

**CITY OF AUSTIN  
PURCHASING OFFICE  
STANDARD PURCHASE DEFINITIONS**

Whenever a term defined by the Uniform Commercial Code, as enacted by the State of Texas, is used in the Contract, the UCC definition shall control, unless otherwise defined in the Contract.

1. **Addendum** - a written instrument issued by the Contract Awarding Authority that modifies or clarifies the Solicitation prior to the Due Date. "Addenda" is the plural form of the word.
2. **Alternate Offers** - multiple Offers with substantive variations from the same Offeror in response to a Solicitation.
3. **Appropriate, Appropriated, or Appropriation** - the adoption by the City Council of a budget for a fiscal year that includes payments to be made under the Contract during the respective fiscal year.
4. **Authorized City Representative** - a person designated by the City Manager to act for the Contract Awarding Authority.
5. **Best Offer** - the best evaluated Offer in response to a Request for Proposals or Request for Qualification Statements.
6. **Best Offeror** - the Offeror submitting the Best Offer.
7. **Bid** - a complete, properly signed response to an Invitation for Bid, which if accepted, would bind the Bidder to perform the resultant Contract.
8. **Bidder** - a person, firm, or entity that submits a Bid in response to an Invitation for Bid. Any Bidder may be represented by an agent after submitting evidence demonstrating the agent's authority. The agent cannot certify as to his own agency status.
9. **Bid Guaranty** – a form of security assuring that the bidder (a) will not withdraw the Bid within the period specified for acceptance, and (b) will execute a Contract and furnish required bonds and any necessary insurance within the time specified in the Solicitation, unless a longer time is allowed by the City. The guarantee will be returned to the Bidder upon execution of a Contract.
10. **Bid Sheet** - a document, signed and dated by a Bidder, containing unit and extended bid prices for all goods and/or services, identified by item numbers and descriptions, for which Bids are being submitted
11. **Business Entity** – any entity recognized by law through which business is conducted, including a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation.
12. **Central Purchase Order (CT)** - a financial system document issued by the Contract Awarding Authority to encumber funds to pay for the deliverables identified in a Contract.
13. **City** - the City of Austin, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation.
14. **Compliance Plan** - is defined in chapter 2-9 of the City Code.
15. **Construction** - the construction, repair, rehabilitation, alteration, conversion or extension of buildings, parks, utilities, streets or other improvements or alterations to real property.
16. **Contract** - a binding legal agreement between the City and the Offeror. The Contract includes, without limitation, the Solicitation, the Offer submitted in response to the Solicitation, the Contract award, the Standard Purchase Terms and Conditions, Supplemental Terms and Conditions if any, Specifications, and any addenda and amendments thereto. Any inconsistency or conflict in the Contract documents shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order:

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- A. any exceptions to the Offer accepted in writing by the City
  - B. the Supplemental Purchase Terms and Conditions
  - C. the Standard Purchase Terms and Conditions
  - D. the Offer, exhibits, and attachments; within the Offer, drawings (figured dimensions shall govern over scaled dimensions) will take precedence over specifications or scope of work.
17. **Contract Awarding Authority** - a City department authorized to enter into Contracts on behalf of the City.
18. **Contractor/Consultant** - a person, firm or entity that supplies or provides goods and/or services to the City by Contract.
19. **Controlling Interest** means: (1) an ownership interest or participating interest in a business entity by virtue of units, percentage, shares, stocks or otherwise that exceeds 10 percent; (2) membership on the board of directors or other governing body of a business entity of which the board or other governing body is composed of not more than 10 members; or (3) service as an officer of a business entity that has four or fewer officers, or service as one of the four officers most highly compensated by a business entity that has more than four officers.
20. **Deliverables** - the goods, products, materials, and/or services to be provided to the City under a Purchase Order, Contract, or Master Agreement.
21. **Delivery Order** - a release against a Master Agreement authorizing delivery of goods and/or performance of services. A financial system document issued by the Department to encumber funds to pay for the deliverables.
22. **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise** - is defined in 49 Code of Federal Regulation Part 26 or other applicable federal regulations.
23. **Due Date** - the date and time specified for receipt of Bids, Proposals, Qualification Statements, Quotations, Responses, Submittals and Compliance Plans.
24. **Goods** - supplies, materials, or equipment.
25. **Highest Responsible Offer** - the highest Offer meeting all requirements of the specifications, terms, and conditions of the Invitation for Bid-Sale or Request for Quotation-Sale.
26. **Highest Responsible Offeror** - the Offeror submitting the "Highest Responsible Offer."
27. **Interested Party** – a person who has a Controlling Interest in a Business Entity with whom the City contracts or who actively participates in facilitating the Contract or negotiating the terms of the Contract, including a broker, intermediary, adviser, or attorney for the Business Entity.
28. **Invitation for Bid (IFB)** - a Solicitation requesting pricing for a specified Good or Service which has been advertised for Bid in a newspaper and/or on the Internet.
29. **Late Offer** - a Bid, Proposal, Quote, Response, or Submittal that is received after the Due Date and time specified in the Solicitation.
30. **Lowest Responsible Offer** - the Offer meeting all requirements of the specifications, terms, and conditions of the Invitation for Bid or Request for Quotation resulting in the lowest cost to the City in a total cost concept or based solely on price, taking into consideration the financial and practical ability of

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the Vendor to perform the Contract, past performance of the Vendor, and compliance with all City ordinances concerning the purchasing process.

31. **Lowest Responsible Offeror** - the Offeror submitting the Lowest Responsible Offer.
32. **Master Agreement** - a term contract that is used when the total quantity required cannot be definitely fixed, but can be stated as an estimate or within maximum and minimum limits with deliveries on demand. A Master Agreement does not create a financial obligation.
33. **Minority-Owned Business** - is defined in chapter 2-9 of the City Code.
34. **Non-Professional Services** - services performed that are not of a professional nature such as lawn care, security, janitorial, etc.
35. **Offer** - a complete signed response to a Solicitation including, but not limited to, an Invitation for Bid, a Request for Proposal, a Request for Qualification Statements, or a Request for Quotation.
36. **Offeror** - a person, firm, or entity that submits an Offer in response to a City Solicitation. Any Offeror may be represented by an agent after submitting evidence demonstrating the agent's authority. The agent cannot certify as to his own agency status. Includes Bidders, Proposers, Quoters, Contractors and Consultants.
37. **Pre-Bid / Proposal / Quote / Response / Submittal Conference** - a conference conducted by the Contract Awarding Authority, held in order to allow Offerors and Vendors to ask questions about the proposed Contract and particularly the Contract specifications.
38. **Professional Services** - services that use skills that are predominantly mental or intellectual, rather than physical or manual such as accounting, architecture, land surveying, law, medicine, optometry, professional engineering, etc.
39. **Proposal** - a complete, properly signed response to a Request for Proposals, which if accepted, would bind the Proposer to perform the resultant Contract.
40. **Proposal Guaranty** - a form of security assuring that the Proposer (a) will not withdraw the Proposal within the period specified for acceptance, and (b) will execute a Contract and furnish required bonds and any necessary insurance within the time specified in the Solicitation, unless a longer time is allowed by the City. The guarantee will be returned to the Proposer upon execution of a Contract.
41. **Proposer** - a person, firm or entity that submits a Proposal in response to a Request for Proposals. Any Proposer may be represented by an agent after submitting evidence demonstrating the agent's authority. The agent cannot certify as to his own agency status.
42. **Purchase Order (PO)** - an order placed by a City department for the purchase of Goods and/or Services written on the City's standard Purchase Order form and which, when accepted by the Vendor becomes a Contract. The Purchase Order is the Vendor's authority to deliver and invoice the City for Goods and/or Services specified, and the City's commitment to accept the Goods and/or Services for an agreed upon price.
43. **Purchasing Office** - refers to the Purchasing Office in the Financial and Administrative Services Department of the City.
44. **Quote** - a complete, properly signed response to a Request for Quotation, which if accepted, would bind the Offeror to perform the resultant Contract.

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45. **Quoter** - a person, firm or entity that submits a Quote in response to a Request for Quotations. Any Quoter may be represented by an agent after submitting evidence demonstrating the agent's authority. The agent cannot certify as to his own agency status.
46. **Request for Information (RFI)** - a solicitation used to obtain "state of the art" information on goods and/or services for informational purposes only.
47. **Request for Interest (RFINT)** - a solicitation used to identify interest in a City requirement.
48. **Request for Proposal (RFP)** - a solicitation used to acquire goods and/or services when a clearly defined scope of work or specification is not available.
49. **Request for Qualification Statements (RFQS)** - a solicitation used to acquire professional services as defined by the State of Texas Government Code, Chapter 2254.
50. **Request for Quotation (RFQ)** - a solicitation used to acquire goods and/or services with a total dollar value less than the State of Texas competitive bidding amount.
51. **Resident Bidder** - a person, firm, or entity whose principal place of business is in the State of Texas, including a Contractor whose ultimate parent company or majority owner has its principal place of business in the State of Texas.
52. **Response** - a complete signed reply to a Solicitation including, but not limited to a Request for Information and/or a Request for Interest.
53. **Response Guaranty** – a form of security assuring that the Offeror (a) will not withdraw the Offer within the period specified for acceptance, and (b) will execute a Contract and furnish required bonds and any necessary insurance within the time specified in the Solicitation, unless a longer time is allowed by the City. The guarantee will be returned to the Offeror upon execution of a Contract.
54. **Responsible** - refers to the financial and practical ability of the Offeror to perform the Contract and takes into consideration resources, expertise, and past performance of the Offeror as well as compliance with all City ordinances concerning the purchasing process.
55. **Responsive** - meeting all the requirements of a Solicitation.
56. **Services** - include all work or labor performed for the City on an independent Contractor basis other than construction.
57. **Solicitation** - as applicable, includes Invitation for Bid, Invitation for Bid - Sale, Request for Proposal, Request for Qualification Statements, Request for Quotation, Request for Quotation – Sale, Request for Information, Request for Interest, or such other request as defined by the City.
58. **Subcontractor/Subconsultant** - a person, firm, or entity providing goods and/or services to a prime Contractor / Consultant to be used in the performance of the prime Contractor/Consultant's obligations under a Contract.
59. **Sub-Subcontractor/Sub-Subconsultant**- a person, firm or entity providing goods and/or services to a Subcontractor/Subconsultant to be used in the performance of the Subcontractor/Subconsultant's obligations under a Contract.

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- 60. **Unbalanced Offer** - an Offer that is based on prices which are significantly less than cost for some items and significantly more than cost for others.
- 61. **Vendor** - a person, firm, or entity that sells Goods and/or Services.
- 62. **Woman-Owned Business** - is defined in chapter 2-9 of the City Code.