Addendum #1 - November 6, 2026
CMS Request for Qualifications for AE Design Services

Below are the questions received related to CMS's RFQ for AE Design Services. Responses are in red.

Question - In two different places, the "due date" is identified as both November 19 and November 20. Can you please clarify which is the correct date?

Response – The due date for RFQ responses is clarified as Friday November 20, 2026, at 3:00 pm as previously indicated during the pre-proposal conference.

Question - R**elated to the Small Business Enterprise Identification Forms is CMS looking for proposers to partner with consultants that are classified as Small Business Enterprises as well as an SBE subgroup (* SBE Subgroup categories: Black, African American (B), H Hispanic (H), Asian American (A), American Indian (I), Female (F), or Socially and Economically Disadvantaged (D)?**

Response: CMS encourages firms to partner with consultants that are classified as Small Business as well as subgroups (Black, Hispanic, Asian, Native American and Female).

Question - Is CMS going to use prototypical designs previously developed for the elementary schools listed in the RFQ scope?

Response - The evaluation of the responses will only be based upon the Architects qualifications.

Question - Will the schools be operational during the replacements?

Response – Schools could remain operational during the construction phase of the projects.

Question - Will we need to provide an environmental consultant or is CMS handling that portion?

Response – Response does not need to include an environmental consultant.

Question - Please confirm that a current, non-expired North Carolina HUB certification is acceptable for meeting the CMS SBE participation goal.

Response - Existing Statewide Uniform Business certifications (HUB) remain valid for participating local and city governments until their printed expiration date. The NC Small Business Enterprise (NCSBE) Office is offering a one-time, fast-track window for eligible HUB-certified businesses to become NCSBE certified from October 26th- November 30th via a simple digital attestation.

Question - In addition to City of Charlotte SBE certification and North Carolina HUB certification, are there other governmental certification programs CMS will recognize toward the SBE participation goal? If so, please identify the accepted certifications.

Response - SBE are certified and classified as such by a variety of entities. CMS shall accept SBE certification from any bona fide certifying agency. (i.e. any state certifying agency - SC, State of

Virginia-SWAM, NY, PA); National Minority Supplier Development Council, Women Business Enterprise National Council; but not limited to.

Question - Please confirm whether respondents are submitting qualifications for consideration for all four projects collectively, or whether firms may identify specific projects for which they would like to be considered.

Response – Either method is acceptable

Question - Section 6 - QUALIFICATIONS/RESPONDER INFORMATION-(questions 5c., 6c., 7c.) Are you still looking for project staff to be listed even if they are NOT proposed for this RFQ?

Response - Yes

Question - Under the SBE Guidelines section. We are assuming the references to sharing "Bid Documents" with our sub-consultants is equivalent in our situation to us sharing the RFQ?

Response - Yes

End of Addendum