



State of New Jersey

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Questions Posed to the Highlands Council
by Potential Respondents to the Request for Proposals to
Develop a Regional Interactive
Environmental Resource Inventory (“ERI”)
February 22, 2019

Question #1:

Is a NJ university eligible to submit to this RFP? In the RFP Appendix D, it states “III.A. CONTRACTOR’S STATUS: The Contractor’s status shall be that of an independent contractor and not that of an employee of the State.” I see in the Q&A document that Rutgers has conducted projects with the Highlands Council in the past so we are hoping that its allowable for our faculty to submit for this proposal. Please clarify.

Response #1:

State universities are welcome to submit proposals in response to this RFP and will be considered according to the same criteria established for other types of consultants.

Question #2:

The proposed responder has experience developing interactive environmental mapping very similar to what is requested in this RFP for a number of years. We generally develop our mapping projects using a team of our faculty, professional staff and student interns. The student internship model allows a cost-effective way for our mapping projects to be developed and maintained and updated. Would the Highlands Council allow development of this project following a student internship model that is organized somewhat differently than the typical consulting firm model described in the RFP? The deliverables would be exactly the same but the budgeting would reflect a different structure.

Response #2:

The Highlands Council will consider a proposal that includes a student internship model. The faculty and professional staff directing the work of the student interns needs to be identified in the proposal.

Question #3:

Does this project allow for indirect costs or have any limits to the amount of indirect costs that can be charged by a university?

Response #3:

The Highlands Council will not consider a proposal in which the Highlands Council will be billed for indirect costs. All costs, including any indirect costs, need to be included in the overall lump sum budget per task included in the consultant's cost proposal.

Complete RFP can be found at the link below:

www.nj.gov/njhighlands/news/rfps/eri/eri_rfp.pdf