but not limited to, any cost difference between the original contract and the replacement or cover contract and all administrative costs directly related to the replacement contract, e.g., cost of the competitive bidding, mailing, advertising and staff time.

COMMERCE reserves the right to suspend all or part of the contract, withhold further payments, or prohibit the Contractor from incurring additional obligations of funds during investigation of the alleged compliance breach and pending corrective action by the Contractor or a decision by COMMERCE to terminate the contract. A termination shall be deemed a "Termination for Convenience" if it is determined that the Contractor: (1) was not in default; or (2) failure to perform was outside of his or her control, fault or negligence.

The rights and remedies of COMMERCE provided in this contract are not exclusive and are, in addition to any other rights and remedies, provided by law.

36. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE

Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, COMMERCE may, by ten (10) business days written notice, beginning on the second day after the mailing, terminate this Contract, in whole or in part. If this Contract is so terminated, COMMERCE shall be liable only for payment required under the terms of this Contract for services rendered or goods delivered prior to the effective date of termination.

37. TERMINATION PROCEDURES

Upon termination of this contract, COMMERCE, in addition to any other rights provided in this contract, may require the Contractor to deliver to COMMERCE any property specifically produced or acquired for the performance of such part of this contract as has been terminated. The provisions of the "Treatment of Assets" clause shall apply in such property transfer.

COMMERCE shall pay to the Contractor the agreed upon price, if separately stated, for completed work and services accepted by COMMERCE, and the amount agreed upon by the Contractor and COMMERCE for (i) completed work and services for which no separate price is stated, (ii) partially completed work and services, (iii) other property or services that are accepted by COMMERCE, and (iv) the protection and preservation of property, unless the termination is for default, in which case the Authorized Representative shall determine the extent of the liability of the Authorized Representative. Failure to agree with such determination shall be a dispute within the meaning of the "Disputes" clause of this contract. COMMERCE may withhold from any amounts due the Contractor such sum as the Authorized Representative determines to be necessary to protect COMMERCE against potential loss or liability.

The rights and remedies of COMMERCE provided in this section shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.

After receipt of a notice of termination, and except as otherwise directed by the Authorized Representative, the Contractor shall:

- 1. Stop work under the contract on the date, and to the extent specified, in the notice;
- 2. Place no further orders or subcontracts for materials, services, or facilities except as may be necessary for completion of such portion of the work under the contract that is not terminated;
- Assign to COMMERCE, in the manner, at the times, and to the extent directed by the Authorized Representative, all of the rights, title, and interest of the Contractor under the orders and subcontracts so terminated, in which case COMMERCE has the right, at its discretion, to settle or pay any or all claims arising out of the termination of such orders and subcontracts;
- 4. Settle all outstanding liabilities and all claims arising out of such termination of orders and subcontracts, with the approval or ratification of the Authorized Representative to the extent the Authorized Representative may require, which approval or ratification shall be final for all the purposes of this clause;
- 5. Transfer title to COMMERCE and deliver in the manner, at the times, and to the extent directed by the Authorized Representative any property which, if the contract had been completed, would have been required to be furnished to COMMERCE;
- 6. Complete performance of such part of the work as shall not have been terminated by the Authorized Representative; and
- 7. Take such action as may be necessary, or as the Authorized Representative may direct, for the protection and preservation of the property related to this contract, which is in the possession of the Contractor and in which COMMERCE has or may acquire an interest.

38. TREATMENT OF ASSETS

Title to all property furnished by COMMERCE shall remain in COMMERCE. Title to all property furnished by the Contractor, for the cost of which the Contractor is entitled to be reimbursed as a direct item of cost under this contract, shall pass to and vest in COMMERCE upon delivery of such property by the Contractor. Title to other property, the cost of which is reimbursable to the Contractor under this contract, shall pass to and vest in COMMERCE upon (i) issuance for use of such property in the performance of this contract, or (ii) commencement of use of such property in the performance of this contract, or (iii) reimbursement of the cost thereof by COMMERCE in whole or in part, whichever first occurs.

A. Any property of COMMERCE furnished to the Contractor shall, unless otherwise provided herein or approved by COMMERCE, be used only for the performance of this contract.

- **B.** The Contractor shall be responsible for any loss or damage to property of COMMERCE that results from the negligence of the Contractor or which results from the failure on the part of the Contractor to maintain and administer that property in accordance with sound management practices.
- **C.** If any COMMERCE property is lost, destroyed or damaged, the Contractor shall immediately notify COMMERCE and shall take all reasonable steps to protect the property from further damage.
- **D.** The Contractor shall surrender to COMMERCE all property of COMMERCE prior to settlement upon completion, termination or cancellation of this contract

All reference to the Contractor under this clause shall also include Contractor's employees, agents or Subcontractors.

39. WAIVER

Waiver of any default or breach shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any subsequent default or breach. Any waiver shall not be construed to be a modification of the terms of this Contract unless stated to be such in writing and signed by Authorized Representative of COMMERCE. Scope of Work

Budget