

# Request for Information



State of Alaska  
Department of Administration  
Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM)

**Date Issued: August 21, 2020**

## SUBSCRIPTION BASED RESEARCH AND RELATED SERVICES CONTRACT

### **Introduction:**

The Department of Administration, Office of Information Technology (OIT) is seeking response from qualified vendors with the experience on providing research, advisory and comparative measurement services.

### **Background Information:**

The Department of Administration, Office of Information Technology (OIT) requires unlimited access to dedicate full-time Information Technology (IT) subject matter experts solely for research activities. Currently, OIT has a 3-year contract with Gartner Inc. as sole source vendor for subscription-based research and related services. Gartner provides research and advisory services that covers the full range of IT issues from applying technology to the State's business, to following major trends and directions in IT, to managing and measuring the State's IT infrastructure. Given at the rate of technology change and the complexity of the State's use of IT, the State needs access to current research spanning the entire IT industry. In the past year, the State users accessed independent, unbiased document and toolkits related to the State-relevant topics such as Cloud Migration, Program and Portfolio Management, Vendor Management, Change Management, Security and Risk Management and more. The State has also leveraged Gartner research and advisory services to help OIT budget with relevant facts and metrics to justify OIT spending and staffing costs, identify opportunities for cost optimization and investment prioritization and provide services at fair-market prices and service levels. Inquiries are used for contract review with experts in hardware/software contract negotiation for insight into contract pricing, terms and condition as well as consolidation, portfolio management and hardware.

### **Response Information:**

Interested parties are invited to submit responses to the following:

1. Provide a general description of your company's capabilities and experience related to providing IT subscription-based research contract. No research should be done on a "sponsored" basis, which could potentially compromise independent objectives.
2. Provide additional insight delivered through an aligned domain expert peer partner with deep subject matter expertise in either Security and Risk Management and at least 30 experience, including at least 15 years of experience at the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) level or higher.
3. Must demonstrate expertise in contract negotiation and demonstrate experience in supporting State agencies in achieving a minimum of \$1 million savings on contracts for State agencies clients for Microsoft, Oracle, IBM and major hardware providers (e.g. Cisco or HP).
4. Provide an online peer networking that includes a minimum of 10,000 peers through a private portal reserved for IT end user clients and contractors subject matter experts.
5. Must have the capabilities to publish at least 2,500 IT- focused research documents each year. Research should undergo a formal publication and review process and excluding tweets, blogs and other social media feeds.

6. Provide access to an IT Research database, toolkits and metrics that are timely and relevant to the staff. Metrics should have been collected from at least 1,500 sources to ensure the metrics are accurate and sufficiently sourced.
7. Provide talent management tools and guides structured through demographic datasets surrounding the current knowledge workers available, the location of talent, other organization hiring, education levels, skills, and more. Also, to provide example of talent management tool or guide available that identifies a combination of data and insights on worker location, companies, education levels and skills pertaining to a specific IT-related role relevant for OIT.
8. Must demonstrate the depth and breadth of business-related resources by identifying the numbers of research documents produce over the past 24 months in corporate strategic planning, risk response strategies, change communications, finance technology optimization, and planning budgeting and forecasting, as well as provide sample titles of this research.

Response to this RFI are for informational purposes only. **Proprietary information, if any, should be minimized and MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED. Information not marked as proprietary may become public.**

Interested parties must submit their response in writing by **3:00 pm Alaska time on August 31, 2020** to the following person:

Michael Lim  
Statewide Contracting Officer  
Department of Administration  
Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM)  
Email: [Michael.lim@alaska.gov](mailto:Michael.lim@alaska.gov)

This RFI does not extend any rights to prospective vendors or obligate the state to conduct a solicitation or purchase any goods or services. Nor will the State be financially responsible for any cost associated with the preparation of any response for the requested information. This RFI is issued for the sole purpose of obtaining information as described in this notice. However, the information obtained from this request may be used to prepare a purchase, contract, or solicitation in the future.

Questions about this RFI can be directed to Michael Lim at [michael.lim@alaska.gov](mailto:michael.lim@alaska.gov)