

**STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON**

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND QUOTATIONS (RFQQ)

**RFQQ NO. 2019-17
Amendment 02**

PROJECT TITLE: Implementing Early Screening of Dyslexia Legislation

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: 3:00 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time (PDT), on February 28, 2019

CONSULTANT ELIGIBILITY: This solicitation is open to those Consultants that satisfy the minimum qualifications stated herein and that are available for work in Washington State.

SUBMIT PROPOSAL TO: **Proposal Delivered by Email:**
contracts@k12.wa.us

**With the exception of the Letter of Intent, FAXED
PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

All communications concerning this RFQQ must be directed only to the RFQQ Coordinator via email. Any other communication will be considered unofficial and non-binding on OSPI. Consultants are to rely on written statements issued by the RFQQ Coordinator. Communication directed to parties other than the RFQQ Coordinator may result in disqualification of the Consultant.

This RFQQ is available at the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) website located at [OSPI's website](#) and at the Department of Enterprise Services, [Washington Electronic Business Solution \(WEBS\) Procurement website](#). All RFQQ amendments or Consultant questions and OSPI answers will be posted to these sites. All interested Consultants must be registered with WEBS under the following commodity codes in order to receive notifications: 785-85: School Equipment, 918-38: Education and Training Consulting, 924-18: Alternative Educational Services, and 924-20: Examination and Testing.

OSPI, and its contractors and subcontractors, must not discriminate in any programs or services based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, marital status, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability, and must comply with state and federal nondiscrimination laws, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at 360-725-6162/TTY: 360-664-3631; or P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200; or equity@k12.wa.us.

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Section A. INTRODUCTION

1. DEFINITIONS

Definitions for the purposes of this RFQQ include:

Academic Screener – Screeners are brief, reliable, and valid assessments used to assist educators with identifying students who are at-risk or not-at risk for specific academic difficulties and or dyslexia.

- Screening tools have the following characteristics:
 - Quick and targeted assessments of discrete skills
 - Standardized directions for administration and scoring
 - Screeners are culturally and linguistically relevant
 - Have established reliability and validity standards

Agency or OSPI – The Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the entity issuing this RFQQ.

Amendment – A unilateral change to the Solicitation that is issued by OSPI at its sole discretion and posted on WEBS and OSPI's website.

Apparent Successful Bidder (ASB) – A Bidder submitting a response to this Solicitation that is evaluated and is identified and announced by OSPI as providing the best value to the Agency. For the purposes of this RFQQ, the ASB will not be awarded a contract, but rather, will be placed on a vetted list of vendors.

Bid – An offer, proposal, or quote for goods or services submitted in response to this RFQQ.

Bidder – Individual organization, public or private agency submitting a proposal in order to attain a contract with OSPI. For purposes of this Solicitation, the terms Bidder, Consultant, and Vendor are interchangeable.

Competitive Solicitation – A documented formal process providing an equal and open opportunity to Bidders or Consultants culminating in a selection based on predetermined criteria.

Complaint – A process that may be followed by a Consultant prior to the deadline for bid submission to alert OSPI of certain types of asserted deficiencies in the Solicitation.

Consultant – Individual submitting a proposal in order to attain a contract ~~with OSPI~~. For purposes of this Solicitation, the terms Bidder, Consultant, and Vendor are interchangeable.

Contractor – Individual or company whose proposal has been accepted ~~by OSPI~~ and is awarded a fully executed, written contract.

Debriefing – A short meeting an unsuccessful Bidder may request with the Coordinator following the announcement of the Apparent Successful Bidder for the purpose of receiving information regarding the review and evaluation of that Bidder's Response.

Dyslexia – Defined in statute ([E2SSB 6162](#) or see supporting documents) as a specific learning disorder that is neurological in origin and characterized by:

- Unexpected difficulties with accurate or fluent word recognition and
- Poor spelling and decoding abilities that are not consistent with the person’s intelligence, motivation, and sensory capabilities.
- These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological components of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities. The resultant difficulties are not typically a result of ineffective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.

Dyslexia Advisory Council (DAC) – A council of stakeholders convened for the purposes of implementing E2SSB 6162: Early Screening of Dyslexia. The members will serve two years without compensation for their time.

Proposal – A formal offer submitted in response to this RFQQ.

Proprietary Information – Information such as patents, technological information or other related information that the Bidder or Consultant does not want released or shared with the public.

Protest – A process that may be followed by a Bidder after the announcement of the Apparent Successful Bidder to alert OSPI to certain types of alleged errors in the evaluation of the Solicitation.

Request for Qualifications and Quotations (RFQQ) – Formal procurement document in which services needed are identified, and Consultants are invited to provide their qualifications and quotation to provide the services.

RCW – The Revised Code of Washington.

Responsible Bidder – An individual, organization, public or private agency, or other entity that has demonstrated the capability to meet all the requirements of the Solicitation and meets the elements of responsibility. (See [RCW 39.26.160 \(2\)](#))

Responsive Bidder – An individual, organization, public or private agency, or other entity who has submitted a Bid that fully conforms in all material respects to the Solicitation and all its requirements, in both form and substance.

RFQQ Coordinator – An individual or designee who is employed by OSPI and who is responsible for conducting this Solicitation.

Solicitation– A formal process providing an equal and open opportunity for bidders culminating in a selection based upon predetermined criteria.

Subcontractor – An individual or other entity contracted by a Consultant to perform part of the services or to provide goods under the Contract resulting from this Solicitation. Subcontractors, if allowed, are subject to the advance approval of OSPI.

Vendor – Individual organization, public or private agency submitting a proposal in order to attain a contract with OSPI. For purposes of this Solicitation, the terms Bidder, Consultant, and Vendor are interchangeable.

WEBS – Washington’s Electronic Business Solution, the Consultant notification system found at [Washington Electronic Business Solution \(WEBS\) Procurement website](#) and maintained by the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services.

2. PURPOSE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is initiating this Request for Qualifications and Quotations (RFQQ) to solicit proposals from Consultants interested in contracting with Washington School Districts to provide ~~providing servicing as~~ academic screeners/tools (see definition for academic screener) to be administered in grades K-2 (estimated 250,000 students) for the early screening of dyslexia or areas of weakness associated with dyslexia. The screener/tools must attend to the following: phonemic awareness, phonological awareness, letter sound identification, and rapid naming. Participation in this project will include:

- High rates of validity and reliability for demographics similar to Washington State students
- Bias and Sensitivity evaluations, preferably from third parties
- Capacity to support districts of various sizes

Correlation to the expectations of the Washington State Education System:

- Common Core State English Language Arts Standards
- Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) in Literacy
- Smarter Balanced Assessment Claims and Targets

Considerations about Academic Screeners:

- Children who perform inconsistently on screening assessments should be monitored closely and provided additional services as necessary to support development and prevent the need for special education.
- Screening instruments, including those for learning disabilities, have most or all of the following characteristics.

They are:

- Helpful in determining the need for further testing
- Appropriate for large numbers of persons, screeners may have population considerations including age band.

3. BACKGROUND

OSPI is the primary agency charged with overseeing K-12 public education in Washington State. Led by State School Superintendent Chris Reykdal, OSPI works with the State’s two hundred and ninety-five (295) school districts to administer basic education programs and implement education reform on behalf of more than one million public school students. OSPI is housed in the Old Capitol Building in Olympia.

In the Spring of 2018, the Washington State Legislature passed [E2SSB 6162](#)-Early Screening of Dyslexia. Which requires each school district and charter school to:

- (1) Provide interventions and screen students in kindergarten through second grade who display indicators of dyslexia or areas of weakness associated with dyslexia;
- (2) Begin, whenever possible, by providing student supports in the general education classroom;
- (3) If after receiving interventions, further screening tools and resources indicate that a student continues to have indications of dyslexia or areas of weakness associated with dyslexia, recommend to his or her parents and family that he or she be evaluated for dyslexia or a specific learning disability; and
- (4) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, as part of the annual student assessment inventory, report the number of students and grade levels of the students screened, disaggregated by student subgroups, aggregate the school reports, and submit the report to the superintendent of public instruction. Authorizes school districts to use learning assistance program allocations to meet screening and intervention requirements, even if the student being screened or provided with supports is not eligible to participate in that program. Requires the superintendent of public instruction to:
 - (1) Convene a dyslexia advisory council to advise the superintendent on matters relating to dyslexia in an academic setting;
 - (2) Review, by June 1, 2021, the council's recommendations and make certain information available to school districts; and
 - (3) Review, by February 15, 2022, the council's updated report and revise the information that was made available to school districts.

4. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF WORK

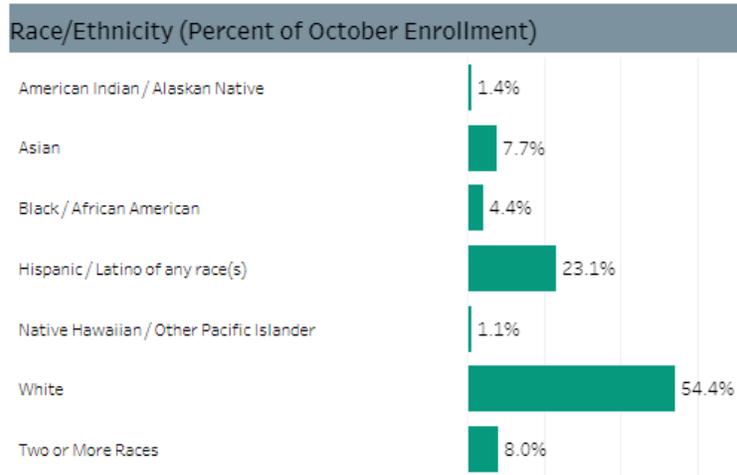
During the Spring of 2019, the Dyslexia Advisory Council (DAC) will review academic screeners who respond to this RFQQ, for the purpose of identifying tools associated with phonemic awareness, phonological awareness, letter sound identification, and rapid naming. These tools will be used by Washington School Districts in the Fall of 2021 for the early screening of dyslexia or areas of weakness associated with dyslexia. The DAC will recommend their preferred list of academic screeners to the Superintendent of Public Instruction by June 1, 2019, whom will approve or deny by end of August 2019.

OSPI will then publish a vetted list of academic screeners/tools on its website. Under [Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 6162](#), Washington school districts may purchase the vetted list of academic screeners published online in September of 2019 with implementation by districts and schools by September 2021.

5. CONSULTANT QUALIFICATIONS

- Licensed to do business in the State of Washington. If not licensed, provide a written intent to become licensed in Washington within thirty (30) calendar days of being selected as the Apparent Successful Bidder.
- Experience in working with diverse districts including urban, suburban, and rural communities.
- Knowledge of foundational reading and rapid naming skills i.e. phonemic awareness, phonological awareness, letter sound identification, and rapid naming skills
- Ability to work with diverse educators, classified staff, and administrators to ensure successful implementation of the screener/tool
- Ability to work with diverse sized districts from very small (12 students) to very large (50,000 students)

- Have the capacity to support multiple districts at one time without diminishing the implementation process or fidelity of the tool



- Experience working with diverse students populations:

Consultants who do not meet these minimum qualifications will be rejected as non-responsive and will not receive further consideration. Any proposal that is rejected as non-responsive will not be evaluated or scored.

6. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

This RFQQ will not result in a contract with OSPI. Instead, OSPI will publish a vetted list of academic screeners/tools for school districts to access. School districts may choose to purchase services from vendors on the list. Districts will contact vendors directly and negotiate contract terms, including period of performance, individually.

7. FUNDING

This RFQQ will not result in a contract with OSPI. Instead, OSPI will publish a vetted list of academic screeners/tools for school districts to access. School districts may choose to purchase services from vendors on the list. Districts will contact vendors directly and negotiate contract terms, including cost, individually.

8. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

OSPI complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Consultants may contact the RFQQ Coordinator to receive this Request for Qualifications in an alternative format.

Section B. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CONSULTANTS

1. RFQQ COORDINATOR

The RFQQ Coordinator is the sole point of contact in OSPI for this procurement. All communication between the Consultant and OSPI upon receipt of this RFQQ shall be with the RFQQ Coordinator, as follows:

Name:	Kyla Moore
Address:	600 Washington Street South P.O. Box 47200 Olympia, WA 98504-7200
Fax:	(360) 725-6240 (may be used to submit Letter of Intent only)
Email Address:	contracts@k12.wa.us

All communications concerning this RFQQ must be directed only to the RFQQ Coordinator via email. Any other communication will be considered unofficial and non-binding on OSPI. Consultants are to rely on written statements issued by the RFQQ Coordinator. Communication directed to parties other than the RFQQ Coordinator may result in disqualification of the Consultant.

2. ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES

Item	Action	Date
1.	OSPI issues RFQQ	January 29, 2019
2.	Letter of Intent due	February 11, 2019
3.	Question and Answer period	January 28-February 21, 2019
4.	OSPI hosts pre-bid conference via online platform:	March 15, 2019 from 12:30-2:30 PM, PST or March 19, 2019 from 9:30-11:30 AM, PST <u>February 15, 2019, from 12:00-3:00 PM, PST or February 19, 2019, from 9:00-12:00 PM, PST</u>
6.	Last date for questions regarding RFQQ	February 21, 2019
7.	Complaints due	February 21, 2019
8.	OSPI posts final Question and Answer Addendum or Amendment (if necessary)	February 25, 2019
9.	Proposals due	February 28, 2019
10.	OSPI conducts evaluation of written proposals	April 15-16, 2019
11.	OSPI conducts oral interviews with finalists (if determined necessary by OSPI)	April 1-April 10, 2019
12.	OSPI announces "Apparent Successful Bidder" and sends notification to unsuccessful Bidder(s)	August 15, 2019
13.	OSPI publishes vetted list of vendors for use by school districts	September 1, 2019
14.	OSPI conducts debriefing conferences (if requested)	As requested, per debriefing instructions

OSPI reserves the right to revise the above schedule.

3. LETTER OF INTENT

Consultants intending on submitting a proposal shall notify the RFQQ Coordinator via Letter of Intent to propose no later than 12:00 p.m. PST on February 11, 2019. This letter may be provided via fax, email, or postal service.

4. PRE-BID CONFERENCE

A pre-bid conference is scheduled to be held on ~~at March 15, 2019 from 12:30-2:30 PM, PST or March 19, 2019 from 9:30-11:30 AM, PST~~ February 15, 2019, from 12:00-3:00 PM, PST or February 19, 2019, from 9:00-12:00 PM, PST via online platform:

<u>March 15, 2019 12:30-2:30 PM, PST</u> <u>February 15, 2019 12:00-3:00 PM, PST</u>	<u>March 19, 2019 9:30-11:30 AM, PST</u> <u>February 19, 2019 9:00-12:00 PM, PST</u>
<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/3395030981</p> <p>One tap mobile +16465588656,,3395030981# US (New York) +16699006833,,3395030981# US (San Jose)</p> <p>Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)</p> <p>Meeting ID: 339 503 0981 Find your local number: https://zoom.us/j/3395030981</p> <p>Join by SIP 3395030981@zoomcrc.com</p> <p>Join by H.323 162.255.37.11 (US West) 162.255.36.11 (US East) 221.122.88.195 (China) 115.114.131.7 (India) 213.19.144.110 (EMEA) 202.177.207.158 (Australia) 209.9.211.110 (Hong Kong) 64.211.144.160 (Brazil) 69.174.57.160 (Canada) Meeting ID: 339 503 0981</p>	<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/3395030981</p> <p>One tap mobile +16465588656,,3395030981# US (New York) +16699006833,,3395030981# US (San Jose)</p> <p>Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)</p> <p>Meeting ID: 339 503 0981 Find your local number: https://zoom.us/j/3395030981</p> <p>Join by SIP 3395030981@zoomcrc.com</p> <p>Join by H.323 162.255.37.11 (US West) 162.255.36.11 (US East) 221.122.88.195 (China) 115.114.131.7 (India) 213.19.144.110 (EMEA) 202.177.207.158 (Australia) 209.9.211.110 (Hong Kong) 64.211.144.160 (Brazil) 69.174.57.160 (Canada) Meeting ID: 339 503 0981</p>

All prospective Consultants should attend; however, attendance is not mandatory. Written questions may be submitted in advance to the RFQQ Coordinator. OSPI shall be bound only to written answers to questions. Any oral responses given at the pre-proposal conference shall be considered unofficial.

Questions arising at the pre-bid conference or in subsequent communication with the RFQQ Coordinator will be documented and answered in written form. A copy of the questions and answers in the form of an Addendum to the RFQQ will be sent to each prospective Consultant who received the RFQQ or made the RFQQ Coordinator aware of their interest in this procurement.

Within five (5) business days of the pre-bid conference, a copy of the questions and answers from the pre-bid conference will be placed on the OSPI website and released on WEBS.

5. COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

The complaint process is available to Consultants interested in this RFQQ. The complaint process allows Consultants to focus on the Solicitation requirements and evaluation process and raise issues with these processes early enough in the process to allow OSPI to correct a problem before proposals are submitted and time expended on evaluations.

A Consultant may submit a complaint based on any of the following:

- The Solicitation unnecessarily restricts competition;
- The Solicitation evaluation or scoring process is unfair or flawed; or
- The Solicitation requirements are inadequate or insufficient to prepare a proposal.

Consultants may submit complaints up to five (5) business days prior to the proposal due date noted in the Estimated Schedule of Procurement Activities. However, Consultants are encouraged to submit complaints as soon as possible so OSPI can rectify the issue(s) early in the process. Complaints must be submitted to the RFQQ Coordinator. In order to be considered a valid complaint, the complaint must meet the following requirements:

- Must be in writing.
- Should clearly articulate the basis for the complaint.
- Should include a proposed remedy.

Complaints not received by the deadline noted in the Estimated Schedule of Procurement Activities will not be reviewed by OSPI. Failure by the Bidder to raise a complaint at this stage may waive its right for later consideration.

The OSPI Contracts Administrator or an employee delegated by the Contracts Administrator will review valid complaints and respond to the submitter in writing. OSPI will consider all complaints but is not required to adopt a complaint, in part or in full. OSPI's response to the complaint is final and not subject to administrative appeal. The response, and any changes to the RFQQ, will be posted to WEBS prior to the proposal due date. Any complaint addressed during the complaint process cannot be raised during the protest process.

6. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Consultants shall submit proposals as an attachment to an email to the RFQQ Coordinator listed above in Section B.1. ***Proposals must arrive by 3:00 p.m. in Olympia, WA, on February 28, 2019.*** (Please note **RFQQ No. 2019-17** in the email subject line.) Attachments to the email shall be Microsoft Word format or in Portable Document Format (PDF). Zipped files may be received by OSPI and can be used for submission of proposals. OSPI does not assume responsibility for any problems with the electronic delivery of materials.

Proposals not received by the deadline will not be reviewed. Late proposals will not be accepted and will be automatically disqualified from further consideration. Proposals must respond to the procurement requirements. Do not respond by referring to material presented elsewhere. The proposal must be complete and must stand on its own merits.

Failure to respond to any portion of the procurement document may result in rejection of the proposal as non-responsive. All proposals and any accompanying documentation become the property of OSPI and will not be returned.

7. PROPRIETARY INFORMATION/PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Your entire response to this RFQQ is a public record and will be disclosed consistent with the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW.

A. CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

For the purposes of this RFQQ, do not include confidential or proprietary information unless specifically requested by OSPI.

If OSPI requests confidential or proprietary information, you must clearly print the word "Confidential" on the lower right-hand corner of each page containing the confidential or proprietary information.

B. PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS

If a public records request seeks your proposal and the proposal contains pages clearly marked "Confidential", OSPI will take the following steps:

- i. We will notify you. We will identify the requestor and the date that OSPI will disclose the requested records.
- ii. We will give you an opportunity to seek a court order to stop OSPI from disclosing the records.
- iii. We will not evaluate or defend your claim of confidentiality. We will not withhold or redact your documents without a court order.

If you have any questions, refer to the [OSPI Public Records Office](#).

8. ADDENDUMS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE RFQQ

In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFQQ, an addendum or an amendment will be published on the [OSPI website](#). For this purpose, the published Consultant questions and Agency answers, and any other pertinent information, shall be considered an addendum to the RFQQ. Additionally, all addenda referred to above will be released on WEBS under the commodity code(s) listed on the cover page of this RFQQ. It will be the responsibility of interested Consultants to check the website periodically for addenda and amendments to the RFQQ.

9. SMALL BUSINESS, MINORITY & WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (MWBE), AND VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS PARTICIPATION

In accordance with the legislative findings and policies set forth in chapter [39.19 RCW](#), the State of Washington encourages participation in all of its contracts by firms certified by the Office of

Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE). Participation may be either on a direct basis in response to this RFQQ or on a subcontractor basis. For more information on certification, contact the [Washington Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises](#).

43.60A.200 encourages the participation of Veteran and Service Member Owned Businesses certified by the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs RCW [43.60A.195](#). For more information on certification, contact [Washington State Department of Veteran Affairs](#).

Additionally, per Department of Enterprise policy, agencies are encouraged to buy from in-state small business, including microbusinesses and minibusinesses.

However, no preference will be included in the evaluation of proposals, no minimum level of MWBE participation shall be required as a condition for receiving an award, and proposals will not be rejected or considered non-responsive on that basis. Any affirmative action requirements set forth in federal regulations or statutes included or referenced in the contract documents will apply.

~~Self-Certification should be submitted with the Contractor Intake Form (Exhibit D).~~

10. ACCEPTANCE PERIOD

Proposals must provide sixty (60) days for acceptance by OSPI from the due date for receipt of proposals.

11. RESPONSIVENESS

All proposals will be reviewed by the RFQQ Coordinator to determine compliance with administrative and minimum requirements and instructions specified in this RFQQ. OSPI may reject a Proposal as nonresponsive at any time for any of the following reasons:

- Incomplete Proposal
- Failure to meet the minimum Bidder qualifications or to comply with any requirement set forth in this RFQQ, including Attachments
- Submission of incorrect, misleading or false information
- History of prior unsatisfactory contractual performance

The RFQQ Coordinator may contact any Bidder for clarification of the proposal. If a proposal is deemed non-responsive, it shall be removed from further consideration. Bidders whose proposals are found to be non-responsive shall be disqualified from further evaluation and shall be notified in writing. Within three business days following such notification, Bidder may request a Debriefing Conference that shall be limited to the reasons Bidder was found to be non-responsive. Refer to Debriefing of Unsuccessful Proposers procedure in Section D.

If a proposal meets all administrative and Bidder qualification requirements and submittal instructions, OSPI shall continue with the written evaluation and, if applicable, the oral evaluation.

OSPI reserves the right at its sole discretion to waive minor administrative irregularities.

12. MOST FAVORABLE TERMS

OSPI reserves the right to make an award without further discussion of the proposal submitted. Therefore, the proposal should be submitted initially on the most favorable terms which the Bidder can propose. There will be no best and final offer procedure. OSPI does reserve the right to contact a Bidder for clarification of its proposal.

The Bidder should be prepared to accept this RFQQ for incorporation into a contract resulting from this RFQQ. Contract negotiations may incorporate some or all of the Bidder's proposal. It is understood that the proposal will become a part of the official procurement file on this matter without obligation to OSPI.

13. CONTRACT AND GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

This RFQQ will not result in a contract with OSPI. Instead, OSPI will publish a vetted list of academic screeners/tools for school districts to access. School districts may choose to purchase services from vendors on the list. Districts will contact vendors directly and negotiate contract terms.

14. COSTS TO PROPOSE

OSPI will not be liable for any costs incurred by the Consultant in preparation of a proposal submitted in response to this RFQQ, in conduct of a presentation, or any other activities related to responding to this RFQQ.

15. NO OBLIGATION TO CONTRACT

This RFQQ does not obligate the State of Washington or OSPI to contract for services specified herein. OSPI also reserves the right to cancel or to reissue the RFQQ in whole or in part, prior to execution of a contract without penalty.

16. REJECTION OF PROPOSALS

OSPI reserves the right at its sole discretion to reject any and all proposals received without penalty and not to issue a contract as a result of this RFQQ.

Section C. PROPOSAL CONTENTS

Proposals must be formatted to print on eight and one-half by eleven (8 ½ x 11) inch paper size with individual sections clearly identified. The Letter of Submittal, excluding the signed Certifications and Assurances and ~~Contractor Intake Form~~, shall be a maximum of one (1) page. The two (2) major sections of the proposal are to be submitted in the order noted below:

1. Letter of Submittal including signed:
 - a. Certifications and Assurances
 - b. ~~Contractor Intake Form~~
2. Management Proposal
3. Cost Proposal

Proposals must provide information in the same order as presented in this document with the same headings. This will not only be helpful to the evaluators of the proposal, but should assist the Consultant in preparing a thorough response.

Items in this section marked “mandatory” must be included as part of the proposal for the proposal to be considered responsive; however, these items are not scored. Items marked “scored” are those that are awarded points as part of the evaluation conducted by the evaluation team.

1. LETTER OF SUBMITTAL (MANDATORY)

The Letter of Submittal, and the attached Certifications and Assurances, ~~and attached Contractor Intake Form~~ must be signed and dated by a person authorized to legally bind the Consultant to a contractual relationship, (e.g., the President or Executive Director if a corporation, the managing partner if a partnership, or the proprietor if a sole proprietorship).

Along with introductory remarks, please attach to the Letter of Submittal the following information about the Consultant and any proposed subcontractors:

- A. Name, address, and telephone number of each principal officer (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, etc.);
- B. Location of the facility from which the Consultant would operate; and
- C. A detailed list of all materials and enclosures included in the Proposal.

2. MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

A. Project Management (SCORED)

- ~~1. **Project Team Structure/Internal Controls** Provide a description of the proposed project team structure and internal controls to be used during the course of the project, including any subcontractors. Provide an organizational chart of your firm indicating lines of authority for personnel involved in performance of this potential contract and relationships of this staff to other programs or functions of the firm. This chart must also show lines of authority to the next senior level of management. Include who within the firm will have prime responsibility and final authority for the work.~~

2. **Consultant Qualifications/Experience (SCORED)** – Identify staff, including subcontractors, who will be assigned to the potential contract, indicating the responsibilities and qualifications of such personnel, and include the amount of time each will be assigned to the project. Provide résumés for the named staff, which include information on the individual's particular skills related to this project, education, experience, significant accomplishments and any other pertinent information. The Consultant must commit that staff identified in its proposal will actually perform the assigned work. Any staff substitution must have the prior approval of OSPI.

B. Experience of the Consultant (SCORED)

1. Include other relevant experience that indicates the qualifications of the Consultant, and any subcontractors, for the performance of the potential contract.
2. Include a list of contracts the Consultant has had during the last five years that relate to the Consultant's ability to perform the services needed under this RFQQ. List contract reference numbers, contract period of performance, contact persons, telephone numbers, and fax numbers/e-mail addresses.

C. References (SCORED)

List names, addresses, telephone numbers, and fax numbers/email addresses of three (3) business references for whom work has been accomplished and briefly describe the type of service provided for them. By submitting a proposal in response to this RFQQ, the vendor and team members grant permission to OSPI to contact these references and others, who from OSPI's perspective, may have pertinent information. OSPI may or may not, at OSPI's discretion, contact these references or others. Do not include current OSPI staff as references.

D. Past Performance

Provide information regarding past performance by indicating if the Consultant has received notification of contract breach in the past five (5) years. This does not lead to automatic disqualification. However, OSPI reserves the right to disqualify Consultant proposals based on the Consultant's historical performance as outlined above in Section B. General Information for Consultants, 11. Responsiveness.

3. COST PROPOSAL

The evaluation process is designed to award this procurement not necessarily to the Consultant of least cost, but rather to the Consultant whose proposal best meets the requirements of this RFQQ. However, Consultants are encouraged to submit proposals that are consistent with state government efforts to conserve state resources.

Identification of Costs (SCORED) – Identify all costs including expenses to be charged for performing the services necessary to accomplish the objectives of the Contract. The Consultant is to submit a fully detailed budget including a per-pupil cost of the tools, staff costs, administrative costs, travel costs, and any other expenses necessary to accomplish the tasks and to produce the deliverables outlined in this RFQQ. Consultants are required to collect and pay Washington State sales tax, if applicable.

4. QUALITY OF THE ASSESSMENT EXAMPLES

Consultants must include in their proposal, examples of their screener(s)/tool(s) including the intention of the screener, the teacher resources and directions, student blackline masters, and other details relevant to administration and implementation of the screener/tool.

SKILL REQUIRED BY LAW (SCORED)

E2SSB requires that the screeners used by the WA School district require the following skills to be assessed in grades K-2 for indications of dyslexia or areas of weakness associated with dyslexia:

- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonological Awareness
- Letter Sound Identification
- Rapid Naming Identification

BIAS and SENSATIVITY (SCORED)

Consultants proposals should be able to demonstrate that their recommended screeners/tools have been used with diverse (multi-lingual, racially, ethnically, culturally, and differently abled) groups of students in grades K-2 and that the screeners/tools do not demonstrate ineffective propensity for specific student groups.

VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY (SCORED)

The proposed screeners/tools should demonstrate consistent validity and reliability in usage of the tool for all student groups represented in Washington School Districts. Does the validity demonstrate clear indicators of students at risk and not at risk? Does the reliability show clarity around decision making?

CORRELATION TO WA STATE STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENTS (SCORED)

The proposed screener/tools should show a direct path to the current WA Standards and how the screeners/skills can be used in conjunction with current required WA State Assessments: WAKiDS (Teaching Strategies Gold) and the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium to provide multiple measures for educators and families to inform next steps and success for students.

CAPACITY TO SUPPORT WA DISTRICTS (SCORED)

The consultant should demonstrate the ability to work with diverse sized districts through in a person platform, digital platform, or hybrid of systems including technical assistance to ensure proper implementation and fidelity to the proposed screeners/tools.

Section D. EVALUATION AND CONTRACT AWARD SELECTION

1. EVALUATION PROCEDURE

Responsive proposals will be evaluated strictly in accordance with the requirements stated in this RFQQ and any addenda issued. The evaluation of proposals shall be accomplished by an evaluation team, to be designated by OSPI, which will determine the ranking of the proposals.

2. EVALUATION WEIGHTING AND SCORING

The following points will be assigned to the proposals for evaluation purposes:

Management Proposal		60 points 20 points
Project Team Structure/Internal Controls	15 points (maximum)	
Staff <u>Consultant</u> Qualifications/Experience	15 points <u>20 points (maximum)</u>	
Experience of the Consultant	30 points (maximum)	
Cost Proposal		70 points 20 points
<u>Assessment Examples</u>		104 points
<u>Quality of the Screeners/Tools Examples</u>	<u>20 points (maximum)</u>	
<u>Skills Required by Law</u>	<u>4 points (maximum)</u>	
<u>Bias and Sensitivity of Screeners/Tools</u>	<u>20 points (maximum)</u>	
<u>Validity and Reliability of Screeners/Tools</u>	<u>20 points (maximum)</u>	
<u>Correlation to WA State Standards and Assessments</u>	<u>20 points (maximum)</u>	
<u>Capacity to Support WA Districts</u>	<u>20 points (maximum)</u>	
Subtotal		130 points 144 points
Oral Presentation (may be required for top-scoring proposer(s) only)		10 points
Reference Checks (if determined necessary by OSPI)		10 points
GRAND TOTAL FOR PROPOSAL		160 points 164 points

References may be contacted for the top-scoring Bidder(s) only and will then be scored and added to the total score.

3. ORAL PRESENTATIONS MAY BE REQUIRED

OSPI, at its sole discretion, may elect to select the top scoring finalists from the written evaluation for an oral presentation and final determination of contract award. Should OSPI elect to hold oral presentations, it will contact the top-scoring firm(s) to schedule a date, time, and location. Commitments made by the Bidder at the oral interview, if any, will be considered binding.

The scores from the written evaluation and the oral presentation combined together will determine the Apparent Successful Bidder.

4. SELECTION OF APPARENT SUCCESSFUL BIDDER

The Consultant(s) submitting the Bid most advantageous to the State will be declared the Apparent Successful Bidder (ASB). The date of announcement of the ASB will be the date the announcement letter is postmarked or, if emailed, the date the email is sent.

5. NOTIFICATION TO PROPOSERS

Proposals that have not been selected for further negotiation or award will be notified via email by the RFQQ Coordinator.

6. DEBRIEFING OF UNSUCCESSFUL PROPOSERS

Upon request, an individual debriefing conference will be scheduled with an unsuccessful Bidder. The request for a debriefing conference must be received by the RFQQ Coordinator within three (3) business days after the Notification of Unsuccessful Bidder letter or e-mail is sent to the Consultant. The debriefing must be held within three (3) business days of the request, unless otherwise agreed upon by the RFQQ Coordinator and Bidder.

Discussion will be limited to a critique of the requesting Consultant's proposal. Comparisons between proposals or evaluations of the other proposals will not be allowed. Debriefing conferences may be conducted in person or on the telephone and will be scheduled for a maximum of thirty (30) minutes.

Please note, because the debrief process must occur before making an award, OSPI likely will schedule the Debrief Conference shortly after the announcement of the ASB and the Bidder's request for a Debrief Conference. OSPI will not allow the debrief process to delay the award. Therefore, Bidders should plan for contingencies and alternate representatives; Bidders who are unwilling or unable to attend the Debrief Conference will lose the opportunity to protest.

7. PROTEST PROCEDURE

This protest procedure is available to Consultants who submitted a response to this RFQQ document and who have participated in a debriefing conference. Upon completion of the debriefing conference, the Consultant is allowed five (5) business days to file a protest of the acquisition with the RFQQ Coordinator. Protests may be submitted by fax or email, and must be followed by an original, signed document.

Consultants protesting this procurement shall follow the procedures described below. Protests that do not follow these procedures shall not be considered. This protest procedure constitutes the sole administrative remedy available to Consultants under this procurement.

All protests must be in writing and signed by the protesting party or an authorized Agent. The protest must state the grounds for the protest including specific facts and complete statements of the action(s) being protested. The protesting party may submit with the protest any documents or information deemed relevant. A description of the relief or corrective action being requested should also be included. All protests shall be addressed to the RFQQ Coordinator.

Only protests stipulating an issue of fact concerning the following subjects shall be considered:

- A matter of bias, discrimination or conflict of interest on the part of the evaluator/evaluation team;
- Errors in computing the score; and/or
- Non-compliance with procedures described in the procurement document or OSPI policy.

Protests not based on procedural matters will not be considered. Protests will be rejected as without merit if they address issues such as: 1) an evaluator's professional judgment on the quality of a proposal, 2) OSPI's assessment of its own and/or other agencies needs or requirements, or 3) a complaint raised during the Complaint Procedure.

Upon receipt of a protest, a protest review will be held by OSPI. OSPI Contracts Administrator or an employee delegated by the Contracts Administrator who was not involved in the procurement will consider the record and all available facts and issue a decision within ten (10) business days of receipt of the protest. If additional time is required, the protesting party will be notified.

In the event a protest may affect the interest of another Consultant that submitted a proposal, such Consultant will be given an opportunity to submit its views and any relevant information on the protest to the RFQQ Coordinator.

The final determination of the protest shall:

- Find the protest lacking in merit and uphold OSPI's action; or
- Find only technical or harmless errors in OSPI's procurement process and determine OSPI to be in substantial compliance and reject the protest; or
- Find merit in the protest and provide OSPI options which may include:
 - Correct the errors and re-evaluate all proposals, and/or
 - Reissue the RFQQ document and begin a new process, or
 - Make other findings and determine other courses of action as appropriate.

If OSPI determines that the protest is without merit, OSPI will ~~enter into a contract with the Apparent Successful Bidder~~ publish the list of vetted vendors as intended. If the protest is determined to have merit, one of the alternatives noted in the preceding paragraph will be taken.

Section E. RFQQ EXHIBITS

- Exhibit A Certifications and Assurances
- Exhibit B Proposal Checklist

EXHIBIT A CERTIFICATION AND ASSURANCES

Bidder must sign and include the full text of this Exhibit A with their proposal.

Bidder makes the following certifications and assurances as a required element of the proposal to which it is attached, understanding that the truthfulness of the facts affirmed here and the continuing compliance with these requirements are conditions precedent to the award or continuation of the related contract(s):

1. Bidder declares that all answers and statements made in the proposal are true and correct.
2. The prices and/or cost data have been determined independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement with others for the purpose of restricting competition. However, Bidder may freely join with other persons or organizations for the purpose of presenting a single proposal.
3. The attached proposal is a firm offer for a period of sixty (60) days following receipt, and it may be accepted by OSPI without further negotiation (except where obviously required by lack of certainty in key terms) at any time within the sixty- (60-) day period.
4. In preparing this proposal, Bidder has not been assisted by any current or former employee of the state of Washington whose duties relate (or did relate) to this proposal or prospective contract, and who was assisting in other than his or her official, public capacity. (Any exceptions to these assurances are described in full detail on a separate page and attached to this document.)
5. Bidder understands that OSPI will not reimburse Bidder for any costs incurred in the preparation of this proposal. All proposals become the property of OSPI, and Bidder claims no proprietary right to the ideas, writings, items, or samples, unless so stated in this proposal.
6. Unless otherwise required by law, the prices and/or cost data which have been submitted have not been knowingly disclosed by the Bidder and will not knowingly be disclosed by Bidder prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other Bidder or to any competitor.
7. No attempt has been made or will be made by the Bidder to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition.
9. Bidder grants OSPI the right to contact references and others, who may have pertinent information regarding the Bidder's prior experience and ability to perform the services contemplated in this procurement.
10. Bidder acknowledges that if awarded a contract with OSPI, Bidder is required to comply with all applicable state and federal civil rights and other laws. Failure to comply may result in Contract termination. Bidder agrees to submit additional information about its nondiscrimination policies, at any time, if requested by OSPI.

11. Bidder certifies that Bidder has not, within the three-year period immediately preceding the date of release of this competitive solicitation, been determined by a final and binding citation and notice of assessment issued by the Department of Labor and Industries or through a civil judgment to have willfully violated state minimum wage laws (RCW 49.38.082; Chapters 49.46 RCW, 49.48 RCW, or 49.52 RCW).
12. Bidder has not been debarred or otherwise restricted from participating in any public contracts.
13. Bidder certifies that Bidder has not willfully violated Washington State's wage payment laws within the last three years.
14. Bidder acknowledges its obligation to notify OSPI of any changes in the certifications and assurances above.

I certify under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature of Bidder	Date	Place Signed (City, State)
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Print Name	Title	Organization Name
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EXHIBIT B
PROPOSAL CHECKLIST

Please use the checklist below to ensure that you have submitted all required materials in the required format. This checklist does not need to be submitted with your proposal.

Included in Proposal	Component
<input type="checkbox"/>	Letter of Submittal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Management Proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	References
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Assessment Examples</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cost Proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Certifications and Assurances