



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Network Access Control (NAC) – Part 1: Qualifications

REQUEST NUMBER: 2406

DUE DATE: March 29, 2024

DUE TIME: 2:00 pm (local)

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INTRODUCTION

The Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority (GFIAA) is requesting Statements of Qualifications for the supply of hardware, software, and support services to upgrade the Authority's existing Network Access Control system, which will be expected to have a minimum life expectancy of at least 5 years.

To obtain the highest quality project delivery within the required schedule and budget allocations, GFIAA seeks a NAC partner through a 2-part public Qualifications-Based Selection process which includes an initial qualifications evaluation followed by interviews and fee negotiation with the selected firm. This 2-part selection process articulates the GFIAA's goals and provides openness and consistency so that all qualified firms receive fair consideration.

The Gerald R. Ford International Airport is the second busiest airport in Michigan, serving business and leisure travelers with nonstop and connecting flights on six airlines. The Ford Airport is managed and operated by the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority.

SOLICITATION AND PROJECT SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY	DATE
RFQ Issue Date	March 5, 2024
Phase 1 Question Deadline	March 15, 2024
Phase 1 Submission Due Date	March 29, 2024 at 2 pm
Phase 2 Invite to Qualified Vendors	Early April
Phase 2 Questions Deadline	Late April
Phase 2 Submission Deadline	Early May
Contract Start Date	TBD

GFIAA reserves the right to modify the deadline set forth in the above table in its sole discretion. Any such modifications will be stated in an addendum.

SITE INSPECTION

Respondents may request an on-site inspection by appointment only. Discussions between the Respondent and airport staff during the on-site inspection do not override any written specification or correspondence provided in this solicitation.

CONTACT FOR AN APPOINTMENT	
Contact Name	Pat Howe
Contact Phone Number	(616) 233-6062

Respondents shall not communicate with the above contact for any reason other than for on-site inspection purpose. Any Respondent requesting a modification to the written specification should contact the Purchasing Department as instructed within this request.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Given the confidential and sensitive nature of the information crucial for a successful project submission, we request interested parties to provide qualification documentation before releasing such information in Phase 2. Those invited to proceed to Phase 2 will need the primary contact to visit the airport in order to undergo fingerprinting, and successfully pass a background check. Additionally, a nondisclosure agreement is mandatory. All staff members involved in implementing the NAC project must also sign the mandatory nondisclosure agreement as well as undergo fingerprinting and background checks.

WORK SCOPE

The Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority needs to implement Network Access Control (NAC) for the Authority's Wired and Wireless network. We have several cybersecurity improvements and regulatory compliance needs to accomplish with this project.

We are seeking qualified vendors and implementors to submit a response to this Request for Qualifications. The Authority is seeking hardware and software that will be easy to use and maintain for the limited on-site I.T. staff. The proposed solution should provide a stable NAC platform for five years. The proposed solution must also be scalable. Should there be a need to upgrade an individual component to provide more capacity in the future, additional capacity must be added without requiring significant infrastructure upgrades.

PHASE 1 REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Questions regarding this solicitation are to be submitted in writing to purchasing@grr.org prior to 2 p.m. on March 15, 2024. GFIAA reserves the right to publish and respond to an inquiry, respond directly to the inquirer without publishing or not respond to the inquiry at its sole discretion. Unless otherwise indicated, all questions will be compiled into one document and answers will be issued as a Questions & Answers document within 4 days after the question deadline.

It is the firm's responsibility to become familiar with and fully informed regarding the terms, conditions, and specifications of this solicitation. Lack of understanding or misinterpretation of any portions of this solicitation shall not be cause for withdrawal after opening or for subsequent protest of award.

Addendums will only be published by the GFIAA Purchasing Department and available for review at www.grr.org.

PHASE 1 SUBMISSION FORMAT AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Submissions should include and will be evaluated on the elements outlined below:

Executive Summary – One (1) page maximum

Summarize the Respondent's strong points and how experience, particularly with similar responsibilities, will benefit the stakeholders.

Business Organization – One (1) page maximum

State the full name and address of the organization and, if applicable, the branch office, consultants, or other subordinate elements that will provide or assist in providing the service. **Include phone number(s), email address(s)** and Respondent's website address.

Experience Implementing NAC – Two (2) pages maximum

State in succinct terms the Respondent's understanding of the major issues of this request. Precisely describe the Respondent's intended process and responsibilities. Identify important steps that will be taken to meet the GFIAA's expectations and identify deliverables.

Project Staffing – Two (2) pages maximum

Provide a chart with the staff you are committing to the solicitation. Show lines of authority and communication, and provide a brief role description with responsibilities for each person as they relate to the solicitation as well as each staff member's key credentials

References – One (1) page maximum

Provide a minimum of three (3) relevant references, preferably for projects of similar scope and complexity. Include the names of the projects, location, completion date, project cost, and specific challenges; identify project team members and references for each project including telephone numbers and email addresses.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Responses may be delivered physically or electronically. To be considered, complete submissions must be received prior to the due date and time specified (local time).

- Hard copy responses can be mailed or otherwise delivered to the address below.

Submission address:

Gerald R Ford International Airport Authority

Attn: AJ Nye, Procurement Specialist

5500 44th St SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49512

- Electronic responses can be securely uploaded as a single pdf document to:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/YPIr65tTk8BBRUNeqMYn>

Electronic submissions shall be named with a form or portion of the firm's name as part of the document name.

The firm certifies the response submitted has not been made or prepared in collusion with any other respondent and the prices, terms or conditions thereof have not been communicated by or on behalf of the respondent to any other respondent prior to the official opening of this request. This certification may be treated for all purposes as if it were a sworn statement made under oath, subject to the penalties for perjury. Moreover, it is made subject to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, relating to the making of false statements.

Submissions may be withdrawn by written request only if the request is received on or before the opening date and time.

Submissions not meeting these criteria may be deemed non-responsive.

GFIAA is not liable for any costs incurred by any prospective firm prior to the awarding of a contract, including any costs incurred in addressing this solicitation.

AIRPORT SECURITY

It is essential that during the performance of this contract that airport security be maintained and that operations under this agreement conform to Airport security requirements.

Airport-Issued Identification Badges -

Identification badges are issued by the Airport Police Department to provide unescorted access to authorized employees performing job duties within the airport. Contractors assigned to this account must be badged to provide services within the Secure Area. GRFIAA will not provide escort. The Contractor assumes responsibility for the conduct of all personnel working on airport property. All personnel within the Secured Area must display an airport-issued identification badge or be escorted by personnel with a badge who has been granted escort privileges. Identification badges must be worn on an individual's outermost garment and above the waist at all times.

The Airport encourages all Contractor personnel to be badged. **An unbadged person is to be under escort at all times.** This will be strictly enforced.

Badges are the property of the Airport and must be returned promptly upon fulfillment of this agreement, an individual's termination or at the request of the GRFIAA. Failure to return badges may result in the Contractor being declared nonresponsive and ineligible for future Airport contracts.

Pre-Badging Requirements for General Contractor -

Contractor should coordinate badge requirements with the Airport Project Manager. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE. The following documents are required before the Contractor begin the badging process for themselves, their subcontractors or their employees:

1. Project Letter from Contractor – Letter must include the Project Name with Start Date and estimated End Date, PLUS a list of all Subcontractors (if any).
2. Authorized Signer Letter(s) – Contractors/subcontractors will designate one or more individuals to be Authorized Signers for badge enrollments. The Authorized Signer letter must be on company letterhead. An Authorized Signer must obtain an airport badge prior to attending signatory training which is administered by the Airport Security Coordinator. The badging process is outlined below.

Badging Process –

The badging process requires two visits to the Airport Police office for each applicant.

1. Badge Application and Background Checks

The process is initiated with the Authorized Signatory. They will be enrolling the applicant in the airport's SAFE Signatory Portal. Once enrolled and submitted, each applicant must make an initial appointment with the airport badging office. (www.grrbadging.as.me)

As outlined in the appointment information, each individual is required to provide 2 pieces of acceptable ID, as well as provide a completed GRR Fingerprint Application. Information about acceptable IDs and the GRR Fingerprint Application can be found on the badging services page: <http://www.grr.org/badging-services.php>

The airport will perform two background checks on the applicant:

- a. A security threat assessment (STA) is a name verification background check conducted by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).
- b. A criminal history records check (CHRC) is a fingerprint-based background check to determine if personnel have been convicted of a felony within the last ten (10) years. Background check results can take anywhere from two days to two weeks to be completed.

The Contractor's Authorized Signatory will be notified once the background checks have been completed and approved. The Authorized Signatory will notify the individual and have them schedule their assigned appointment for Badge Training and Issuance.

2. Training and Badge Issuance

The applicant will make an appointment at www.grrbadging.as.me for their assigned training and badge issuance. Training may include the following depending on which privileges the Authorized Signatory assigned during enrollment:

- a. SIDA training
- b. Non-movement driver's training

Each training takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. Once completed and passed, the individual will receive their ID.

Training/Badging must be completed within 30 days from date of approval. Applicants who fail to complete badging within the allotted time will be assessed a resubmission fee.

3. Authorized Signatory Training (IF APPLICABLE)

If an individual will be designated as an Authorized Signatory for their company, they will need to schedule an appointment for Authorized Signatory Training with the Airport Security Coordinator. This is typically handled through communication with the original Authorized Signatory and can only be completed after they have received their badge.

All initial badging fees will be at no cost to the Contractor. If an ID badge is lost, stolen, or otherwise unaccounted for immediate notify Airport Communications at 616.233.6055. The ID badge replacement fee is \$50.00. The badge holder is responsible for the ID badge replacement fee.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

GFIAA reserves the right to require that its standard terms and conditions apply to any actual order placed in response to a firm's submission. No attempt to modify GFIAA's Standard Terms and Conditions shall be binding, absent agreement on such modification in writing and signed by GFIAA.

No payment shall be made to the Respondent for any extra material or services, or of any greater amount of money than stipulated to be paid in the contract, unless changes in or additions to the contract requiring additional outlay by the Respondent shall first have been expressly authorized and ordered in writing by contract amendment or

otherwise furnished by the GFIAA.

The intent of these specifications is to solicit a properly designed and all-inclusive response. Any requirements not in the specifications, but which are needed for such a response, are to be included in the submission.

The Gerald R Ford International Airport Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that for any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises and airport concession disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The Respondent shall not discriminate against an employee or applicant for employment with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment, or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, marital status, or disability that is unrelated to the individual's ability to perform the duties of a particular job or position.

The Respondent shall observe and comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations at all times during the completion of any contract with the GFIAA.

The terms of this request shall be interpreted, construed and enforced pursuant to the laws of the State of Michigan, and the Parties irrevocably consent to the jurisdiction of the federal and state courts presiding in Michigan.

The GFIAA is tax-exempt and a regional airport authority organized under 2015 P.A. 95, being MCL 259.137 et. seq.

Vendor Representation and Warranty Regarding Federal Excluded Parties List: The Respondent acknowledges that the GFIAA may be receiving funds from or through the Federal Government; such funds may not be used to pay any Respondent on the Federal Excluded Parties List (EPLS). The Respondent represents and warrants to the GFIAA that it is not on the Federal EPLS. If the Respondent is in non-compliance at any time during execution or term of this agreement (including any extensions thereof), the Respondent shall be in breach and the GFIAA shall be entitled to all remedies available to it at law or equity, specifically including but not limited to recovery of all moneys paid to the Respondent, all consequential damages (including the loss of grant funding or the requirement that grant funding be returned), and attorney fees (including the costs of in-house counsel) sustained as a result of the Respondent's non-compliance with this warranty and representation.

Pursuant to the Michigan Iran Economic Sanctions Act, 2012 P.A. 517, by submitting a bid, proposal or response, Respondent certifies, under civil penalty for false certification, that it is fully eligible to do so under law and that it is not an "Iran linked business," as that term is defined in the Act.

Insurance requirements are posted on the Documents and Forms page of the GFIAA website within the Purchasing Terms and Conditions document.

Termination For Cause: Should the firm fail to perform the Work as required by and in accordance with the schedule or time requirements, or otherwise violate any of the terms set forth in the Solicitation Request, it shall constitute breach of the Contract. Other than in force majeure situations, Respondent shall have five (5) calendar days to cure a breach of the Contract (the "Cure Period") following issuance of GFIAA written notice. Failure to cure a breach of the Contract within said Cure Period shall allow the GFIAA to, without further notice to the Respondent, declare the Contract terminated and proceed with the replacement of the Respondent and the GFIAA shall be entitled to all remedies available to it at law or in equity including a claim against any required payment/performance bonds.

Termination Without Cause: Notwithstanding any other provision, at any time and without cause, GFIAA shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate the contract by giving sixty (60) days written notice.

Although it is the intent to contract with one provider, the GFIAA reserves the right to contract with alternate sources if the Respondent is unable or unwilling to service its obligation, or it is deemed by GFIAA to be in its best interest to use alternate sources.

Assignment: Neither party shall assign or delegate any of its rights or obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party.

Respondent warrants that they are an authorized provider of products or services of his/her submission.

MICHIGAN FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Information submitted in this solicitation is subject to the Michigan Freedom of Information Act and may not be held in confidence after the Respondent's submission is opened. A submission will be available for review after the project has been awarded.

GFIAA cannot assure that all of the information submitted as part of or peripheral to the Respondent's submission will be kept confidential. Any Respondent submission language designated as confidential is considered automatically invalid and void. GFIAA is subject to the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, which prohibits it from concealing information on or associated with responses, successful or unsuccessful, once they are opened.

EVALUATION, STATUS UPDATES/AWARD NOTIFICATION

The Authority reserves the right to request additional information it may deem necessary after the submissions are received.

As part of the evaluation process, Respondents may be requested to make an oral presentation, at the Respondent's expense, to an evaluation committee. Key staff to be assigned to this project must participate in this presentation unless otherwise waived by the Authority. The presentation may be followed by a question-and-answer session.

The Authority reserves the right at its discretion to waive irregularities of this solicitation process.

In the event of extension errors, the unit price shall prevail and the Respondent's total offer will be corrected accordingly. In the event of addition errors, the extended totals will prevail and the Respondent's total will be

corrected accordingly. Respondent must check their submission where applicable. Failure to do so will be at the Respondent's risk. Submissions having erasures or corrections must be initialed in ink by the Respondent. Respondents are cautioned to recheck their submissions for possible errors.

The Respondent shall not be allowed to take advantage of error, omissions or discrepancies in the specifications.

The Authority, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to award to the Respondent whose response is deemed most advantageous to the Authority. The Authority, at its sole discretion, shall select the most responsive and responsible Respondent and evaluate all responses based on the requirements and criterion set forth in this solicitation while reserving the right to weigh specifications and other factors in the award. The Authority reserves the right to reject any and all submissions as a result of this solicitation.

The Authority reserves the right to award by line item when applicable and to accept or reject any or all parts of a submission.

Accelerated discounts should be so stated at the time of submission. If quick-pay discounts are offered, The Authority reserves the right to include that discount as part of the award criterion. Prices must, however, be based upon payment in thirty (30) days after receipt, inspection, and acceptance. In all cases, quick-pay discounts will be calculated from the date of the invoice or the date of acceptance, whichever is later.

Award notifications are posted on the Authority website. It is the Respondent's responsibility to monitor the website for status updates.