Responses to Questions Regarding RFP No. 2026-02

UConn 2000 Legal Services

Question 1: Pricing

Question:
The contract has an initial four-year term with up to three optional one-year extensions. If the contract is extended beyond the initial four-year term, may the firm and the University negotiate new rates for the extension years? Or will the rates proposed in the RFP response remain fixed for all seven years?

University Response:
Firms should propose rates that will remain fixed for the initial four-year term of the contract. If the University elects to exercise one or more extension options, firms may, as part of their fee proposal, describe how they would propose to address rates during any extension period. Any adjustment to rates during an extension period would be subject to the University's review, approval, and mutual written agreement of the parties.

Question 2: Local Presence

Question:
Does the University have a preference for firms with a physical office or local presence in Connecticut for any of the practice areas identified in the RFP? If so, please identify the practice area(s) for which local presence is a consideration.

University Response:
The University does not require a physical office in Connecticut for any practice area. However, experience with Connecticut law, regulations, governmental entities, and regulatory agencies may be considered as a factor where relevant to the services being proposed.

Question 3: Comparable Experience

Question:
For practice areas in which the scope references expertise relating to UConn 2000 projects or the UConn 2000 Act, will the University consider comparable experience involving other public-sector or higher-education capital projects to be equally relevant?

University Response:
Yes. The University will consider comparable experience involving public-sector, higher-education, and other institutional capital projects, transactions, and related legal matters. Firms should explain how their experience is relevant to the services sought under the RFP.

Question 4: Number of Firms

Question:
Does the University anticipate selecting a particular number or range of firms within each practice area?

University Response:
The University currently anticipates selecting approximately two to three firms within each practice area. However, the University reserves the right to select more or fewer firms, or no firms, in any practice area, based on the proposals received and the University's needs.

Question 5: Team Composition

Question:
May firms propose alternative staffing arrangements or teams for different types of matters?

University Response:
Yes. Firms should clearly identify the attorneys and professionals proposed for each practice area and describe how staffing may be adjusted based on the nature and complexity of the matter.

Question 6: Attorney Admissions

Question:
Are all lawyers in good standing for their respective state's bar(s) qualified to participate or only those who are barred in Connecticut?

University Response:
The University does not require attorneys to be admitted in Connecticut to be proposed under this RFP, provided they are admitted and in good standing in their respective jurisdiction. Attorneys who are not admitted in Connecticut must be eligible to practice in

Connecticut through pro hac vice admission or other applicable means, if required for a particular matter.

Question 7: Scope of Practice Area

Question:
Within each practice area, does UConn expect selected firms to handle transactional, regulatory and dispute-related work alike, or may a firm propose for only part of an area's scope?

University Response:
Firms may propose to provide services for all or part of a practice area's scope. Firms should clearly describe the services they are proposing to provide and any limitations on the scope of services offered.

Question 8: Fee Proposal

Question:
Should hourly rates be listed by named attorney, by position, or both? Does UConn permit separate billing rates for senior and junior associates, or other billing categories beyond Partner, Special Counsel, Associate, and Paralegal?

University Response:
Firms may provide hourly rates by named attorney, by position, or both, and may use such additional categories as they deem appropriate, provided the proposal clearly identifies the rates that would apply to services performed under the contract.

Question 9: Insurance

Question:
Schedule A §10.2 requires a Certificate of Insurance no later than the effective date of the Agreement. Must any evidence of coverage be provided with the proposal or only at contracting?

University Response:
Evidence of insurance is not required with the proposal. Selected firm(s) will be required to provide the required documentation prior to or upon execution of the contract.

Question 10: Conflicts of Interest

Question:
Should proposals list every current matter adverse to the State or any Connecticut state agency, or only matters that would create an actual or potential conflict with the services in the areas being proposed?

University Response:
Firms should disclose matters that create, may create, or may appear to create an actual or potential conflict of interest with the services for which the firm is proposing.

Question 11: Conflicts of Interest

Question:
Over what period should firms disclose prior matters that may present a conflict?

University Response:
The RFP does not establish a specific lookback period. Firms should disclose prior matters to the extent they are relevant to identifying actual or potential conflicts of interest or the appearance of a conflict.

Question 12: Conflicts of Interest

Question:
Section 2, item 4 refers to "another Connecticut state agency." Does that include other constituent units of the state system of higher education and quasi-public agencies?

University Response:
Firms should disclose any actual or potential conflicts involving Connecticut state agencies, constituent units of higher education, or other public entities to the extent relevant to the services being proposed.

Question 13: Section H Scope of Services

Question:
What kinds of matters does the University expect to assign under Section H?

University Response:
Section H is intended to seek legal services relating to the University's statutory, programmatic, governance, operational, transactional, and institutional responsibilities under the UConn 2000 Act, including advice concerning subsidiaries, affiliated entities,

joint ventures, project structures, contracting, procurement, construction, and related matters.

Section H may include legal and tax advice concerning the formation, governance, operation, acquisition activities, and transactions of subsidiaries, joint ventures, and affiliated entities authorized by the UConn 2000 Act.

Section H is not intended to include bond counsel, disclosure counsel, issuer's counsel, tax counsel to the State Treasurer, underwriters' counsel, or other legal services relating to the issuance, sale, refinancing, restructuring, remarketing, disclosure, tax status, continuing disclosure, administration, or repayment of UConn 2000 bonds or other securities.

To the extent a proposed transaction, structure, project, subsidiary, joint venture, or other activity may implicate outstanding or future UConn 2000 bonds, project eligibility, permissible uses of funds, bond-financed facilities, bond proceeds, federal tax requirements applicable to such bonds, or securities law compliance matters, advice regarding those issues shall be provided by or coordinated with designated bond counsel and the Treasurer's Office, as appropriate.

Question 14: Volume of Work

Question:
Can the University provide any estimate regarding the anticipated volume of work, number of matters, or level of legal services expected under the contract?

University Response:
The University cannot provide reliable estimates regarding the number, scope, timing, or frequency of matters that may arise during the contract term. Work volume is expected to vary among practice areas and from year to year based on University needs, project activity, funding, regulatory developments, and other factors. Selection under the RFP does not guarantee any minimum amount of work.