

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD AGREEMENT

Pursuant to Section 6.4 of ITN#23ESS16111, the Department of Children and Families, SunCoast Region, hereby announces its decision to award the agreement for Interpreter Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to the responsive and responsible vendor as determined by the Secretary or designee to provide the best value to the state.

Vendor
Absolute Quality Interpreting Services, LLC

Commodity Code: 90121702

PROTESTS AND DISPUTES

Any person who is adversely affected by the decision or intended decision made by the Department pursuant to this ITN shall file with the Department a notice of protest in writing within 72 hours (Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays excluded) after the posting of the notice of decision or intended decision. The formal written protest shall be filed within ten (10) days after the date the notice of protest is filed.

With respect to a protest of the terms, conditions and specifications contained in this solicitation, including any provisions governing the methods for ranking bids, awarding contracts, reserving rights of further negotiation, or modifying or amending any contract, the notice of protest shall be filed in writing within 72 hours (Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays excluded) after the posting of the solicitation. For purposes of this provision, the term "the solicitation" includes any addendum, response to written questions, clarification or other document concerning the terms, conditions, or specifications of the solicitation.

The formal written protest shall be filed within ten (10) days after the date the notice of protest is filed.

When protesting a decision or intended decision (including a protest of the terms, conditions and specifications contained in the solicitation), the protestor must post a bond equal to one percent (1%) of the Department's estimated agreement amount. The estimated agreement amount shall be based upon the contract price submitted by the protestor. If no contract price was submitted, the Department shall provide the estimated contract amount to the protestor within 72 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the notice of protest has been filed. The estimated agreement amount is not subject to protest pursuant to section 120.57(3), Florida Statutes. The bond shall be conditioned upon the payment of all costs and charges that are adjudged against the protestor in the administrative hearing in which action is brought and in any subsequent appellate court proceeding. **FAILURE TO FILE THE PROPER BOND AT THE TIME OF FILING THE FORMAL PROTEST WILL RESULT IN A REJECTION OF THE PROTEST.** In lieu of a bond the Department may accept a cashier's check, official bank check, or money order in the amount of the bond.

A notice of protest, formal protest, and bond are “filed” when received by the contact person listed in Section 1.4 above. Filing may be achieved by hand-delivery, courier, or U.S. Mail. Filing by e-mail shall not be accepted. All methods of delivery or transmittal to the Department’s contact person shall remain the responsibility of the protestor and the risk of non-receipt or delayed receipt shall be upon the protestor. **FAILURE TO FILE A PROTEST WITHIN THE TIME PRESCRIBED IN S. 120.57(3), F.S., OR FAILURE TO POST THE BOND OR OTHER SECURITY REQUIRED BY LAW WITHIN THE TIME ALLOWED FOR FILING A BOND SHALL CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF PROCEEDINGS UNDER CHAPTER 120, F.S.**