

April 10, 2026
Rhode Island Commerce Corporation
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Solicitation Number: **RFQ-2607**
ADDENDUM NO. 1
Questions & Answers

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
ON-CALL ADVISORY AND CONSULTING SERVICES

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (“Corporation”) is seeking proposals from qualified firms and individual business entities (collectively, “Proposers”) to provide on-call advisory and consulting services in support of statewide economic development priorities.

Question #1: I would like to clarify if solo proprietorships are eligible to submit a proposal for this RFP.

Answer #1: Yes, sole proprietorships are welcome to submit proposals.

Question #2: If a vendor submits qualifications for multiple areas (A, B, C), is scoring evaluated independently per area? Specifically, does scoring in one area affect eligibility for pre-qualification in other areas?

Answer #2: Scoring is evaluated independently per area and a vendor’s scoring in one area does not affect eligibility in other areas.

Question #3: Relatedly, will vendors be pre-qualified per individual area, or is selection for the vendor list made holistically across all areas submitted?

Answer #3: Yes, vendors will be pre-qualified separately per individual area for which they submit qualifications.

Question #4: May a prime vendor submit qualifications for areas where a subcontractor (rather than the prime) holds the primary relevant experience?

Answer #4: Yes, but the subcontractor must be identified, with qualifications disclosed in the proposal.

Question #5: When task orders are issued, will all pre-qualified vendors in a given area be invited to compete, or will the Corporation select specific vendors directly?

Answer #5: This has not yet been determined.

Question #6: What is the anticipated term of the on-call contract(s) resulting from this RFQ? Is renewal anticipated?

Answer #6: Terms will vary depending on task orders established. Task orders will include expected timelines for when assigned tasks must be completed.

Question #7: Is there a page limit for proposals?

Answer #7: No.

Question #8: Among Areas A (Policy), B (Marketing), and C (Program Implementation), are there specific priority initiatives or near-term projects anticipated over the next 6–12 months?

Answer #8: The Corporation serves as Rhode Island's primary economic development agency, responsible for attracting businesses, supporting business growth, promoting the state as a destination, and driving tourism. Given the broad range of priorities, and the dynamic environment in which we operate, we expect to engage vendors on an as-needed basis across all three areas as specific needs arise. Some specific immediate needs consist of the following:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital nomad related initiatives and projects.
- Various specialized marketing related work where current preexisting staffing gaps exist or heavy workloads aren't allowing the bandwidth for, including but not limited to graphic design, copywriting, blog posts, itineraries, newsletters, photo/video content and editing.

Question #9: Can you share examples of recent or typical task orders (scope, budget range, duration, team size) to help us calibrate appropriately?

Answer #9: The Corporation does not have any recent task orders of a similar nature. Please refer to the Scope of Work in the RFQ.

Question #10: Once vendors are pre-qualified, how will task orders be awarded (mini-bids, direct selection, rotation)?

Answer #10: This has not yet been determined.

Question #11: How do you envision coordinating multiple vendors working on similar or overlapping initiatives?

Answer #11: Selected vendors will be coordinated via a collaborative approach, where vendors could be assigned to different components of the same project.

Question #12: What level of integration do you typically expect with your internal team, more advisory or hands-on execution support?

Answer #12: More advisory in nature primarily, but hands-on execution support could be required to complete certain tasks.

Question #13: What is the typical turnaround time expected for responding to and initiating task orders?

Answer #13: This will vary significantly based on projects and initiatives being prioritized.

Question #14: From your perspective, what tends to differentiate top-ranked proposals: depth of experience, approach, or ability to execute quickly?

Answer #14: Please refer to the Evaluation Criteria included in the RFQ.

Question #15: Are there preferred pricing structures (hourly, not-to-exceed, milestone-based) that tend to work best for task orders?

Answer #15: This will vary based on the type of engagement and task order.

Question #16: For the fee structure included in the RFQ response, should we treat this primarily as a baseline for future task orders, with pricing refined at the task order level? And would you prefer we include sample task-based pricing scenarios, or focus on rate cards and general fee structures?

Answer #16: The fee structure submitted with the RFQ response should serve as a baseline for future task orders, in accordance with the Scope of Work contained in the RFP, with final pricing to be determined at the task order level. Vendors may also provide sample task-based pricing scenarios, though this is optional.

Question #17: What level of on-site presence (if any) is expected versus remote delivery?

Answer #17: The level of on-site presence will be dependent on the type of engagement and tasks included in the task order. The vendor and the Corporation would work together to determine how much of an on-site presence (if any) is necessary.

Question #18: Are there particular stakeholders (municipalities, agencies, boards) that vendors should anticipate working closely with?

Answer #18: It will depend on the assignment, but the vendor should anticipate interacting and collaborating with internal teams across the Corporation, external agencies, businesses, municipalities, and Board members from time to time.

Question #19: From past experience, what have been the biggest gaps or challenges with external consultants in this type of work?

Question #19: The external consultants having the specialized level of expertise needed to complete assigned tasks.

***End of Addendum ***