

# Thomas County School Nutrition Program



**THOMAS COUNTY SCHOOLS**  
Feeding Bodies, Fueling Minds

## **INVITATION FOR BID FOR FROZEN FOODS and SCHOOL DELIVERY PRODUCTS**

**IFB #:Frozen 23-24**

<b>Invitation For Bid Timeline</b>	
Bid Issue Date	MAY 5, 2023
Final Date for Written Questions	May 17, 2023
Bid Due Date and Time	JUNE 2, 2023 by 9:00 am
Bid Due Location	Thomas County School Nutrition 200 N. Pinetree Blvd. Thomasville, GA 31792
Bid Opening Date and Time	JUNE 2, 2023 at 9:00 am
Bid Opening Location	School Nutrition Office 200 N. Pinetree Blvd. Thomasville, GA 31792
Award Date (per award letter)	
Contract Start Date and End Date	July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024
Name of Awardee (completed after contract is awarded)	

## DEFINITIONS

**Addendum:** A change, addition, alteration, correction or revision to a bid or contract document.

**Bidder:** A firm, individual, or corporation submitting a bid in response to this IFB.

**Bid Unit:** The unit designation which shall be applicable to all pricing offered for bid evaluation purposes. Unit cost, freight, fixed fee, estimated usage, and the extended cost shall be stated in terms of the designated bid unit. In some instances, the bid unit and the package unit may be the same.

**Contract Documents:** Consist of the Agreement between the School Nutrition Program and the Vendor, terms and conditions, schedule, specifications, drawings, any and all addenda, errata, and bulletins issued prior to execution of the contract, other documents listed in the Agreement, and modifications issued after execution of the contract.

**Damaged Item:** Refers to an item that has sustained damage that would allow spillage from the original container, a loss or disfigurement of a label that would hinder identification, contaminated package that would affect the content of that package or any other happening that would affect the quality and/or quantity of the original item.

**Dry Food Product:** A dry product that does NOT require freezing or refrigeration.

**Invitation for Bid (IFB):** A type of solicitation document used in competitive sealed bidding, where the primary consideration is cost, and the expectation is that competitive bids will be received, and an acceptance (award) will be made to the responsive and responsible Bidder whose bid is lowest in price and meets the specifications of the bid. An IFB is a formal method of procurement that uses sealed bidding and results in a fixed price contract with or without adjustment factors. The IFB must be publicly advertised, and bids shall be solicited from an adequate number of known suppliers, providing them with sufficient time to respond prior to the date set for opening the bids.

**NSLP:** National School Lunch Program

**Pack size:** With some items the bid unit does not represent a package configuration by which the item would normally be purchased. In such instances, the Bidder will be required to bid according to the designated bid unit and also state how the product will be packaged and to provide a cost for purchase unit.

**Purchase Unit:** The package configuration (case, carton, box, bag, etc.) by which the product would normally be sold. This shall also mean packaging being referred to when the term "case price" is applicable.

**SBP:** School Breakfast Program

**SFA:** School Food Authority

**Solicitation:** A document used by the School Nutrition Program to acquire goods and /or services. Solicitations must incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Solicitations must also identify all the requirements which the Offerors or Bidders must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating the bids or proposals.

**Vendor:** The provider of the goods and/or services under the Contract.

**SECTION 1  
TRANSMITTAL PAGE**

The Thomas County School Food Authority (SFA) is requesting sealed bids for School Nutrition for **Frozen Foods and School Delivery Products**. Bids are due by the date, time and location shown on the Invitation for Bid Timeline. Bids will be opened at the date, time and location shown on the Invitation for Bid Timeline.

Sealed Bids shall be mailed or delivered to:

Thomas County Schools  
School Nutrition Program  
200 N. Pinetree Blvd.  
Thomasville, GA 31792

Questions regarding this Invitation for Bid shall be directed to: Dr. Lauren Duplantis, School Nutrition Director at [lduplantis@tcjackets.net](mailto:lduplantis@tcjackets.net) or 229-584-9139.

**INTENT**

- a) It shall be the intent and purpose of this Invitation for Bid (IFB) to cover the terms and conditions under which a successful Bidder shall be responsible to supply and deliver products to the Thomas County School Nutrition Program through sealed bids. School food authorities shall comply with the requirements of 7CFR 210.21 and 2 CFR part 200, subpart D and USDA implementing regulations 2 CFR part 400 and part 415, as applicable, which implement the applicable requirements, concerning the procurement of all goods and services with nonprofit school food service account funds.
- b) Thomas County School Nutrition is seeking to identify and select one (1) or more vendors to provide the items as listed in the attached list in *Attachment B*. The selected vendor(s) shall provide products in accordance with the Standard Terms and Conditions, Special Terms and Conditions, the IFB and any applicable Addenda.
- c) Thomas County School Nutrition reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, or to accept any part of a bid without accepting the whole thereof, or to accept such bid as they deem to be in the best interest of the school nutrition program.

**I. CONTRACT TIME PERIOD**

- a) **Initial Term:** The initial term of this contract, which results from the award of this IFB, shall commence and terminate on the dates shown on the Invitation for Bid Timeline (found on cover page).
- b) **Extension Option:** The contract may be extended up to three (3) months at the same bid pricing, provided mutual agreement by both parties in written form.
- c) **Renewal Option:** This contract may be renewed by mutual agreement of both parties in written form. (Usually 1-year term with the option to renew 4 additional 1-year terms based on vendor performance.)

## II. BID SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

*Thomas County School Nutrition is not liable for any costs incurred by Bidders prior to issuance of or entering into a contract. Costs associated with developing the bid, preparing for oral presentations, and any other expenses incurred by the Bidder in responding to this IFB are entirely the responsibility of the Bidder and shall not be reimbursed in any manner by the School Nutrition Program.*

- a) Bids must be enclosed in a sealed envelope. The outside of the envelope shall be clearly marked as shown on page #1 of this document entitled **"IFB # Frozen 23-24 FOR THOMAS COUNTY SCHOOL NUTRITION"**.
- b) Bids must be received by the School Nutrition Program no later than the date shown on the Invitation for Bid Timeline.
- c) Late bids shall not be accepted. Thomas County School Nutrition shall not be responsible for late receipt of bids. Bids must be mailed or delivered to the location as stated above.  
Emailed and/or faxed bids are not acceptable and will not be considered for SEALED BIDS.  
**An Excel electronic copy or paper copy of the bid Quote Sheet, along with any alternate or required information must be included inside the sealed bid package.**
- d) If the Bidder submits bid documents with informalities, errors, or omissions such as, but not limited to, non-conforming bid security, non-conforming non-collusion affidavit or samples, or fails to properly execute and seal the said documents the Bidder, in the School Nutrition Program's sole discretion, may be given 72 hours from the time of the bid opening in which to provide such information to the School Nutrition Program.
- e) The School Nutrition Program has the right to waive any and all informalities.

## III. BID OPENING DATE/TIME/PLACE

Bids will be opened at the date, time and location shown on the Invitation for Bid Timeline.

## IV. AWARD DETERMINATION STATEMENT

- a) This IFB is intended to be awarded to a single or to multiple vendors and to result in a firm fixed price contract. All bid prices shall remain firm for the contract period and in accordance with terms listed within the Escalation/De-escalation Clause, if applicable.
- b) The award of this IFB is contingent upon available budget funds and approval of the Thomas County Board of Education.
- c) The School Nutrition Program will award the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder(s) meeting all terms, conditions, and specifications of the IFB, within approximately sixty (60) days of the opening of the bids. Submitted bid pricing shall remain valid during this sixty-day period. The School Nutrition Program reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to accept or reject any and all bids or parts thereof.
- d) An official letter of acceptance will be forwarded by the School Nutrition Program to the successful Bidder after bid selection and prior to contract award.
- e) Upon acceptance and award of a vendor's bid, the contract between the Bidder and the School Nutrition Program shall be drafted from (a) the IFB and addenda, (b) the selected bid response to the IFB by the Bidder and any attachments thereto, and (c) all written communications between the School Nutrition Program and the **Bidder concerning the transactions.**

The contract shall constitute the entire and only agreement and shall supersede all prior negotiations, commitments, understandings, or agreements, whether oral or written.

**V. SYSTEM CONTACT INFORMATION**

- a) This Invitation for Bid (IFB) is issued by the Thomas County School Nutrition Program. All inquiries, clarifications, or interpretations regarding this IFB should be directed by email to:

School Nutrition Director: Dr. Lauren Duplantis  
E-mail address: lduplantis@tcjackets.net

- b) Responses to inquiries that affect the content of this IFB will be provided in writing to all recipients of the IFB. It is the responsibility of each Bidder to inquire about any aspect of the IFB that is not fully understood or is believed to be susceptible to more than one interpretation. The School Nutrition Program will accept only written inquiries regarding this IFB until the date shown on the Invitation for Bid Timeline, in order for a reply to reach all Bidders before the bid closes and to give bidders ample time to respond to any Addenda. Any information given to a prospective Bidder concerning an IFB will be furnished to all prospective Bidders as an Addendum to the IFB if such information is necessary or if the lack of such information would be prejudicial to uninformed Bidders.

**VI. VENDOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

Vendor Company Name	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip	
Contact Person	
Telephone	
Email address	

## SECTION 2 STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

*This contract between the Thomas County School Nutrition and the Vendor shall be governed in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia and all applicable Federal regulations.*

### **I. LOBBYING CERTIFICATE** (for bids over \$100k)

Per 2 CFR 200 Appendix II Section I: A Lobbying Certification and Disclosure must be completed for all bids \$100,000 and over. Please see and complete *Attachment E*. Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352): Vendors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

### **II. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION VERIFICATION** (for bids over \$25k)

Institutions shall solicit offers from, award contracts to, and consent to subcontracts with responsible vendors and/or principals only. The serious nature of debarment and suspension requires that sanctions be imposed only in the public interest for the Government's protection and not for purposes of punishment. Institutions shall impose debarment or suspension to protect the Government's interest and only for the causes and in accordance with the procedures set forth in 2 CFR 200.213.

The Vendor certifies that the Vendor and/or any of its sub vendors or principals have not been debarred, suspended, or declared ineligible by any agency of the State of Georgia or any agency of the Federal government or as defined in the 2 CFR 200.213 which states "Non-federal entities are subject to the non-procurement debarment and suspension regulations implementing Executive Orders 12549 and 12689, 2 CFR part 180. These regulations restrict awards, subawards, and contracts with certain parties that are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs or activities." The Vendor will immediately notify the Thomas County School Nutrition Program if Vendor is debarred or placed on the Consolidated List of Debarred, Suspended, and Ineligible Vendors by a federal entity. See Attachment F

By signing this agreement, the Vendor is testifying that they are not debarred, suspended, or has any ineligible or voluntary exclusions with the U.S. Department of Agriculture or any other Federal or State Agency. All responses will be verified. Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689): A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the governmentwide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

### **III. BUY AMERICAN STATEMENT (Food only) (7 CFR Part 210.21(d))**

Contractor must comply with the William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998 (Buy American Act: 7 CFR 210.21(d)) which requires schools and institutions participating in the National School Lunch Program

(NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) in the contiguous United States to purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodities or products for use in meals served under the NSLP and SBP.

Buy American:

(1) Definition of domestic commodity or product. The term 'domestic commodity or product' means:

- (i) An agricultural commodity that is produced in the United States; and
- (ii) A food product that is processed in the United States substantially using agricultural commodities that are produced in the United States. Substantial means over 51% of the final processed product consists of agricultural commodities that were grown domestically. Products from Guam, American Samoa, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Northern Mariana Islands are allowed under this provision as territories of the United States.

The Buy American provision (7 CFR Part 210.21(d)) is one of the procurement standards SFAs must comply with when purchasing commercial food products served in the school meals programs. Exceptions to the Buy American provision are very limited; however, an alternative or exception may be approved by the School Nutrition Program upon request. To be considered for an alternative or exception, the request must be submitted in writing to the School Nutrition Program, a minimum of 2 **day(s)** in advance of delivery. The request must include:

- (1) Alternative substitute(s) that are domestic and meet the required specifications:
  - (a) Price of the domestic food alternative substitute(s); and
  - (b) Availability of the domestic alternative substitute(s) in relation to the quantity ordered.
- (2) Reason for exception: limited/lack of availability or price (include price):
  - (a) Price of the domestic food product; and
  - (b) Price of the non-domestic product that meets the required specification of the domestic product.

By signing this document, the vendor certifies that all domestically identified products listed within the response to the attached specifications were processed in the U.S. and contain over 51% of their agricultural food components, by weight or volume, from the U.S. Any response listing a non-domestic product will include a valid resource to verify that the non-domestic good is not produced or manufactured in sufficient and reasonable available quantities of a satisfactory quality within the U.S.

#### **IV. REMEDY FOR NON-PERFORMANCE/ TERMINATION OF CONTRACT**

- (a) **Immediate Termination.** This contract will terminate immediately and absolutely if the Thomas County School Nutrition Program determines that adequate funds are not appropriated or granted or funds are de-appropriated such that the School Nutrition Program cannot fulfill its obligations under the Contract, which determination is at the School Nutrition Program's sole discretion and shall be conclusive. Further, the School Nutrition Program may terminate the Contract for any one or more of the following reasons effective immediately without advance notice:
- (i) In the event the Vendor is required to be certified or licensed as a condition precedent to providing goods and services, the revocation or loss of such license or certification may result in immediate termination of the Contract effective as of the date on which the license or certification is no longer in effect;
  - (ii) The School Nutrition Program determines that the actions, or failure to act, of the Vendor, its agents, employees or sub vendors have caused, or reasonably could cause, life, health or safety to be jeopardized;
  - (iii) The Vendor fails to comply with confidentiality laws or provisions; and/or

- (iv) The Vendor furnished any statement, representation, or certification in connection with the Contract or the bidding process, which is materially false, deceptive, incorrect, or incomplete.

**(b) Termination for Cause.** All contracts in excess of \$10,000 must address termination for cause and for convenience by the non-Federal entity including the manner by which it will be affected and the basis for settlement. The occurrence of any one or more of the following events shall constitute cause for the Thomas County School Nutrition Program to declare the Vendor in default of its obligation under the Contract:

- (i) The Vendor fails to deliver or has delivered nonconforming goods or services or fails to perform, to the School Nutrition Program's satisfaction, any material requirement of the Contract or is in violation of a material provision of Contract, including, but without limitation, the express warranties made;
- (ii) The School Nutrition Program determines that satisfactory performance of the Contract is substantially endangered or that a default is likely to occur;
- (iii) The Vendor fails to make substantial and timely progress toward performance of the Contract;
- (iv) The Vendor becomes subject to any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding under federal or state law to the extent allowed by applicable federal or state law including bankruptcy laws; the Vendor terminates or suspends its business; or the School Nutrition Program reasonably believes that the Vendor has become insolvent or unable to pay its obligations as they accrue consistent with applicable federal or state law;
- (v) The Vendor has failed to comply with applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, ordinances, regulations and orders when performing within the scope of the Contract;
- (vi) The Vendor has engaged in conduct that has or may expose the School Nutrition Program or the State to liability, as determined in the School Nutrition Program's sole discretion; or
- (vii) The Vendor has infringed any patent, trademark, copyright, trade dress or any other intellectual property rights of the School Nutrition Program, the state, or a third party.

**(c) Notice of Default.** If there is a default event caused by the Vendor; the Thomas County School Nutrition Program shall provide written notice to the Vendor requesting that the breach or noncompliance be remedied within the period of time specified in the School Nutrition Program's written notice to the Vendor. If the breach or noncompliance is not remedied within the period of time specified in the written notice, the School Nutrition Program may:

- (i) Immediately terminate the Contract without additional written notice; and/or
- (ii) Procure substitute goods or services from another source and charge the difference between the Contract and the substitute contract to the defaulting Vendor, and/or,
- (ii) Enforce the terms and conditions of the Contract and seek any legal or equitable remedies.



**(d) Termination upon Notice.** Following thirty (30) days' written notice, the Thomas County School Nutrition Program may terminate the Contract in whole or in part without the payment of any penalty or incurring any further obligation to the Vendor. Following termination upon notice, the Vendor shall be entitled to compensation, upon submission of invoices and proper proof of claim, for goods and services provided under the Contract to the School Nutrition Program up to and including date of termination.

**(e) Termination Due to Change in Law.** The Thomas County School Nutrition Program shall have the right to terminate this Contract without penalty by giving thirty (30) days' written notice to the Vendor as a result of the following:

(i) The School Nutrition Program's authorization to operate is withdrawn or there is a material alternation in the programs administered by the Thomas County School Nutrition; and/or

(ii) The School Nutrition Program's duties are substantially modified.

**(f) Payment Limitation in Event of Termination.** In the event of termination of the Contract for any reason by the Thomas County School Nutrition Program, the School Nutrition Program shall pay only those amounts, if any, due and owing to the Vendor for goods and services actually rendered up to and including the date of termination of the Contract and for which the School Nutrition Program is obligated to pay pursuant to the Contract or Purchase Instrument. Payment will be made only upon submission of invoices and proper proof of the Vendor's claim. This provision in no way limits the remedies available to the School Nutrition Program under the Contract in the event of termination. The School Nutrition Program shall not be liable for any costs incurred by the Vendor in its performance of the Contract, including, but not limited to, startup costs, overhead or other costs associated with the performance of the Contract.

**(g) The Vendor's Termination Duties.** Upon receipt of notice of termination or upon request of the Thomas County School Nutrition Program, the Vendor shall:

(i) Cease work under the Contract and take all necessary or appropriate steps to limit disbursements and minimize costs, and furnish a report within thirty (30) days of the date of notice of termination, describing the status of all work under the Contract, including, without limitation, results accomplished, conclusions resulting there from, and any other matters the School Nutrition Program may require;

(ii) Immediately cease using and return to the School Nutrition Program, any personal property or materials, whether tangible or intangible, provided by the School Nutrition Program to the Vendor;

(iii) Comply with the School Nutrition Program's instructions for the timely transfer of any active files and work product by the Vendor under the Contract;

(iv) Cooperate in good faith with the School Nutrition Program, its employees, agents, and vendors during the transition period between the notification of termination and the substitution of any replacement vendor; and

(v) Immediately return to the School Nutrition Program any payments made by Thomas County School Nutrition for goods and services that were not delivered or rendered by the Vendor.

## **V. HUB (Historically Underutilized Business) STATEMENT**

It is the intent of the Thomas County School Nutrition Program to provide maximum practicable opportunities in its solicitations to minority firms, women's business enterprises and labor surplus area firms. Small businesses, women and minority-owned business sources will not be given unfair advantage when evaluating competitive purchases i.e., small purchases, sealed bids, proposals, or noncompetitive procurement (2 CFR 200.321).

Positive efforts include:

- Placing qualified small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises and labor surplus firms on solicitation lists;
- Assuring that small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises and labor surplus firms are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
- Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises and labor surplus firms;
- Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises and labor surplus firms;
- Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce; and
- Requiring the prime vendor, if subcontracts are to be let, to take the affirmative steps listed in paragraphs (1) through (5) of this section.

## **VI. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMPLIANCE STATEMENT (for bids over \$10k)**

In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992. (Voice) Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

(Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, all contracts that meet the definition of "federally assisted construction contract" in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity" (30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and implementing regulations at 41 CFR part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.")

## **VII. ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT STATEMENT**

Compliance with mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Public Law 94-163, 89 Stat.871).

## **VIII. CLEAN AIR/ CLEAN WATER STATEMENT (for bids over \$150k)**

Compliance with all applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 1857(h)) Clean Air and Water Certification. Vendor certifies that none of the facilities it uses to produce goods provided under the Contract are on the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) List of Violating Facilities. Vendor will immediately notify the School Food Authority of the receipt of any communication indicating that any

of Vendor's facilities are under consideration to be listed on the EPA List of Violating Facilities. Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387), as amended: Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

## **CIVIL RIGHTS STATEMENT AND ASSURANCE**

The Thomas County School Nutrition Program hereby agrees that it will comply with:

- i. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.);
- ii. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.);
- iii. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794);
- iv. Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.);
- v. Title II and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 as amended by the ADA Amendment Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 12131-12189);
- vi. Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency." (August 11, 2000);
- vii. All provisions required by the implementing regulations of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) (7 CFR Part 15 et seq.);
- viii. Department of Justice Enforcement Guidelines (28 CFR Parts 35, 42 and 50.3);  
Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) directives and guidelines to the effect that, no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Program applicant receives Federal financial assistance from USDA; and hereby gives assurance that it will immediately take measures necessary to effectuate this Agreement.
- x. The USDA non-discrimination statement that in accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs).

This assurance is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all Federal financial assistance, grants, and loans of Federal funds, reimbursable expenditures, grant, or donation of Federal property and interest in property, the detail of Federal personnel, the sale and lease of, and the permission to use Federal property or interest in such property or the furnishing of services without consideration or at a nominal consideration, or at a consideration that is reduced for the purpose of assisting the recipient, or in recognition of the public interest to be served by such sale, lease, or furnishing of services to the recipient, or any improvements made with Federal financial assistance extended to the Program applicant by USDA. This includes any Federal agreement, arrangement, or other contract that has as one of its purposes the provision of cash assistance for the purchase of food, and cash assistance for purchase or rental of food service equipment or any other financial assistance extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this assurance.

By accepting this assurance, the Thomas County School Nutrition Program agrees to compile data,

maintain records, and submit records and reports as required, to permit effective enforcement of nondiscrimination laws and permit authorized USDA personnel during hours of program operation to review and copy such records, books, and accounts, access such facilities and interview such personnel as needed to ascertain compliance with the nondiscrimination laws. If there are any violations of this assurance, the Department of Agriculture, FNS, shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this assurance. This assurance is binding on the School Nutrition Program, its successors, transferees, and

assignees as long as it receives assistance or retains possession of any assistance from USDA. The person or persons whose signatures appear below are authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the Thomas County School Nutrition Program.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**IX. RECORD RETENTION AND ACCESS CLAUSE**

The Vendor shall maintain books, records and documents in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and procedures and which sufficiently and properly document and calculate all charges billed to the Thomas County School Nutrition Program throughout the term of the Contract for a period of at least five (5) years following the date of final payment or completion of any required audit, whichever is later. Records to be maintained include both financial records and service records. The Vendor shall permit the Auditor of the State of Georgia or any authorized representative of the Thomas County School Nutrition Program, and where federal funds are involved, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any other authorized representative of the United States government, to access and examine, audit, excerpt and transcribe any directly pertinent books, documents, papers, electronic or optically stored and created records or other records of the Vendor relating to orders, invoices or payments or any other documentation or materials pertaining to the Contract, wherever such records may be located during normal business hours. The Vendor shall not impose a charge for audit or examination of the Vendor's books and records. If an audit discloses incorrect billings or improprieties, the State and/or the Thomas County School Nutrition Program reserves the right to charge the Vendor for the cost of the audit and appropriate reimbursement. Evidence of criminal conduct will be turned over to the proper authorities.

**X. BID PROTEST PROCEDURES**

a.) Any protest shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the Superintendent, Dr. Lisa Williams as the acting protest official of the Thomas County School System. A protest of a solicitation shall be received by the named individual before the offer due date. The protest shall be filed within ten (10) days from the award notice and shall include:

1. The name, address, and telephone number of the protestor;
2. The signature of the protestor or an authorized representative of the protestor;

3. Identification of the purchasing agency and the solicitation or contract number;
4. A detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds of the protest including copies of relevant documents:
5. The form of relief requested.

b) A written response to the protest will be made within 30 days from receipt of the protest and all items indicated above.

c) The School Nutrition Program shall in all instances disclose information regarding protests to State Agency.

## **XI. NON-COLLUSION STATEMENT**

"I certify that this bid is made without prior understanding, agreement or connection with any corporation, firm or person submitting a bid for the same materials, supplies, or equipment, and is in all respect fair and without collusion or fraud. I understand that collusive bidding is a violation of State and Federal law and can result in fines, prison sentences, and civil damage awards. I agree to abide by all conditions of this bid and certify that I am authorized to sign this bid for the Bidder per O.C.G.A.50-5-67. I further certify that the provisions of the official code of Georgia annotated 45-10-20 et seq. have not and will not be violated in any respect." See Attachment I

## **XIII. CODE OF CONDUCT**

Per regulation 7CFR3016.36(3) "bid documents must contain a written code of conduct governing the performance of their employees engaged in the award and administration of contracts."

Thomas County School System Code of Conduct:

1. No employee, officer, or agent of Thomas County Schools shall participate in the selection, or award, or administration of a contract supported by program funds if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved.
2. Conflicts of interest arise when any of the following has a financial or other interest in the firm selected for the award:
  - a. the employee, officer, or agent;
  - b. any member of his immediate family;
  - c. his or her partner;
  - d. an organization that employs, or is about to employ, any of the above.
3. School employees, agents, or officers shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to sub-agreements.
4. The purchase during the program day of any food or service from a contractor for individual use is prohibited.
5. The removal of any food, supplies, or equipment is prohibited.
6. The outside sale of such items as used oil, empty cans, etc., will be sold by contract between the Thomas County School System and outside agency.
7. Failure of any employee to abide by the above-stated code could result in a fine, suspension or both, or dismissal. Interpretation of the code will be given at any time by contacting Dr. Lauren Duplantis at

Further, the employees, officers, or agents shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from vendors or parties to sub-agreements; and the purchase of any food or service from a vendor for individual use is prohibited; and the removal of any food, supplies, equipment, or school property, such as records, recipe books, supplies and the like is prohibited; and outside sale of such items as used oil, empty cans, and the like will be sold by contract between the Thomas County School System and an outside agency. Individual sales by any school person to an outside agency or other school person is prohibited. Failure of any employee, officer, or agent to abide by the above states code could result in a fine, suspension, or both, and dismissal. Interpretation of the code will be given at any time by contacting the School Nutrition Program. The Thomas County School Nutrition Program will not be responsible for any other explanation or interpretation which anyone presumes to make on behalf of the Thomas County School System.

#### **XIV. DUTY TO EXAMINE**

It is the responsibility of each bidder to examine the entire solicitation, seek clarification in writing, and check its offer for accuracy before submitting the offer. Lack of care in preparing an offer shall not be grounds for withdrawing the offer after the offer due date and time nor shall it give rise to any contract claim.

#### **XV. EXCEPTIONS TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

A bid that takes exception to a material requirement of any part of this solicitation, including a material term and condition, shall be rejected.

#### **XVI. VENDOR AFFIDAVIT (under O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91(b) (1))**

Vendor verifies its compliance with O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 and is authorized to use and uses the federal work authorization program commonly known as E-Verify, by completing Attachment J.

## SECTION 3

### SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

#### **I. HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) REQUIREMENTS (N/A to Equipment)**

The School Nutrition Program expects a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan to be in place by potential vendors and their manufacturers. Prior to awarding the bid, the School Nutrition Program may require documentation verifying that a written HACCP plan is followed.

The successful bidder(s) must have Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan on file for recall/hold control procedures including but not limited to:

- traceability systems in place from receipt of commodity product to delivery of processed items to designated delivery site.
- provision of 24/7 accessibility to successful bidder(s) staff in the event of a food/USDA Hold/Recall.
- public notification capability on website to provide updates on food/USDA Hold and Recall data for customers.

Bidder(s) shall provide ability to District of conducting a mock recall for product once per year.

Bidder(s) will be responsible for all costs associated with replacement product(s), including but not limited to labor, shipping charges and product credit.

#### **II. PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**

If a bidder submits any document with the bid that is considered to be proprietary in nature or is considered to be a trade secret, the bidder shall notify the school district that the documents are included in the bid. The school district will honor the request unless or until a competing bidder asks to have access to the information. In such case, the school district will notify the affected bidder that a challenge has been made. If the affected bidder can produce a court issued restraining order within ten calendar days subsequent to the notification, the information will remain confidential and shall not be released pending subsequent court action. If the restraining order is not received within the ten working day period, the information will be released, and the school district shall not be held liable.

#### **III. TRADE NAME, LABELS AND OTHER REQUESTS (Where applicable)**

a) All items shall be properly labeled. No private labels will be accepted on commercial products.

b) Nutrition data must be provided on all fresh, frozen, and canned meats, grains, combination foods, fruits, and vegetables. Provide information on a flash drive or CD separate from the bid and marked "NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION" or website access must be provided, complete with login information and web address for access with bid documents.

#### **c) FAILURE TO MEET CN LABEL/PRODUCT ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS**

- In the event of loss of state or federal funds due to bidder(s) failure to meet CN Label/Product Analysis Requirements, the bidder(s) shall reimburse losses to Thomas County School Nutrition.

#### **EQUIVALENT/ALTERNATE PRODUCTS**

Equivalent/alternate products must be bid on items where brand name or equal is specified, provided the quality, grade and/or performance of the proposed meets or exceeds the specifications as indicated within the bid specifications for each item.

Samples of alternate/equivalent products shall be provided upon request as indicated below.

The following should be provided with the bid documents for all alternate/equivalent items bid:

1. Product identification, including manufacturer and/or distributor's name and number, brand name, product code, product label, quantity per case, case weight and item number.
2. Manufacturer's product literature/specifications, including but not limited to product description, ingredients, nutritional analysis, packaging wrap and/or product label.
3. Product has been personally investigated and determined that it is equal or superior in all respects to that specified.
4. Supplier will provide the same guarantee for the equivalent/alternate item as they would for specified product indicated in the bid documents.

#### **IV. METHOD OF PAYMENT and PRICING INFORMATION**

a) **Prices** - All prices shall remain fixed throughout the term of the contract, and bids containing escalation, discount, or other price adjustment provisions will be rejected.

b) The successful Bidder warrants that the bid price(s), terms and conditions stated in his/her bid shall be firm through the bid process and until the time the award is made at which time prices shall remain firm and fixed for the entire contract period.

c) All bid prices must include all charges for packing and transporting to the individual schools listed at the addresses on the attached sheet.

d) Prices will not include Federal Excise Tax or State Sales Tax.

e) Thomas County School Nutrition will make payment within thirty (30) days of receipt of the invoice for properly received goods and services after inspection and acceptance of the product by the School Nutrition Program. Advance billings are not allowed. Where partial delivery is made, invoice for such part shall be made upon delivery, and payment made within thirty (30) days under conditions as above.

f) Invoicing

i) Invoices, at minimum, shall consist of the following information:

1. Delivery location and date of delivery
2. Item description and cost
3. Extended cost for total quantity purchased
4. Total cost of all products purchased

ii) Monthly statements will be broken down by school invoice and mailed to the:

Thomas County School Nutrition  
Attn: Ann Ragan, Bookkeeper  
220 N. Pinetree Blvd.  
Thomasville, GA 31792



## **V. METHOD OF SHIPMENT/DELIVERY (where applicable)**

- a) **Orders and deliveries:** Orders and deliveries shall be supplied by the vendor as requested and specified except during an emergency and on holidays. No partial deliveries will be accepted.
- b) All orders are to be delivered Freight on Board (F.O.B) to addresses as indicated on Attachment D.
- c) In an emergency situation in which the School Nutrition Program requires delivery in less than 2 days and the vendor cannot provide the goods within the emergency delivery period, the School Nutrition Program has the option to purchase those goods from another source with no penalty to either party.
- d) Delivery schedules that fall on a holiday will be made the following business day unless other arrangements have been made and agreed upon by both parties.
- e) Delivery of product(s) must be made in a well-maintained refrigerated truck. All deliveries shall be placed in the area designated by the designee. Under no circumstances may a delivery be left outside the building. Deliveries must be received as specified.
- f) Two invoices are to be provided and must be reviewed and signed at the time of delivery and if any discrepancies are noted during delivery those will be initialed and dated by the driver and school nutrition employee receiving the order.

### **The Three Strikes Rule:** (if applicable and warranted)

- (1) After vendor's first offense of providing sub-par quality product, late delivery and/or poor customer service, the School Nutrition Program will call vendor to report contract violation. The School Nutrition Program will follow-up with a written letter to the vendor documenting occurrence and putting the vendor on notice that the documented occurrence is unacceptable.
- (2) After vendor's second offense of providing sub-par product, late delivery and/or poor customer service, the School Nutrition Program will send a certified notice to the vendor documenting that this is the second offense, and a third offense will result in termination of the contract for cause. If the offense is providing sub-par product, then the vendor agrees to pay the Thomas County School Nutrition to purchase quality product at the vendor's expense.
- (3) After the vendor's third and final offense of the aforementioned, Thomas County School Nutrition will terminate the contract for cause in writing via email and regular mail, copying the District Purchasing Compliance Officer.

## **VI. EVALUATION FACTORS**

- a) Bids will be evaluated in accordance with the required specifications as listed in this IFB. At the School Nutrition Program's discretion, a bid may be eliminated from consideration for failure to comply with any required specifications, depending on the nature and extent of non-compliance.

In addition to meeting mandated specifications, bids will be evaluated for the ability of the Bidder to provide, in the School Nutrition Program's opinion, the best overall solution to meet the School Nutrition Program's specifications.

- b) The School Nutrition Program reserves the right to award a single contract for the total requirement of the IFB or award multiple contracts on a group or line item basis in any combination that best serves the interest of the School Nutrition Program.

## SUBSTITUTION CLAUSE

Shipments of items with brand name or specifications other than those listed on the bid shall be rejected or returned to the vendor at the vendor's expense unless prior arrangements have been made with the Director of School Nutrition. **Substitutions may be made only with prior approval of the Director of School Nutrition.** All substitutions must be of equal or greater quality. In no case will an item be accepted if the quality is lower than stated in the bid. Substitutions are to be priced at the same cost as the original awarded item.

## VII. ADDITIONAL BID INSTRUCTIONS

- a) **Bid modifications:** Bids cannot be modified after receipt of bids unless the School Nutrition Program issues in writing a minor irregularity that can be rectified by the Bidder within three business days. Care should be taken to ensure that information provided is accurate, complete, and consistent. Omission of any of the required information may subject the Bidder to disqualification. The School Nutrition Program reserves the right to request information or respond to inquiries for clarification purposes only.
- b) **Bid withdrawal:** Bidders may withdraw bids at any time up to the scheduled time for receipt of bids. Bidders desiring to withdraw their bid must submit the purpose for withdrawal in writing to the School Nutrition Program before the bid opening deadline (bid close date). Bidders may resubmit bids provided it is prior to the scheduled time for receipt of bids.
- c) **Addendum:** If clarification of the specifications/instructions is required the request shall be made in writing no later than the time and date specified on the Invitation for Bid Timeline. The School Nutrition Program will respond to the request in the form of an addendum issued to all potential bidders. No addendum will be issued within five working days of the date and time of bid opening.
- d) **Bid examination**
  - i) Bidders shall carefully examine all documents in the solicitation to obtain knowledge of existing conditions, limitations, and requirements. Failure to examine the documents will not relieve the Bidder of responsibility for same nor will extra payment or change order requests be considered for conditions which could have been determined by examining the solicitation.
  - ii) Bids will be considered as conclusive evidence of complete examination and understanding of the terms and conditions of the bid documents including the specifications and all requirements thereof of the IFB. It is understood that submission of a bid indicates full acceptance of the same by the parties submitting the bid. Furthermore, by submitting a bid the Bidder waives the right to claims for additional time or monetary compensation for all work without limit required to complete the contract which could have been obtained by the Bidder through examination of all documents or raising a question regarding requirements prior to submitting a bid.
- e) **Rejection or Disqualification of bids**
  - i) A bid that is incomplete, obscure, conditioned or contains additions not called for or irregularities of any kind, (including alterations or erasures), which are not initialed and dated, may be rejected as non-conforming.
  - ii) The School Nutrition Program reserves the right to waive a bid's minor irregularities if rectified by Bidder within three business days of the School Nutrition Program's issuance of a written notice of such irregularities.
  - iii) The School Nutrition Program reserves the right to disqualify bids upon evidence of collusion with intent to defraud or other illegal practices upon the part of the Bidder.
  - iv) Issuance of this IFB in no way constitutes a commitment by the School Nutrition Program to award a contract.

The School Nutrition Program reserves the right to accept or reject, in whole or part, all bids submitted and/or to cancel this solicitation if it is determined to be in the best interest of the School Nutrition Program.

- v) Any Bidder who has demonstrated and documented poor performance during a current or previous agreement, within the last 3 years, with the School Nutrition Program may be considered a non-responsible Bidder and their bid may be rejected. The School Nutrition Program reserves the right to exercise this option as is deemed proper and/or necessary.
- f) **Evidence of Financial Capabilities:** After the bid opening, Bidders must be prepared to present suitable evidence of their financial standing within three (3) business days after request by the School Nutrition Program. This evidence would include an income statement, balance sheet and statement of cash flow accompanied by an auditor's report attesting to the accuracy of the financial statements.
- g) **Offer Acceptance Period** – Bids received are an irrevocable offer for 60 days after the bid opening.

## VIII. ORDERING INFORMATION

- a) **Credit:** A credit or replacement will be issued for damaged or unacceptable items. All such transactions are to be worked out with each designee. Replacement of damaged or unacceptable items will be made upon a mutually agreed time.
- b) **Inspection:** Upon delivery of product(s), the item(s) will be inspected by the facility, and if found to be defective or failing in any way to meet specifications as indicated, the item(s) may be rejected or returned. Problems found with products due to concealed damage will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Rejected product(s) must be picked up immediately.
- c) **Emergency orders:** In an emergency situation in which the Vendor cannot provide the supplies within the emergency delivery period, the School Nutrition Program has the option to purchase those supplies from another source with no penalty to either party.

## IX. AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACT

The contract between Thomas County School Nutrition and the vendor shall not be amended or modified, nor shall any of its terms be waived, except in writing and executed and agreed upon by both parties.

## X. ASSIGNMENT

The vendor shall not assign, transfer, convey, delegate, sublet, or otherwise dispose of its agreements with the Thomas County School Nutrition, or its rights, title, or interest herein, or its power to execute such agreement, to any other person, company, or corporation without the previous consent and written approval by the School Nutrition Program.

## XI. INDEPENDENT VENDOR AND INDEMNITY

The vendor shall act as an independent Vendor and not as an employee of the Thomas County School Nutrition. Vendor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the School Nutrition Program, its elected officials, employees and agents from and against any and all liability, damages, claims, suits, liens, and judgments (including reasonable attorney's fees), of whatever nature, for injuries to or death of any person or persons, or loss of or damage to property, to the extent attributable to the negligent acts of vendor, its sub vendors or its respective agents, servants, or employees or such parties' failure to perform in accordance with the provisions of the contract resulting from this IFB.

**XII. TIME OF PERFORMANCE**

- a) Notwithstanding any delay in the preparation and execution of the formal contract agreement, the Vendor shall be prepared, upon written notice of bid award, to commence delivery of goods pursuant to the award on "Start Date" shown on the Invitation for Bid Timeline.
- b) The Vendor must comply with the time of performance.

**XIII. FORCE MAJEURE**

If Thomas County School Nutrition, in its reasonable discretion, determines that the Force Majeure Event is likely to delay Vendor's performance for more than thirty (30) days, the School Nutrition Program reserves the right to cancel the agreement between the parties. In that event, neither party shall have any further liability to the other, subject only to the School Nutrition Program's obligation to pay the Vendor for work already completed by the Vendor and the Vendor's warranty for work already completed.

**XIV. EVIDENCE OF INSURANCE**

- a) The successful bidder, at its expense, shall carry and maintain in full force at all times during the term of the contract resulting from this IFB the following insurance:

Coverage	Limits of Liability
Workmen's Compensation	Statutory
General Liability/Property Damage	\$500,000 each occurrence \$1,000,000 aggregate
Personal Injury	\$500,000 each occurrence \$1,000,000 aggregate
Automobile Liability/Property Damage	\$500,000 each occurrence \$1,000,000 aggregate
Bodily Injury	\$500,000 each occurrence \$1,000,000 aggregate

- b) Prior to commencement of performance of this Agreement, Vendor shall furnish to Thomas County School Nutrition a certificate of liability insurance evidencing all required coverage in at least the limits required herein, naming the Thomas County School System, its elected officials, agents, and employees as additional insured under the Comprehensive General Liability coverage, and providing that no policies may be cancelled without ten (10) days advance written notice to Thomas County School Nutrition. Such certificate shall be issued to Thomas County School Nutrition Program.
- c) Said policies shall remain in full force and effect until the expiration of the terms of the contract or until completion of all duties to be performed hereunder by the Vendor, whichever shall occur later.

**XV. EXCEPTIONS**

A Bid submitted in response to this IFB constitutes a binding offer to comply with all terms, conditions, special conditions, general specifications, and requirements stated in this IFB, except to the extent that a Bidder takes exception to such provisions.

To take exception to a provision of this IFB, the Bidder must clearly identify in the BID EXCEPTION FORM:

- (a) the number and title of each section of this IFB that the Bidder takes exception to;

(b) the specific sentence within such section that the Bidder takes exception to; and (c) any alternate provision proposed by the Bidder. See Attachment H

**XVII. WARRANTY**

Successful Bidder shall fully warrant all products furnished under the terms of this contract, against poor and inferior quality. Time is of the essence of this contract. While under warranty, successful Bidder shall replace any damaged or inferior product in a timely manner to minimize the disruption of the School Nutrition Program's operations.

**XVIII. GIFTS AND GRATUITIES**

Acceptance of gifts from vendors and the offering of gifts by vendors are prohibited. No employee of the school district purchasing products under provisions of the contract issued as a result of this invitation shall accept, solicit, or receive, either directly or indirectly, from any person, firm, or corporation any gift or gratuity. *SAMPLES:* Thomas County School Nutrition reserves the right to request samples of any/all items indicated on the bid schedule. Samples shall be provided within five (5) business days upon request. It will be the responsibility of the supplier to incur all costs associated with the request of samples. Each sample is to be labeled with the bidder's name, the item number as indicated on the Quote Sheets, and the bid number. Each sample must have a minimum of five (5) servings to be evaluated. Product labels on selected samples will be kept for verification when shipments are received. Products without such information may not be considered.

**XIX. SEVERABILITY**

The provisions of this contract are severable. Any term or condition deemed illegal or invalid shall not affect any other term or condition of the contract.

**XX. WAIVER AND REJECTION RIGHTS**

Notwithstanding any other provisions of the solicitation, the school district reserves the right to:

- Waive any immaterial defect or informality;
- Reject any and all offers or portions thereof; or
- Cancel a solicitation.

**XXI. RELEASE FROM CONTRACT** In the event the market for a product covered by this request escalates to a point that the vendor is delivering product at less than cost, the vendor may petition for release from the contract. The petition shall be supported by a third-party market bulletin. The decision to release the vendor from the contract will be based on the difference between the market at the time of the bid opening and the current market for this item.

**XXII. RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS MADE UNDER A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT** [Appendix II to 2 CFR 200(f) (if applicable) If the Federal award meets the definition of "funding agreement" under 37 CFR § 401.2 (a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that "funding agreement," the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

**XXIII. PROCUREMENT OF RECOVERED MATERIALS** (2 CFR 200.323) (if applicable)

An School Nutrition Program and its vendors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring

only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

**ATTACHMENT A**

**CONTRACT SIGNATURE PAGE**

This agreement is dated as of \_\_\_\_\_ by and between Thomas County School Nutrition and \_\_\_\_\_ hereinafter called VENDOR.

The School Nutrition Program and VENDOR, in consideration of the mutual covenants hereinafter set forth, agrees as follows:

**ARTICLE 1. PRODUCTS**

VENDOR shall provide all products as specified or indicated in the Contract Documents. Vendor shall supply and deliver specified equipment to the School Nutrition Program's school designated, if applicable to this solicitation.

**ARTICLE 2. CONTRACT TIME**

The food, equipment, supplies or goods shall be in accordance with this Agreement, and are to be completed as specified in IFB.

**ARTICLE 3. CONTRACT PRICE**

The School Nutrition Program shall pay VENDOR for delivery of specified goods in accordance with VENDOR'S bid, which is attached hereto. The School Nutrition Program shall pay VENDOR net 30 days from date of delivery unless other terms of payment are agreed upon.

**ARTICLE 4. INVOICE PROCEDURES**

Invoices for payment with appropriate supporting documents shall be sent to the following address:

Thomas County School Nutrition  
Attn: Ann Ragan, Bookkeeper  
200 N. Pinetree Blvd.  
Thomasville, GA 31792

**ARTICLE 5. VENDOR'S REPRESENTATIONS**

In order to prompt the School Nutrition Program to enter into this Agreement, VENDOR makes the following representations:

- 5.1 VENDOR has examined and carefully studied the Contract Documents and all other related data identified in the Bidding Documents.
- 5.2 VENDOR is familiar with and is satisfied as to all federal, state and local laws and regulations that may affect cost, progress, performance and furnishing of the products.

**ARTICLE 6. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS**

The Contract Documents, which comprise the entire agreement between Thomas County School Nutrition and VENDOR concerning the work, consist of the following:

- Transmittal Page
- Standard Terms and Conditions
- Special Terms and Conditions
- Attachment A: Contract Signature Page
- Attachment B: Specifications & Quote Sheet
- Attachment C: Vendor Bid Form
- Attachment D: Delivery Site
- Attachment E: Lobbying Certificate Disclosure
- Attachment F: Debarment, Suspended and Ineligible Status
- ~~Attachment G: Piggybacking Agreement Form (not applicable)~~
- Attachment H: Bid Exception Form
- Attachment I: Anti-Collusion Affidavit
- Attachment J: Vendor Affidavit (E-Verify)

There are no Contract Documents other than those listed above in this Article 6. The Contract Documents may only be amended, modified, or supplemented by written agreement between both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Thomas County School Nutrition and VENDOR have signed this Agreement. One counterpart each has been delivered to Thomas County School Nutrition and VENDOR.

This Agreement will be effective \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Vendor Company Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Company Representative

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Company Representative

\_\_\_\_\_ Date



**ATTACHMENT B**  
**Specifications & Quote Sheet**

**SEE ATTACHMENTS**



**Authorized Signature of Bidder:** (This bid form must be signed by an individual with actual authority to bind the company.)

Company Type (check one):

Sole Proprietorship     Partnership     Corporation     Joint Venture     LLC

Bidder attests that:

He/she has thoroughly reviewed this IFB and that this Bid response is submitted in accordance with the IFB requirements.

Company Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Federal ID#1:

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature\*\*:

\_\_\_\_\_

Signatory's Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Signatory's Title:

\_\_\_\_\_

Witness's Signature\*\*:

\_\_\_\_\_

Witness's Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Witness's Title:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*For Corporations: The bid must be signed by the President or Vice President and the signature must be attested by the Corporate Secretary or Treasurer.

If any employee other than the President or Vice President signs on behalf of the corporation, or if the President's or Vice President's signature is not attested to by the Corporate Secretary or Treasurer, a copy of the corporate resolution authorizing said signature(s) must be attached to this bid. Failure to attach a copy of the appropriate authorization, if required, may result in rejection of the bid.

**ATTACHMENT D**

**DELIVERY SITE(S)**

Thomas County School Nutrition Program

All items will be delivered to the following SCHOOLS:

School Name	School Address	Cafeteria Phone Number
Hand in Hand Primary	4687 US HWY 84 BYPASS THOMASVILLE, GA 31792	229-413-1235
Garrison Pilcher Elem.	277 HALL ROAD THOMASVILLE, GA 31757	229-413-1311
Cross Creek Elem.	324 CLARK ROAD THOMASVILLE, GA 31757	229-413-1410
Thomas County Middle	4681 US HWY 84 BYPASS THOMASVILLE, GA 31792	229-413-1531
Thomas County Central High	4686 US HWY 84 BYPASS THOMASVILLE, GA 31792	229-413-1730
Bishop Hall Charter	220 N. PINETREE BLVD. THOMASVILLE, GA 31792	229-227-1608
Thomas County Warehouse	200 N. PINETREE BLVD. THOMASVILLE, GA 31792	229-584-9138

**ATTACHMENT E**  
**LOBBYING FORM & DISCLOSURE**  
**Disclosure of Lobbying Activities**

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352  
(See reverse for public burden disclosure)

<p><b>1. Type of Federal Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Contract</li> <li>b) Grant</li> <li>c) cooperative agreement</li> <li>d) loan</li> <li>e) loan guarantee</li> <li>f) loan insurance</li> </ul>	<p><b>2. Status of Federal Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) bid/offer/application</li> <li>b) initial award</li> <li>c) post-award</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Report Type:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) initial filing</li> <li>b) material change</li> </ul> <p><b>For material change only:</b>  Year _____ quarter _____  Date of last report _____</p>
<p><b>4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity:</b>  _____ Prime _____ Sub awardee  Tier _____, if Known:</p> <p><b>Congressional District, if known:</b></p>	<p><b>5. If Reporting Entity in No. 4 is Sub awardee,</b>  Enter Name and Address of Prime:</p> <p><b>Congressional District, if known:</b></p>
<p><b>6. Federal Department/Agency:</b></p>	<p><b>7. Federal Program Name/Description:</b></p> <p>CFDA Number, if applicable: _____</p>
<p><b>8. Federal Action Number, if known:</b></p>	<p><b>9. Award Amount, if known:</b>  \$ _____</p>
<p><b>10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant</b>    <i>(if individual, last name, first name, MI):</i></p>	<p><b>11. Individuals Performing Services</b> <i>(including address if different from No. 10a) (last name, first name, MI):</i></p>
<p>15. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.</p>	<p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Print Name: _____</p> <p>Title: _____</p> <p>Telephone No.: _____ Date: _____</p>
<p><b>Federal Use Only</b></p>	<p><b>Authorized for Local Reproduction</b>  Standard Form – LLL (Rev. 7-97)</p>

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF SF-LLL, DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

This disclosure form shall be completed by the reporting entity, whether sub awardee or prime Federal recipient, at the initiation or receipt of a covered Federal action, or a material change to a previous filing, pursuant to title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. The filing of a form is required for each payment or agreement to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. Complete all items that apply for both the initial filing and material change report. Refer to the implementing guidance published by the Office of Management and Budget for additional information.

1. Identify the type of covered Federal action for which lobbying activity is and/or has been secured to influence the outcome of a covered Federal action.
2. Identify the status of the covered Federal action.
3. Identify the appropriate classification of this report. If this is a follow-up report caused by a material change to the information previously reported, enter the year and quarter in which the change occurred. Enter the date of the last previously submitted report by this reporting entity for this covered Federal action.
4. Enter the full name, address, city, State, and zip code of the reporting entity. Include Congressional District, if known. Check the appropriate classification of the reporting entity that designates if it is, or expects to be, a prime or subaward recipient. Identify the tier of the sub awardee, e.g., the first sub awardee of the prime is the 1<sup>st</sup> tier. Subawards include but are not limited to subcontracts, subgrants and contract awards under grants.
5. If the organization filing the report in item 4 checks "Sub awardee," then enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the prime Federal recipient. Include Congressional District, if known.
6. Enter the name of the federal agency making the award or loan commitment. Include at least one organizational level below agency name, if known. For example, Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard.
7. Enter the Federal program name or description for the covered Federal action (item 1). If known, enter the full Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and loan commitments.
8. Enter the most appropriate Federal identifying number available for the Federal action identified in item 1 (e.g., Request for Proposal (RFP) number; Invitations for Bid (IFB) number; grant announcement number; the contract, grant, or loan award number; the application/proposal control number assigned by the Federal agency). Included prefixes, e.g., "RFP-DE-90-001."
9. For a covered Federal action where there has been an award or loan commitment by the Federal agency, enter the Federal amount of the award/loan commitment for the prime entity identified in item 4 or 5.
- 10.(a) Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the lobbying registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 engaged by the reporting entity identified in item 4 to influence the covered Federal action.  
  
(b) Enter the full names of the individual(s) performing services and include full address if different from 10(a). Enter Last Name, First Name, and Middle Initial (MI).
11. The certifying official shall sign and date the form, print his/her name, title, and telephone number.

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According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is OMB No. 0348-0046. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0046), Washington, DC 20503

# ATTACHMENT F

## DEBARRED, SUSPENDED, AND INELIGIBLE STATUS

This form is available electronically.

**AD-1047**

OMB No. 0505-0027  
Expiration Date: 09/30/2025



### Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters Primary Covered Transactions

*The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a, as amended). This certification is required by the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, and 2 CFR § 180.335, Participants' responsibilities. The regulations were amended and published on August 31, 2005, in 70 Fed. Reg. 51865-51880. Copies of the regulations may be obtained by contacting the Department of Agriculture agency offering the proposed covered transaction.*

*According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0505-0027. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal or civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided.*

***(Read instructions on page two before completing certification.)***

- A. The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
1. Are not presently debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
  2. Have not within a 3-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
  3. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (A.2.) of this certification; and
  4. Have not within a 3-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
- B. Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

ORGANIZATION NAME	PR/AWARD NUMBER OR PROJECT NAME
NAME(S) AND TITLE(S) OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE(S)	
SIGNATURE	DATE

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

### *Instructions for Certification*

- (1) By signing and submitting this form, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out on page 1 in accordance with these instructions.
- (2) The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant must submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out on this form. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the Department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation will disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.
- (3) The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the Department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the Department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.
- (4) The prospective primary participant must provide immediate written notice to the Department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- (5) The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549, at 2 CFR Parts 180 and 417. You may contact the Department or agency to which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
- (6) The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this form that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it may not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the Department or agency entering into this transaction.
- (7) The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this form that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions," provided by the Department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
- (8) A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the General Services Administration's System for Award Management Exclusions database.
- (9) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- (10) Except for transactions authorized under paragraph (6) of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the Department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.





**ATTACHMENT G-1  
LIST OF SCHOOL SYSTEMS THAT DESIRE TO PIGGYBACK**

SCHOOL DISTRICT PIGGYBACKING PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

IFB FOR: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

The (*Insert*) School Food Authority agrees to this piggybacking provision to enter into a contract with (*Insert the awarded vendor*) for the purchase of the items described herein in this bid document based on the same terms, conditions, prices and products offered by the successful vendor to (*Insert Name of system that you are piggybacking off*) County/City School District.

Minor changes in delivery terms and conditions, number of schools and delivery frequencies may be discussed by participating SFA for up to 30 days following the award of this contract. The following SFA **may participate** in the final contract.

NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL NUTRITION DIRECTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS: \_\_\_\_\_

DELIVERY FREQUENCY: \_\_\_\_\_

(Example: 1 x a week; 2 x a week; daily, etc.)

School District Authority Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_

Awarded Vendor Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Company: (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_

**ATTACHMENT H  
 BID EXCEPTION FORM**

<b>Vendor Name:</b>	<b>Invitation for Bid (IFB) for: School System: Type:</b>	<b>Date of Submittal:</b>
Number and Title of each section of IFB that Bidder takes exception	Number and Title :  Section:	Number and Title :  Section:
Specific Sentence within each section	Sentence:	Sentence:
Alternate Provisions proposed by Bidder	Alternate:	Alternate:
Vendor's Authorization Signature:		
Vendor's Authorization printed name:		
Vendor's Title:		

**ATTACHMENT I**  
**ANTI-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY/CITY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, of lawful age, being first sworn on oath say, that he/she is the agent authorized by the bidder to submit the attached bid. Affiant further states that the bidder has not been a party to any collusion among bidders in restraint of freedom of competition by agreement to bid at a fixed price or to refrain from bidding; or with any state official or employees to quantity, quality, or price in the prospective contract, or any other terms of said prospective official concerning exchange of money or other thing of value for special consideration in the letting of contract; that the bidder/vendor had not paid, given or donated, or agreed to pay, give or donate to any officer or employee either directly or indirectly in the procuring of the award of a contact pursuant to this bid.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed

Subscribed and sworn before me this \_\_\_ day of \_\_, 20\_\_.

Notary Public (or Clerk or Judge) \_\_\_\_\_

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTACHMENT J**

**VENDOR AFFIDAVIT**

By executing this affidavit, the undersigned vendor verifies its compliance with O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91(b)(1), stating affirmatively that the individual, firm or corporation which is engaged in the physical performance of services on behalf of the Thomas County School System has registered with, is authorized to use and uses the federal work authorization program commonly known as E-Verify, or any subsequent replacement program, in accordance with the applicable provisions and deadlines established in O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91. Furthermore, the undersigned vendor will continue to use the federal work authorization program throughout the contract period and the undersigned vendor will contract for the physical performance of services in satisfaction of such contract only with sub vendors who present an affidavit to the vendor with the information required by O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91(b). Vendor hereby attests that its federal work authorization user identification number and date of authorization are as follows:

E-verify Number (4 to 6 digit number) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Authorization \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Vendor \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (city), \_\_\_\_\_ (state).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Officer or Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name and Title of Authorized Officer or Agent

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME

ON THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_