

VERMONT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SIMPLIFIED BID REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR  
LEGAL AND HEARING OFFICER SERVICES

The Vermont State Board of Education (“Board”) is seeking to retain outside counsel to perform the following legal services:

1. Provide specialized legal advice and assistance related to administrative appeals to the Board of the denial of tuition payments to independent schools brought pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 828 and provisions of federal and state constitutional law.
2. Advise the Board on issues of federal and state constitutional law, and other applicable substantive law, related to tuition payment appeals pending before the Board.
3. Advise the Board on legal issues related to appeals before the Board, including procedural questions under the Vermont Administrative Procedures Act, Board Rules, Open Meeting Law, and other applicable law.
4. Assist with or conduct hearings as requested, which may include any of the following:
  - a. Corresponding with the parties and assisting with scheduling and convening hearings at a location (or through a format) available for free public use, and notifying all parties involved in the matter;
  - b. Assisting the Board with creating a complete, audible, electronic, verbatim recording of the hearing;
  - c. Drafting recommended findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a proposed decision for the Board within 30 days following the completion of the hearing and in compliance with relevant law including 3 V.S.A. § 812;
  - d. Maintaining a complete record of the proceeding. Upon issuance of a proposed decision in the proceeding, Contractor shall transmit the entire record of the proceeding to the Board, including any recordings, copies of correspondence, motions, affidavits, memos, hearing schedules, orders, the written decision, exhibits, and any other relevant information.

The Board estimates that this engagement may require approximately 50—125 hours of work over the next two years.

In the selection of outside counsel, the Board will look for:

- Exceptional legal skills and experience, particularly related to Vermont education law and federal and state constitutional law.
- An excellent reputation within the legal community.
- No significant conflicts of interest, such as those that would risk the disclosure of confidential information or suggest divided loyalties.
- Reasonable and competitive fee arrangements.

If a firm is chosen to provide these legal services, the Board expects that the proposed contract attached to this request will be used. The Board does not foresee the need to make considerable changes to the form of the proposed contract.

**Proposal Format:**

The proposal shall include the following information; the Board discourages lengthy proposals:

1. A brief description of the firm's areas of expertise and experience, including experience related to education law and federal and state constitutional law. Please include the identity and experience of the individual attorney or attorneys who would be providing services under the contract.
2. A detailed description of the existence of any possible conflicts of interest, including any lawsuits and disputes where the firm represents interests adverse to the State of Vermont.
3. A detailed description of any professional sanctions or other pending or threatened governmental or regulatory proceedings which would have an adverse impact on the firm or any member of the firm.
4. Fee proposal - Please provide the proposed hourly billing rate for each attorney and paralegal named in the proposal, including any discounts the firm is willing to offer the State of Vermont from its standard rates.

**All State agencies are subject to the Vermont Public Records Law (1 V.S.A. § 315 et. seq.) Therefore, the Board cannot assure the confidentiality of any proposal.**

### **Statement of Rights**

To secure assistance that is deemed to be in the best interest of the State, the Board reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, in whole or in part, with or without cause, and to waive technicalities in submissions.

### **Requirements for Submission:**

Interested bidders must submit an electronic copy of the proposal no later than the close of business (5:00 PM) on October 12, 2022 to Assistant Attorney General Jaime Kraybill at [jaime.kraybill@vermont.gov](mailto:jaime.kraybill@vermont.gov). All proposals must have the e-mail heading: **VERMONT STATE BOARD LEGAL SERVICES RFP RESPONSE**.

Proposals received after the submission deadline will not be considered.

### **Proposal Inquiries:**

Questions concerning this simplified bid request for proposal should be sent in writing to Assistant Attorney General Jaime Kraybill at [jaime.kraybill@vermont.gov](mailto:jaime.kraybill@vermont.gov).

## **1. Parties**

This is a contract for services between the State of Vermont, State Board of Education (hereafter called “State” or “Board”) and \_\_\_\_\_, with a principal place of business in \_\_\_\_\_, (hereafter called “Contractor”). Contractor’s form of business organization is \_\_\_\_\_. It is the contractor’s responsibility to contact the Vermont Department of Taxes to determine if, by law, the contractor is required to have a Vermont Department of Taxes Business Account Number.

## **2. Subject Matter**

The subject matter of this contract is services generally on the subject of specialized legal advice and assistance related to administrative appeals to the Board of the denial of tuition payments to independent schools brought pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 828 and provisions of federal and state constitutional law. Detailed services to be provided by the contractor are described in Attachment A.

## **3. Maximum Amount**

In consideration of the services to be performed by Contractor, the State agrees to pay Contractor, in accordance with the payment provisions specified in Attachment B, a sum not to exceed \$25,000.

## **4. Contract Term**

The period of Contractor’s performance shall begin on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 and end on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024. The State reserves the right to renew this contract for two additional one-year renewal periods, contingent upon satisfactory performance by the Contractor, the availability of funds, and submission of a new and mutually agreeable budget proposal.

## **5. Prior Approvals**

This contract shall not be binding unless and until all requisite prior approvals have been obtained in accordance with current State law, bulletins, and interpretations.

## **6. Amendment**

This contract represents the entire agreement between the parties. No changes, modifications, or amendments in the terms and conditions of this contract shall be effective unless reduced to writing, numbered and signed by the duly authorized representative of the State and Contractor.

## **7. Termination for Convenience**

This contract may be terminated by the State at any time by giving written notice at least thirty (30) days in advance. In such event, Contractor shall be paid under the terms of this contract for all services provided to and accepted by the State prior to the effective date of termination.

## **8. Attachments**

This contract consists of \_\_\_\_\_ pages including the following attachments which are incorporated herein:

- Attachment A – Specifications of Work to be Performed
- Attachment B – Payment Provisions
- Attachment C – “Standard State Provisions for Contracts and Grants” a preprinted form (revision date December 2017)
- Attachment D – Other Provisions (if applicable)

**9. Order of Precedence**

Any ambiguity, conflict or inconsistency in the Contract Documents shall be resolved according to the following order of precedence:

- 1) Standard Contract
- 2) Attachment D
- 3) Attachment C (Standard Contract Provisions for Contracts and Grants)
- 4) Attachment A
- 5) Attachment B

WE THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THIS CONTRACT:

**By the State of Vermont:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**By the Contractor:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

(Remainder of page intentionally left blank)

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**SPECIFICATIONS OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED**

Contractor shall, as requested:

Provide the Board or its designee(s) with specialized legal advice and assistance related to administrative appeals to the Board of the denial of tuition payments to independent schools brought pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 828 and provisions of federal and state constitutional law. Specifically, as requested, Contractor shall:

1. Advise the Board on issues of federal and state constitutional law, and other applicable substantive law, related to tuition payment appeals pending before the Board;
2. Advise the Board on legal issues related to appeals before the Board, including procedural questions under the Vermont Administrative Procedures Act, Board Rules, Open Meeting Law, and other applicable law;
3. Assist with or conduct hearings as requested, which may include any of the following:
  - a. Corresponding with the parties and assisting with scheduling and convening hearings at a location (or through a format) available for free public use, and notifying all parties involved in the matter;
  - b. Assisting the Board with creating a complete, audible, electronic, verbatim recording of the hearing;
  - c. Drafting recommended findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a proposed decision for the Board within 30 days following the completion of the hearing and in compliance with relevant law including 3 V.S.A. § 812;
  - d. Maintaining a complete record of the proceeding. Upon issuance of a proposed decision in the proceeding, Contractor shall transmit the entire record of the proceeding to the Board, including any recordings, copies of correspondence, motions, affidavits, memos, hearing schedules, orders, the written decision, exhibits, and any other relevant information.

## ATTACHMENT B PAYMENT PROVISIONS

The maximum dollar amount payable under this contract is not intended as any form of a guaranteed amount. The Contractor will be paid for products or services actually delivered or performed, as specified in Attachment A, up to the maximum allowable amount specified on page 1 of this contract.

1. Prior to commencement of work and release of any payments, Contractor shall submit to the State:
  - a. a certificate of insurance consistent with the requirements set forth in Attachment C, Section 8 (Insurance), and with any additional requirements for insurance as may be set forth elsewhere in this contract; and
  - b. a current IRS Form W-9 (signed within the last six months).
2. Payment terms are **Net 30** days from the date the State receives an error-free invoice with all necessary and complete supporting documentation.
3. Contractor shall submit detailed invoices itemizing all work performed during the invoice period, including the dates of service, rates of pay, hours of work performed, and any other information and/or documentation appropriate and sufficient to substantiate the amount invoiced for payment by the State. All invoices must include the Contract # for this contract.
4. Contractor shall submit invoices to the State in accordance with the schedule set forth in this Attachment B. Unless a more particular schedule is provided herein, invoices shall be submitted not more frequently than every two months.
5. Invoices shall be submitted by email to the State to the Chair of the State Board of Education, cc to [aoe.invoices@vermont.gov](mailto:aoe.invoices@vermont.gov).
6. Payment shall be made following receipt of the Contractor's invoice and upon determination by the State of Contractor's satisfactory performance. Contractor will not receive payment on any invoices that are submitted beyond thirty (30) days following expiration of this contract.
7. If the Contractor is an individual, all invoices must contain the Contractor's original signature. If the Contractor is not an individual, all invoices must be printed on the Contractor's official letterhead.
8. In consideration of the services to be provided by the Contractor pursuant to this agreement, the State agrees to the following payment provisions:
  - a. \$\_\_\_\_ per hour for all services.
  - b. Contractor may request reimbursement for other reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by the Contractor in carrying out the services to be provided under this Contract, such as copying, postage, cassette tapes, CDs, with accompanying receipts. Telephone or video conferences shall be conducted through the State's services.

**ATTACHMENT C**  
**STANDARD STATE PROVISIONS FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS**  
**REVISED DECEMBER 15, 2017**

- 1. Definitions:** For purposes of this Attachment, “Party” shall mean the Contractor, Grantee or Subrecipient, with whom the State of Vermont is executing this Agreement and consistent with the form of the Agreement. “Agreement” shall mean the specific contract or grant to which this form is attached.
- 2. Entire Agreement:** This Agreement, whether in the form of a contract, State-funded grant, or Federally-funded grant, represents the entire agreement between the parties on the subject matter. All prior agreements, representations, statements, negotiations, and understandings shall have no effect.
- 3. Governing Law, Jurisdiction and Venue; No Waiver of Jury Trial:** This Agreement will be governed by the laws of the State of Vermont. Any action or proceeding brought by either the State or the Party in connection with this Agreement shall be brought and enforced in the Superior Court of the State of Vermont, Civil Division, Washington Unit. The Party irrevocably submits to the jurisdiction of this court for any action or proceeding regarding this Agreement. The Party agrees that it must first exhaust any applicable administrative remedies with respect to any cause of action that it may have against the State with regard to its performance under this Agreement. Party agrees that the State shall not be required to submit to binding arbitration or waive its right to a jury trial.
- 4. Sovereign Immunity:** The State reserves all immunities, defenses, rights or actions arising out of the State’s sovereign status or under the Eleventh Amendment to the United States Constitution. No waiver of the State’s immunities, defenses, rights or actions shall be implied or otherwise deemed to exist by reason of the State’s entry into this Agreement.
- 5. No Employee Benefits For Party:** The Party understands that the State will not provide any individual retirement benefits, group life insurance, group health and dental insurance, vacation or sick leave, workers compensation or other benefits or services available to State employees, nor will the State withhold any state or Federal taxes except as required under applicable tax laws, which shall be determined in advance of execution of the Agreement. The Party understands that all tax returns required by the Internal Revenue Code and the State of Vermont, including but not limited to income, withholding, sales and use, and rooms and meals, must be filed by the Party, and information as to Agreement income will be provided by the State of Vermont to the Internal Revenue Service and the Vermont Department of Taxes.
- 6. Independence:** The Party will act in an independent capacity and not as officers or employees of the State.
- 7. Defense and Indemnity:** The Party shall defend the State and its officers and employees against all third-party claims or suits arising in whole or in part from any act or omission of the Party or of any agent of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement. The State shall notify the Party in the event of any such claim or suit, and the Party shall immediately retain counsel and otherwise provide a complete defense against the entire claim or suit. The State retains the right to participate at its own expense in the defense of any claim. The State shall have the right to approve all proposed settlements of such claims or suits.

After a final judgment or settlement, the Party may request recoupment of specific defense costs and may file suit in Washington Superior Court requesting recoupment. The Party shall be entitled to recoup costs only upon a showing that such costs were entirely unrelated to the defense of any claim arising from an act or omission of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

The Party shall indemnify the State and its officers and employees if the State, its officers or employees become legally obligated to pay any damages or losses arising from any act or omission of the Party or an agent of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

Notwithstanding any contrary language anywhere, in no event shall the terms of this Agreement or any document furnished by the Party in connection with its performance under this Agreement obligate the State to (1) defend or indemnify the Party or any third party, or (2) otherwise be liable for the expenses or reimbursement, including attorneys' fees, collection costs or other costs of the Party or any third party.

- 8. Insurance:** Before commencing work on this Agreement the Party must provide certificates of insurance to show that the following minimum coverages are in effect. It is the responsibility of the Party to maintain current certificates of insurance on file with the State through the term of this Agreement. No warranty is made that the coverages and limits listed herein are adequate to cover and protect the interests of the Party for the Party's operations. These are solely minimums that have been established to protect the interests of the State.

Workers Compensation: With respect to all operations performed, the Party shall carry workers' compensation insurance in accordance with the laws of the State of Vermont. Vermont will accept an out-of-state employer's workers' compensation coverage while operating in Vermont provided that the insurance carrier is licensed to write insurance in Vermont and an amendatory endorsement is added to the policy adding Vermont for coverage purposes. Otherwise, the party shall secure a Vermont workers' compensation policy, if necessary to comply with Vermont law.

General Liability and Property Damage: With respect to all operations performed under this Agreement, the Party shall carry general liability insurance having all major divisions of coverage including, but not limited to:

- Premises - Operations
- Products and Completed Operations
- Personal Injury Liability
- Contractual Liability

The policy shall be on an occurrence form and limits shall not be less than:

- \$1,000,000 Each Occurrence
- \$2,000,000 General Aggregate
- \$1,000,000 Products/Completed Operations Aggregate
- \$1,000,000 Personal & Advertising Injury

Automotive Liability: The Party shall carry automotive liability insurance covering all motor vehicles, including hired and non-owned coverage, used in connection with the Agreement. Limits of coverage shall not be less than \$500,000 combined single limit. If performance of this Agreement involves construction, or the transport of persons or hazardous materials, limits of coverage shall not be less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit.

Additional Insured: The General Liability and Property Damage coverages required for performance of this Agreement shall include the State of Vermont and its agencies, departments, officers and employees as Additional Insureds. If performance of this Agreement involves construction, or the transport of persons or hazardous materials, then the required Automotive Liability coverage shall include the State of Vermont and its agencies, departments, officers and employees as Additional Insureds. Coverage shall be primary and non-contributory with any other insurance and self-insurance.

Notice of Cancellation or Change: There shall be no cancellation, change, potential exhaustion of aggregate limits or non-renewal of insurance coverage(s) without thirty (30) days written prior written notice to the State.

- 9. Reliance by the State on Representations:** All payments by the State under this Agreement will be made in reliance upon the accuracy of all representations made by the Party in accordance with this Agreement, including but not limited to bills, invoices, progress reports and other proofs of work.
- 10. False Claims Act:** The Party acknowledges that it is subject to the Vermont False Claims Act as set forth in 32 V.S.A. § 630 *et seq.* If the Party violates the Vermont False Claims Act it shall be liable to the State for civil penalties, treble damages and the costs of the investigation and prosecution of such violation, including attorney's fees, except as the same may be reduced by a court of competent jurisdiction. The Party's liability to the State under the False Claims Act shall not be limited notwithstanding any agreement of the State to otherwise limit Party's liability.
- 11. Whistleblower Protections:** The Party shall not discriminate or retaliate against one of its employees or agents for disclosing information concerning a violation of law, fraud, waste, abuse of authority or acts threatening health or safety, including but not limited to allegations concerning the False Claims Act. Further, the Party shall not require such employees or agents to forego monetary awards as a result of such disclosures, nor should they be required to report misconduct to the Party or its agents prior to reporting to any governmental entity and/or the public.
- 12. Location of State Data:** No State data received, obtained, or generated by the Party in connection with performance under this Agreement shall be processed, transmitted, stored, or transferred by any means outside the continental United States, except with the express written permission of the State.
- 13. Records Available for Audit:** The Party shall maintain all records pertaining to performance under this agreement. "Records" means any written or recorded information, regardless of physical form or characteristics, which is produced or acquired by the Party in the performance of this agreement. Records produced or acquired in a machine readable electronic format shall be maintained in that format. The records described shall be made available at reasonable times during the period of the Agreement and for three years thereafter or for any period required by law for inspection by any authorized representatives of the State or Federal Government. If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the three-year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims or audit findings involving the records have been resolved.
- 14. Fair Employment Practices and Americans with Disabilities Act:** Party agrees to comply with the requirement of 21 V.S.A. Chapter 5, Subchapter 6, relating to fair employment practices, to the full extent applicable. Party shall also ensure, to the full extent required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, that qualified individuals with disabilities receive equitable access to the services, programs, and activities provided by the Party under this Agreement.
- 15. Set Off:** The State may set off any sums which the Party owes the State against any sums due the Party under this Agreement; provided, however, that any set off of amounts due the State of Vermont as taxes shall be in accordance with the procedures more specifically provided hereinafter.
- 16. Taxes Due to the State:**
  - A.** Party understands and acknowledges responsibility, if applicable, for compliance with State tax laws, including income tax withholding for employees performing services within the State, payment of use tax on property used within the State, corporate and/or personal income tax on income earned within the State.
  - B.** Party certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date this Agreement is signed, the Party is in good standing with respect to, or in full compliance with, a plan to pay any and all taxes due the State of Vermont.

- C. Party understands that final payment under this Agreement may be withheld if the Commissioner of Taxes determines that the Party is not in good standing with respect to or in full compliance with a plan to pay any and all taxes due to the State of Vermont.
- D. Party also understands the State may set off taxes (and related penalties, interest and fees) due to the State of Vermont, but only if the Party has failed to make an appeal within the time allowed by law, or an appeal has been taken and finally determined and the Party has no further legal recourse to contest the amounts due.

**17. Taxation of Purchases:** All State purchases must be invoiced tax free. An exemption certificate will be furnished upon request with respect to otherwise taxable items.

**18. Child Support:** (Only applicable if the Party is a natural person, not a corporation or partnership.) Party states that, as of the date this Agreement is signed, he/she:

- A. is not under any obligation to pay child support; or
- B. is under such an obligation and is in good standing with respect to that obligation; or
- C. has agreed to a payment plan with the Vermont Office of Child Support Services and is in full compliance with that plan.

Party makes this statement with regard to support owed to any and all children residing in Vermont. In addition, if the Party is a resident of Vermont, Party makes this statement with regard to support owed to any and all children residing in any other state or territory of the United States.

**19. Sub-Agreements:** Party shall not assign, subcontract or subgrant the performance of this Agreement or any portion thereof to any other Party without the prior written approval of the State. Party shall be responsible and liable to the State for all acts or omissions of subcontractors and any other person performing work under this Agreement pursuant to an agreement with Party or any subcontractor.

In the case this Agreement is a contract with a total cost in excess of \$250,000, the Party shall provide to the State a list of all proposed subcontractors and subcontractors' subcontractors, together with the identity of those subcontractors' workers compensation insurance providers, and additional required or requested information, as applicable, in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54).

Party shall include the following provisions of this Attachment C in all subcontracts for work performed solely for the State of Vermont and subcontracts for work performed in the State of Vermont: Section 10 ("False Claims Act"); Section 11 ("Whistleblower Protections"); Section 12 ("Location of State Data"); Section 14 ("Fair Employment Practices and Americans with Disabilities Act"); Section 16 ("Taxes Due the State"); Section 18 ("Child Support"); Section 20 ("No Gifts or Gratuities"); Section 22 ("Certification Regarding Debarment"); Section 30 ("State Facilities"); and Section 32.A ("Certification Regarding Use of State Funds").

**20. No Gifts or Gratuities:** Party shall not give title or possession of anything of substantial value (including property, currency, travel and/or education programs) to any officer or employee of the State during the term of this Agreement.

**21. Copies:** Party shall use reasonable best efforts to ensure that all written reports prepared under this Agreement are printed using both sides of the paper.

**22. Certification Regarding Debarment:** Party certifies under pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date that this Agreement is signed, neither Party nor Party's principals (officers, directors, owners, or partners) are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or excluded from participation in Federal programs, or programs supported in whole or in part by Federal funds.

Party further certifies under pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date that this Agreement is signed, Party is not presently debarred, suspended, nor named on the State's debarment list at:

<http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing/debarment>

- 23. Conflict of Interest:** Party shall fully disclose, in writing, any conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest.
- 24. Confidentiality:** Party acknowledges and agrees that this Agreement and any and all information obtained by the State from the Party in connection with this Agreement are subject to the State of Vermont Access to Public Records Act, 1 V.S.A. § 315 et seq.
- 25. Force Majeure:** Neither the State nor the Party shall be liable to the other for any failure or delay of performance of any obligations under this Agreement to the extent such failure or delay shall have been wholly or principally caused by acts or events beyond its reasonable control rendering performance illegal or impossible (excluding strikes or lock-outs) (“Force Majeure”). Where Force Majeure is asserted, the nonperforming party must prove that it made all reasonable efforts to remove, eliminate or minimize such cause of delay or damages, diligently pursued performance of its obligations under this Agreement, substantially fulfilled all non-excused obligations, and timely notified the other party of the likelihood or actual occurrence of an event described in this paragraph.
- 26. Marketing:** Party shall not refer to the State in any publicity materials, information pamphlets, press releases, research reports, advertising, sales promotions, trade shows, or marketing materials or similar communications to third parties except with the prior written consent of the State.
- 27. Termination:**
- A. Non-Appropriation:** If this Agreement extends into more than one fiscal year of the State (July 1 to June 30), and if appropriations are insufficient to support this Agreement, the State may cancel at the end of the fiscal year, or otherwise upon the expiration of existing appropriation authority. In the case that this Agreement is a Grant that is funded in whole or in part by Federal funds, and in the event Federal funds become unavailable or reduced, the State may suspend or cancel this Grant immediately, and the State shall have no obligation to pay Subrecipient from State revenues.
  - B. Termination for Cause:** Either party may terminate this Agreement if a party materially breaches its obligations under this Agreement, and such breach is not cured within thirty (30) days after delivery of the non-breaching party’s notice or such longer time as the non-breaching party may specify in the notice.
  - C. Termination Assistance:** Upon nearing the end of the final term or termination of this Agreement, without respect to cause, the Party shall take all reasonable and prudent measures to facilitate any transition required by the State. All State property, tangible and intangible, shall be returned to the State upon demand at no additional cost to the State in a format acceptable to the State.
- 28. Continuity of Performance:** In the event of a dispute between the Party and the State, each party will continue to perform its obligations under this Agreement during the resolution of the dispute until this Agreement is terminated in accordance with its terms.
- 29. No Implied Waiver of Remedies:** Either party’s delay or failure to exercise any right, power or remedy under this Agreement shall not impair any such right, power or remedy, or be construed as a waiver of any such right, power or remedy. All waivers must be in writing.
- 30. State Facilities:** If the State makes space available to the Party in any State facility during the term of this Agreement for purposes of the Party’s performance under this Agreement, the Party shall only use the space in accordance with all policies and procedures governing access to and use of State facilities which shall be made available upon request. State facilities will be made available to Party on an “AS IS, WHERE IS” basis, with no warranties whatsoever.
- 31. Requirements Pertaining Only to Federal Grants and Subrecipient Agreements:** If this Agreement is a grant that is funded in whole or in part by Federal funds:
- A. Requirement to Have a Single Audit:** The Subrecipient will complete the Subrecipient Annual Report annually within 45 days after its fiscal year end, informing the State of Vermont whether or not a Single

Audit is required for the prior fiscal year. If a Single Audit is required, the Subrecipient will submit a copy of the audit report to the granting Party within 9 months. If a single audit is not required, only the Subrecipient Annual Report is required.

For fiscal years ending before December 25, 2015, a Single Audit is required if the subrecipient expends \$500,000 or more in Federal assistance during its fiscal year and must be conducted in accordance with OMB Circular A-133. For fiscal years ending on or after December 25, 2015, a Single Audit is required if the subrecipient expends \$750,000 or more in Federal assistance during its fiscal year and must be conducted in accordance with 2 CFR Chapter I, Chapter II, Part 200, Subpart F. The Subrecipient Annual Report is required to be submitted within 45 days, whether or not a Single Audit is required.

- B. Internal Controls:** In accordance with 2 CFR Part II, §200.303, the Party must establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award to provide reasonable assurance that the Party is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in “Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government” issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the “Internal Control Integrated Framework”, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).
- C. Mandatory Disclosures:** In accordance with 2 CFR Part II, §200.113, Party must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the State, all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in the imposition of sanctions which may include disallowance of costs incurred, withholding of payments, termination of the Agreement, suspension/debarment, etc.

### **32. Requirements Pertaining Only to State-Funded Grants:**

- A. Certification Regarding Use of State Funds:** If Party is an employer and this Agreement is a State-funded grant in excess of \$1,001, Party certifies that none of these State funds will be used to interfere with or restrain the exercise of Party’s employee’s rights with respect to unionization.
- B. Good Standing Certification (Act 154 of 2016):** If this Agreement is a State-funded grant, Party hereby represents: (i) that it has signed and provided to the State the form prescribed by the Secretary of Administration for purposes of certifying that it is in good standing (as provided in Section 13(a)(2) of Act 154) with the Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, or otherwise explaining the circumstances surrounding the inability to so certify, and (ii) that it will comply with the requirements stated therein.

(End of Standard Provisions)

**ATTACHMENT D  
OTHER PROVISIONS**

1. **Confidential Information:** Any and all information, the release of which is prohibited by state or federal law or regulation or which is subject to the protection of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) obtained by Contractor in the performance of this contract constitutes confidential information. Contractor shall not use or disclose any confidential information except as specifically permitted or required by this contract or as required by law. Other than the reports submitted to the State, Contractor agrees not to publish, reproduce, or otherwise divulge such information in whole or in part, in any manner or form, or authorize or permit others to do so. Contractor will take reasonable measures to restrict access to information in the Contractor's possession. Contractor agrees to immediately notify, in writing, the State's authorized representative in the event Contractor determines or has reason to suspect a breach of this requirement. If Contractor believes that confidential information has become publicly available, it will notify the State immediately. If Contractor is required by law to disclose any confidential information, it will, to the extent practicable, notify the State of the disclosure request and discuss an appropriate response with the State.
2. **Professional Liability Insurance:** Before commencing work on this contract and throughout the contract term, Contractor shall procure and maintain professional liability insurance for any and all services performed under this contract, with minimum coverage of \$1,000,000.00 per claim and \$1,000,000.00 aggregate.
3. **Legal services** – Contractor will be providing legal services under this contract. Contractor agrees that during the term of the contract he or she will not represent anyone in a matter, proceeding, or lawsuit against the State of Vermont or any of its agencies or instrumentalities. After termination of this contract, contractor also agrees that he or she will not represent anyone in a matter, proceeding, or lawsuit substantially related to this contract.
4. **Attorney Work Product** – The State agrees that Contractor's files and documents compiled in connection with Contractors' investigation and prosecution of this matter constitute the Contractor's work product and property over which Contractor has complete control with respect to its use and/or disclosure, subject only to any provisions of the Vermont Public Records law which may be inconsistent with this paragraph.