JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STANDARD CONTRACT

Contract No. UCPJMU7611

This contract entered into this 29th day of October 2026, by Blackberry Mulch, hereinafter called the "Contractor" and Commonwealth of Virginia, James Madison University called the "Purchasing Agency".

WITNESSETH that the Contractor and the Purchasing Agency, in consideration of the mutual covenants, promises and agreements herein contained, agree as follows:

SCOPE OF CONTRACT: The Contractor shall provide the services to the Purchasing Agency as set forth in the Contract Documents.

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: From October 29, 2026 through October 28, 2027 with four (4) one-year renewal options.

The contract documents shall consist of:

(1) This signed form;

(2) The following portions of the Request for Proposal RFP ADF-1266 dated August 3, 2026
- (a) The Statement of Needs,
- (b) The General Terms and Conditions,
- (c) The Special Terms and Conditions together with any negotiated modifications of those Special Conditions;

(3) The Contractor's Proposal dated August 28, 2026 and the following negotiated modification to the Proposal, all of which documents are incorporated herein.
- (a) Negotiations Summary, dated October 29, 2026

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Contract to be duly executed intending to be bound thereby.

CONTRACTOR:	PURCHASING AGENCY:
By: _____ (Signature)	By: _____ (Signature)
Lorrie Kaye Wheeler (Printed Name)	Autumn Foster (Printed Name)
Title: Manager	Title: LCCO/PM

Rev. 5/12/21

NEGOTIATION SUMMARY BLACKBERRY MULCH

RFP# ADF-1266 SHREDDED MULCH AND LANDSCAPING PLANTS

10/29/2026

The Primary Point of Contact for this Contract is:

Lorrie Kaye Wheeler and Melissa Graham
540-639-4115 / 540-639-9770 (FAX)
Melissa.graham@thethurmangroup.com

GENERAL:

1. Any change in the scope described herein shall be mutually agreed upon by the Purchasing Agency and Contractor with all changes first being authorized through either a contract modification and/or a change order issued by the Purchasing Agency.

2. Parties agree that this Negotiation Summary modifies RFP# ADF-1266 and the Contractor's initial response to RFP# ADF-1266, and in the event of conflict this negotiation summary shall take precedence.

3. Contractor agrees that all exceptions taken within their initial response to RFP# ADF-1266 that are not specifically addressed within this negotiation summary are null and void.

4. Blackberry Mulch agrees that the terms and conditions as stated in the RFP will govern and be abided by.

5. Contractor acknowledges and agrees to abide by all response times as outlined in RFP# ADF-1266. This includes deliveries being completed by 7:00am, unless it is a day where more than one load is required.

6. Payment Terms: As an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, James Madison University makes payment in accordance with the Code of Virginia, (Section 2.2-4347 through 2.2-4354), Prompt Payment.

7. If during any subsequent renewal periods, the Commonwealth elects to exercise the option to renew the contract, the contract price(s) for the subsequent renewal period shall not exceed the contract price(s) of the previous renewal period increased/decreased by more than the percentage increase/decrease of the other services category of the CPI-W section of the Consumer Price Index of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the latest twelve months for which statistics are available. Please acknowledge your agreement with these terms.

NEGOTIATION SUMMARY **BLACKBERRY MULCH**

PRICING SCHEDULE:
The following Labor, Other Fees, and Discounts sections represent the negotiated pricing for all represented items and should be reflected in all quotes and proposals for the University. No other fees or charges shall be acceptable. The following pages, taken from the RFP and edited where negotiated, represent the agreed-upon pricing for this contract.

Description	Unit Price
Double Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch	$26.16 per Cubic Yard
Triple Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch	NA
Double Shredded Brown Dyed Mulch	$46.15 per Cubic Yard
Triple Shredded Brown Dyed Mulch	NA
Clean Oak Wood Chips	$2,850.00 per 80 Yards
Other Mulch	NA
Delivery Charges	Free
Additional Fees	NA

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Request for Proposal

RFP# ADF-1266

Shredded Mulch and Landscaping Plants

August 3, 2026

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF STATE COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PURCHASING PROFESSIONALS

VASCUPP

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP# ADF-1266

Issue Date: **August 3, 2026**

Title: **Shredded Mulch and Landscaping Plants**

Issuing Agency: **Commonwealth of Virginia**
James Madison University
Procurement Services MSC 5720
752 Ott Street, Wine Price Building
First Floor, Suite 1023
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Period of Contract: From Date of Award Through One Year (Renewable)

Sealed Proposals Will Be Received Until 2:00 PM on September 3, 2026 for Furnishing The Services Described Herein. (See Special Terms & Conditions "D. Late Proposals")

SEALED PROPOSALS MAY BE MAILED, EXPRESS MAILED, SUBMITTED IN eVA, OR HAND DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO THE ISSUING AGENCY SHOWN ABOVE.

If you are an individual with a disability with need of reasonable accommodations to participate in this activity, please notify the buyer below no later than 5:00 PM on August 19, 2026. Individuals with Hearing/Speech disability are encouraged to use the Virginia Relay Service. TDD Users – 800-828-1120.

All Inquiries For Information And Clarification Should Be Directed To: Autumn Foster, Lead Commodity Contract Officer/Project Manager, Procurement Services, delli2ad@jmu.edu, 540-568-4501; (Fax) 540-568-7935 not later than five business days before the proposal closing date.

NOTE: THE SIGNED PROPOSAL AND ALL ATTACHMENTS SHALL BE RETURNED.
In compliance with this Request for Proposal and to all the conditions imposed herein, the undersigned offers and agrees to furnish the goods/services in accordance with the attached signed proposal or as mutually agreed upon by subsequent negotiation.

Name and Address of Firm:
Blackberry Mulch
P.O. Box 63
Riner, Virginia 24149

Date: 8/28/26

Web Address: www.blackberrymulch.com

Email: melissa.graham@theturmangroup.com

By: Lorrie Kaye Wheeler
(Signature)

Name: Lorrie Kaye Wheeler
(Please Print)

Title: Accountant/Manager

Phone: 540-639-4115

Fax #: 540-639-9770

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF ADDENDUM: #1____ #2____ #3____ #4____ #5____ (please initial)

SMALL, WOMAN OR MINORITY OWNED BUSINESS:
☐ YES; ☑ NO; *IF YES* ⇒⇒ ☐ SMALL; ☐ WOMAN; ☐ MINORITY *IF MINORITY*: ☐ AA; ☐ HA; ☐ AsA; ☐ NW; ☐ Micro

Note: This public body does not discriminate against faith-based organizations in accordance with the *Code of Virginia*, § 2.2-4343.1 or against an offeror because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP # ADF-1266

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A. Offeror Data Sheet
B. SWaM Utilization Plan
C. Sample of Standard Contract
D. Zone Map
E. SWaM Standard Reporting Template (*For example purposes only; this form is not required to be completed or submitted as part of the offeror's response.)*
F. Student Internship and Learning Opportunities

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to solicit sealed proposals from qualified sources to provide shredded mulch, landscaping and planting materials, flowers (annuals & perennials), trees, bushes, seasonal plants, bulbs and nursery stock along with the equipment necessary for delivery of products for James Madison University (JMU), an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Initial contract shall be for one (1) year with an option to renew for four (4) additional one-year periods.

II. BACKGROUND

James Madison University (JMU) is a comprehensive public institution in Harrisonburg, Virginia with an enrollment of approximately 23,000 students and approximately 4,000 faculty and staff. There are over 600 individual departments on campus that support eight (8) academic divisions. The University offers over 130 majors, minors, and concentrations. Further information about the University can be found at the following website: www.jmu.edu.

The Contractor shall be responsible to deliver, upon request, the quantities and items specified on any agreed delivery dates. James Madison University reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantities as necessary.

III. SMALL, WOMAN-OWNED AND MINORITY PARTICIPATION

It is the policy of the Commonwealth of Virginia to contribute to the establishment, preservation, and strengthening of small businesses and businesses owned by women and minorities, and to encourage their participation in State procurement activities. The Commonwealth encourages contractors to provide for the participation of small businesses and businesses owned by women and minorities through partnerships, joint ventures, subcontracts, and other contractual opportunities. Attachment B contains information on reporting spend data with subcontractors.

IV. STATEMENT OF NEEDS

Offerors may submit proposals for any or all of the products requested under this solicitation. A proposal is not required to include both mulch and landscaping plants; offerors may propose on one product category, multiple product categories, or the complete scope of products identified in this RFP.
The general specifications for the materials to be purchased and other requirements under this solicitation are as follows:

A. Mulch

The Contractor shall furnish and deliver the specified product on "as needed" basis. Deliveries will begin approximately March 1st of each year.

1. General Specifications:

All mulch shall meet the following specifications:

a. Double or Triple shredded hardwood bark mulch shall be made of 100% hardwoods containing a minimum of 65% oak.
b. Double or Triple shredded brown dyed mulch of high quality and consistency.

c. Product shall not contain large chucks, sawdust, germination, or growth-inhibiting factors.
d. Product shall not be musty, moldy, caked, decayed or extremely dusty.
e. Products shall be free of insects, pests, their eggs, and larvae.

James Madison University Facilities Management Landscape Superintendent reserves the right to:

a. Inspect and approve product at Contractor's place of business and again upon delivery before acceptance of product.
b. Accept no substitutions
c. Coordinate all deliveries with Contractor.
d. Designate delivery areas if necessary – only one delivery area is planned.

2. Deliveries:

a. James Madison University will contact the contractor three (3) to five (5) days in advance for placement of quantities to be delivered.
b. Deliveries shall be made to the James Madison University Landscape Department mulch compound. The Contractor will be advised at the time of request if other delivery locations apply.
c. James Madison University Landscaping Department shall be notified 24 hours prior to delivery of any product so that personnel may be available to allow access to the compound and verify product received. Contact information will be provided upon award of contract.
d. Delivery and unloading should be complete by 7:00 am
e. Due to additional deliveries being required in the spring months of April and May, James Madison University will advise the contractor of the spring delivery schedule at least two (2) weeks prior when deliveries are to begin.
f. All delivery fees must be disclosed. No additional charges shall be allowed.

B. Landscaping Plants

1. The University is unable to provide known quantities or requirement for delivery ahead of placing an order. All orders shall be on an as needed basis. Orders may vary in size and timing. Requirements may include large-volume orders placed in advance to accommodate growing and scheduled delivery needs, as well as smaller purchases needed on a more immediate basis. Smaller orders may be selected by JMU Landscaping staff and may either be picked up by the University or delivered by the Contractor.Multiple contracted suppliers may be used for any given project, depending on the size, type and availability of plants required.

2. Planting beds are typically designed months in advance of planting using specific cultivars, sizes and colors of plants; therefore, when specific large quantity orders are placed, no substitutions shall be made without prior approval from the Landscaping Department. *If vendor is located beyond the 60-mile radius; weekly to bi-weekly digital photos shall be provided to the Landscaping Department to show the progress and growth patterns of our plants. This process will be enforced!*

3. For each quote requested, the vendor shall furnish a detailed list of cost for size and species or description along with any other related charges approved by this contract. Orders $10,000 and over shall require an eVA Purchase Order ***before*** the supplier shall

allow for any purchase or deliveries. Contracted vendors not abiding by this requirement may not have their contract renewed.

ANY INFERIOR PLANTS DELIVERED TO JMU WILL BE REJECTED AND JMU SHALL NOT BE CHARGED OR ITEM SHALL BE PURCHASED AT VENDOR EXPENSE FROM ANOTHER SOURCE. JMU WILL NOT ACCEPT PLANTS THAT DO NOT MEET THE HIGHEST QUALITY STANDARDS AS GIVEN BELOW:

All potted and tray plants, trees, shrubs, etc. shall have/be:

- Fresh, healthy plants that have been properly taken care of,
- Unless specified otherwise, ALL POTS ***shall have three plants per 5 ½" to 6"*** pot and shall be showing color blooms and/or buds,
- "Leggy" plants WILL NOT be accepted,
- Healthy, well-developed root systems,
- Grown under ideal growing conditions with proper light, water, fertilizer and relative humidity,
- **All plants shall be "hardened off"/" toughened up" at least two days prior to delivery so they will handle immediate exposure to the elements. This is a REQUIREMENT and shall be done prior to any requested delivery!**
- Blooming plants shall be showing color, uniform growth with high-quality blossoms and/or buds (unless otherwise specified in request for quote or pick-up selection), and free of yellow growth,
- Grown in premium quality planting mix,
- Delivered in an enclosed truck, or if this is not possible, so transported that the plants are not exposed to drying and whipping action of the wind. ***Plants shall be either shipped on racks or stacked "one high" to eliminate crushing of plants. If crushed plants arrive, they will be rejected immediately at no cost to the University.***
- Free of any pests, including but not limited to whiteflies, snails/slugs, or mealy bugs. Presence of any pests may be cause for rejection,
- Free of fungus,
- Free of decaying/dying plants,
- All pots and trays shall be legibly marked or labeled with plant name.

C. Offeror's Response

To be considered for award, Offerors must provide a complete and detailed response to each of the requirements outlined below. Responses should clearly demonstrate the Offeror's ability to meet the University's needs and provide sufficient information for JMU to evaluate the Offeror's qualifications, capabilities, and proposed approach.

1. Describe a brief history of firm, list relevant experience, qualifications and success in providing plant and/or mulching material.

2. Describe all plant and/or mulching varieties available and specific season, if necessary.

3. Describe growing processes and materials to ensure high quality plants and usage of recycled dirt.

4. Describe any plant warranties offered. If additional changes are related to those warranties, the charges shall be identified in the pricing schedule.

5. Describe hours of operation and ability of JMU landscaping personnel to hand select stock plants for pick-up or delivery (as required).

6. Describe the minimum dollar amount required for delivery, if any, as per the pricing schedule in section X .

V. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

A. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

To ensure timely and adequate consideration of your proposal, offerors are to limit all contact, whether verbal or written, pertaining to this RFP to the James Madison University Procurement Office for the duration of this Proposal process. Failure to do so may jeopardize further consideration of Offeror's proposal.

ELECTRONIC OR PAPER SUBMISSIONS MAY BE ACCEPTED FOR THIS PROPOSAL. INSTRUCTIONS BELOW FOR OFFEROR'S CHOSEN METHOD (A. ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION or B. PAPER RESPONSE).

1. RFP Response: In order to be considered for selection, the **Offeror shall submit a complete response to this RFP**; and shall submit to the issuing Purchasing Agency:

   a. **ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION**:

      i. ELECTRONIC RESPONSES SUBMITTED THROUGH eVA WILL BE ACCEPTED. **Emailed responses will not be accepted.** Please see below, "eVA Procurement Website and Registration" for additional information on registration. It is the responsibility of the Supplier to ensure their proposal and all required documentation is properly completed, readable, and uploaded to eVA. Suppliers should allow sufficient time to account for any technical difficulties they may encounter during online submission or uploading of the documents. In the event of any technical difficulties, Suppliers shall contact the eVA Customer Care Center at 1-866-289-7367 or via email at eVACustomerCare@DGS.virginia.gov.

      ii. eVA Procurement Website and Registration The Commonwealth's procurement portal, eVA, located at http://www.eva.virginia.gov, provides information about Commonwealth solicitations and awards. Suppliers shall be registered in eVA in order submit a proposal to this RFP. To register with eVA, select "Register Now" on the eVA website homepage, http://www.eva.virginia.gov. For registration instructions and assistance, as well as instructions on how to submit proposals and accept orders please select "I Sell to Virginia". Suppliers are encouraged to check this site on a regular basis and, in particular, prior to submission of proposals to identify any amendments to the RFP that may have been issued.

      iii. Electronic Responses submitted through eVA shall be in WORD format or searchable PDF of the entire proposal, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS. PDFs must be submitted in an unlocked format. Any proprietary information should be clearly marked in accordance with Section V.4.f. below.

b. **PAPER SUBMISSIONS:**

i. **One (1) original** and **two (2) copies** of the entire proposal, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS. Any proprietary information should be clearly marked in accordance with V.4.e. below.

ii. **One (1) electronic copy in WORD format or searchable PDF** (*CD or flash drive*) of the entire proposal, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS. Any proprietary information should be clearly marked in accordance with Section V.4.f. below.

iii. Each copy of the proposal should be bound or contained in a single volume where practical. All documentation submitted with the proposal should be contained in that single volume.

iv. See additional information in Section VIII.C, *IDENTIFICATION OF PROPSAL ENVELOPE.*

2. Should the proposal contain **proprietary information, provide one (1) redacted copy of the proposal** and all attachments with **proprietary portions removed or blacked out**. This copy should be clearly marked *"Redacted Copy"* on the front cover. The classification of an entire proposal document, line-item prices, and/or total proposal prices as proprietary or trade secrets is not acceptable. JMU shall not be responsible for the Contractor's failure to exclude proprietary information from this redacted copy.

   No other distribution of the proposal shall be made by the Offeror.

3. The version of the solicitation issued by JMU Procurement Services, as amended by an addenda, is the mandatory controlling version of the document. Any modification of, or additions to, the solicitation by the Offeror shall not modify the official version of the solicitation issued by JMU Procurement services unless accepted in writing by the University. Such modifications or additions to the solicitation by the Offeror may be cause for rejection of the proposal; however, JMU reserves the right to decide, on a case-by-case basis in its sole discretion, whether to reject such a proposal. If the modification or additions are not identified until after the award of the contract, the controlling version of the solicitation document shall still be the official state form issued by Procurement Services.

4. Proposal Preparation

   a. Proposals shall be signed by an authorized representative of the Offeror. All information requested should be submitted. Failure to submit all information requested may result in the purchasing agency requiring prompt submissions of missing information and/or giving a lowered evaluation of the proposal. Proposals which are substantially incomplete or lack key information may be rejected by the purchasing agency. Mandatory requirements are those required by law or regulation or are such that they cannot be waived and are not subject to negotiation.

   b. Proposals shall be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Emphasis should be placed on completeness and clarity of content.

c. Proposals should be organized in the order in which the requirements are presented in the RFP. All pages of the proposal should be numbered. Each paragraph in the proposal should reference the paragraph number of the corresponding section of the RFP. It is also helpful to cite the paragraph number, sub letter, and repeat the text of the requirement as it appears in the RFP. If a response covers more than one page, the paragraph number and sub letter should be repeated at the top of the next page. The proposal should contain a table of contents which cross references the RFP requirements. Information which the offeror desires to present that does not fall within any of the requirements of the RFP should be inserted at the appropriate place or be attached at the end of the proposal and designated as additional material. Proposals that are not organized in this manner risk elimination from consideration if the evaluators are unable to find where the RFP requirements are specifically addressed.

d. As used in this RFP, the terms "must", "shall", "should" and "may" identify the criticality of requirements. "Must" and "shall" identify requirements whose absence will have a major negative impact on the suitability of the proposed solution. Items labeled as "should" or "may" are highly desirable, although their absence will not have a large impact and would be useful, but are not necessary. Depending on the overall response to the RFP, some individual "must" and "shall" items may not be fully satisfied, but it is the intent to satisfy most, if not all, "must" and "shall" requirements. The inability of an offeror to satisfy a "must" or "shall" requirement does not automatically remove that offeror from consideration; however, it may seriously affect the overall rating of the offeror' proposal.

e. Each copy of the proposal should be bound or contained in a single volume where practical. All documentation submitted with the proposal should be contained in that single volume.

f. Ownership of all data, materials and documentation originated and prepared for the State pursuant to the RFP shall belong exclusively to the State and be subject to public inspection in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Trade secrets or proprietary information submitted by the offeror shall not be subject to public disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; however, the offeror must invoke the protection of Section 2.2-4342F of the Code of Virginia, in writing, either before or at the time the data is submitted. **The written notice must specifically identify the data or materials to be protected and state the reasons why protection is necessary. The proprietary or trade secret materials submitted must be identified by some distinct method such as highlighting or underlining and must indicate only the specific words, figures, or paragraphs that constitute trade secret or proprietary information. The classification of an entire proposal document, line-item prices and/or total proposal prices as proprietary or trade secrets is not acceptable. Marking an entire proposal as confidential or attempts to prevent disclosure of pricing information by designating it as confidential, proprietary or trade secret will be ignored.**

5. Oral Presentation: Offerors who submit a proposal in response to this RFP may be required to give an oral presentation of their proposal to James Madison University. This provides an opportunity for the Offeror to clarify or elaborate on the proposal. This is a fact-finding and explanation session only and does not include negotiation. James Madison University will schedule the time and location of these presentations. Oral presentations are an option of the University and may or may not be conducted. Therefore, proposals should be complete.

B. SPECIFIC PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

Proposals should be as thorough and detailed as possible so that James Madison University may properly evaluate your capabilities to provide the required services. Offerors are required to submit the following items as a complete proposal:

1. Return RFP cover sheet and all addenda acknowledgements, if any, signed and filled out as required. (Electronic signature shall be accepted, i.e. Adobe Sign, DocuSign, etc.)

2. Plan and methodology for providing the goods/services as described in Section IV. Statement of Needs of this Request for Proposal.

3. A written narrative statement to include, but not be limited to, the expertise, qualifications, and experience of the firm and resumes of specific personnel to be assigned to perform the work.

4. Offeror Data Sheet, included as *Attachment A* to this RFP.

5. Small Business Subcontracting Plan, included as *Attachment B* to this RFP. Offeror shall provide a Small Business Subcontracting plan which summarizes the planned utilization of Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)-certified small businesses which include businesses owned by women and minorities, when they have received Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) small business certification, under the contract to be awarded as a result of this solicitation. This is a requirement for all prime contracts in excess of $100,000 unless no subcontracting opportunities exist.

6. Identify the amount of sales your company had during the last twelve months with each VASCUPP Member Institution. A list of VASCUPP Members can be found at: www.VASCUPP.org.

7. Proposed Cost. See Section X. Pricing Schedule of this Request for Proposal.

8. Student Internship Learning Opportunities: JMU values partnerships that contribute to the professional development of its students. While not mandatory, the University encourages Firms to consider offering internships, cooperative education, or applied learning opportunities to JMU students in connection with the goods and/or services provided under this agreement. If applicable, please describe in the **Student Internship and Learning Opportunities Attachment G** any opportunities your Firm may offer for student engagement, such as:

   - Career Fairs
   - Paid or unpaid experiential roles (inclusive of short-term or semester-long internships)
   - Participation in relevant projects or initiatives
   - Job shadowing, mentoring, or career talks
   - Campus Interviews
   - Your organization's HR meeting with JMU Employer Services Team

   Firms are welcome to outline any support structures for student participants, including mentorship, training, or supervision. Responses will be sent to JMU's University Career Center office for coordination with Firms to connect students with potential opportunities.

VI. EVALUATION AND AWARD CRITERIA

A. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals shall be evaluated by James Madison University using the following criteria:

		Points
1.	Quality of products/services offered and suitability for intended purposes	30
2.	Qualifications and experience of Offeror in providing the goods/services	20
3.	Specific plans or methodology to be used to perform the services	20
4.	Participation of Small, Women-Owned, & Minority (SWaM) Businesses	10
5.	Cost	20
		100

AWARD TO MULTIPLE OFFERORS: Selection shall be made of two or more offerors deemed to be fully qualified and best suited among those submitting proposals on the basis of the evaluation factors included in the Request for Proposals, including price, if so stated in the Request for Proposals. Negotiations shall be conducted with the offerors so selected. Price shall be considered, but need not be the sole determining factor. After negotiations have been conducted with each offeror so selected, the agency shall select the offeror which, in its opinion, has made the best proposal, and shall award the contract to that offeror. The Commonwealth reserves the right to make multiple awards as a result of this solicitation. The Commonwealth may cancel this Request for Proposals or reject proposals at any time prior to an award, and is not required to furnish a statement of the reasons why a particular proposal was not deemed to be the most advantageous. Should the Commonwealth determine in writing and in its sole discretion that only one offeror is fully qualified, or that one offeror is clearly more highly qualified than the others under consideration, a contract may be negotiated and awarded to that offeror. The award document will be a contract incorporating by reference all the requirements, terms and conditions of the solicitation and the contractor's proposal as negotiated.

VII. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. PURCHASING MANUAL: This solicitation is subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia's Purchasing Manual for Institutions of Higher Education and Their Vendors and any revisions thereto, which are hereby incorporated into this contract in their entirety. A copy of the manual is available for review at the purchasing office. In addition, the manual may be accessed electronically at http://www.jmu.edu/procurement or a copy can be obtained by calling Procurement Services at (540) 568-3145.

B. APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS: This solicitation and any resulting contract shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the Commonwealth. The Contractor shall comply with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

C. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION: By submitting their proposals, offerors certify to the Commonwealth that they will conform to the provisions of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, as well as the Virginia Fair Employment Contracting Act of 1975, as amended, where applicable, the Virginians With Disabilities Act, the Americans With Disabilities Act and §10 of the Rules Governing Procurement, Chapter 2, Exhibit J, Attachment 1 (available for review at http://www.jmu.edu/procurement). If the award is made to a faith-based organization, the organization shall not discriminate against any recipient of goods, services, or disbursements made pursuant to the contract on the basis of the recipient's religion, religious belief, refusal to participate in a religious practice, or on the basis of race, age, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin and shall be subject to the same rules as other organizations that contract with public bodies to account for the use of the funds provided; however, if the faith-based organization segregates public funds into separate accounts, only the accounts and programs funded with public funds shall be subject to audit by the public body. *(§6 of the Rules Governing Procurement)*.

In every contract over $10,000 the provisions in 1. and 2. below apply:

1. During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

   a. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

   b. The contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, will state that such contractor is an equal opportunity employer.

   c. Notices, advertisements, and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule, or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting these requirements.

2. The contractor will include the provisions of 1. above in every subcontract or purchase order over $10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

D. ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING: By submitting their proposals, offerors certify that their proposals are made without collusion or fraud and that they have not offered or received any kickbacks or inducements from any other offeror, supplier, manufacturer or subcontractor in connection with their proposal, and that they have not conferred on any public employee having official responsibility for this procurement transaction any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services or anything of more than nominal value, present or promised, unless consideration of substantially equal or greater value was exchanged.

E. IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986: By entering into a written contract with the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Contractor certifies that the Contractor does not, and shall not during the performance of the contract for goods and services in the Commonwealth, knowingly employ an unauthorized alien as defined in the federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

F. DEBARMENT STATUS: By submitting their proposals, offerors certify that they are not currently debarred by the Commonwealth of Virginia from submitting proposals on contracts for the type of goods and/or services covered by this solicitation, nor are they an agent of any person or entity that is currently so debarred.

G. ANTITRUST: By entering into a contract, the contractor conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the Commonwealth of Virginia all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may now have or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, relating to the particular goods or services purchased or acquired by the Commonwealth of Virginia under said contract.

H. MANDATORY USE OF STATE FORM AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS RFPs: Failure to submit a proposal on the official state form provided for that purpose may be a cause for rejection of the proposal. Modification of or additions to the General Terms and Conditions of the solicitation may be cause for rejection of the proposal; however, the Commonwealth reserves the right to decide, on a case by case basis, in its sole discretion, whether to reject such a proposal.

I. CLARIFICATION OF TERMS: If any prospective offeror has questions about the specifications or other solicitation documents, the prospective offeror should contact the buyer whose name appears on the face of the solicitation no later than five working days before the due date. Any revisions to the solicitation will be made only by addendum issued by the buyer.

J. PAYMENT:

1. To Prime Contractor:

   a. Invoices for items ordered, delivered and accepted shall be submitted by the contractor directly to the payment address shown on the purchase order/contract. All invoices shall show the state contract number and/or purchase order number; social security number (for individual contractors) or the federal employer identification number (for proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations).

   b. Any payment terms requiring payment in less than 30 days will be regarded as requiring payment 30 days after invoice or delivery, whichever occurs last. This shall not affect offers of discounts for payment in less than 30 days, however.

   c. All goods or services provided under this contract or purchase order, that are to be paid for with public funds, shall be billed by the contractor at the contract price, regardless of which public agency is being billed.

   d. The following shall be deemed to be the date of payment: the date of postmark in all cases where payment is made by mail, or the date of offset when offset proceedings have been instituted as authorized under the Virginia Debt Collection Act.

   e. Unreasonable Charges. Under certain emergency procurements and for most time and material purchases, final job costs cannot be accurately determined at the time orders are placed. In such cases, contractors should be put on notice that final payment in full is contingent on a determination of reasonableness with respect to all invoiced charges. Charges which appear to be unreasonable

will be researched and challenged, and that portion of the invoice held in abeyance until a settlement can be reached. Upon determining that invoiced charges are not reasonable, the Commonwealth shall promptly notify the contractor, in writing, as to those charges which it considers unreasonable and the basis for the determination. A contractor may not institute legal action unless a settlement cannot be reached within thirty (30) days of notification. The provisions of this section do not relieve an agency of its prompt payment obligations with respect to those charges which are not in dispute (*Rules Governing Procurement, Chapter 2, Exhibit J, Attachment 1 § 53; available for review at http://www.jmu.edu/procurement*).

2. To Subcontractors:

   a. A contractor awarded a contract under this solicitation is hereby obligated:

      (1) To pay the subcontractor(s) within seven (7) days of the contractor's receipt of payment from the Commonwealth for the proportionate share of the payment received for work performed by the subcontractor(s) under the contract; or

      (2) To notify the agency and the subcontractors, in writing, of the contractor's intention to withhold payment and the reason.

   b. The contractor is obligated to pay the subcontractor(s) interest at the rate of one percent per month (unless otherwise provided under the terms of the contract) on all amounts owed by the contractor that remain unpaid seven (7) days following receipt of payment from the Commonwealth, except for amounts withheld as stated in (2) above. The date of mailing of any payment by U. S. Mail is deemed to be payment to the addressee. These provisions apply to each sub-tier contractor performing under the primary contract. A contractor's obligation to pay an interest charge to a subcontractor may not be construed to be an obligation of the Commonwealth.

3. Each prime contractor who wins an award in which provision of a SWAM procurement plan is a condition to the award, shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution, on or before request for final payment, evidence and certification of compliance (subject only to insubstantial shortfalls and to shortfalls arising from subcontractor default) with the SWAM procurement plan. Final payment under the contract in question may be withheld until such certification is delivered and, if necessary, confirmed by the agency or institution, or other appropriate penalties may be assessed in lieu of withholding such payment.

4. The Commonwealth of Virginia encourages contractors and subcontractors to accept electronic and credit card payments.

K. PRECENDENCE OF TERMS: Paragraphs A through J of these General Terms and Conditions and the Commonwealth of Virginia Purchasing Manual for Institutions of Higher Education and their Vendors, shall apply in all instances. In the event there is a conflict between any of the other General Terms and Conditions and any Special Terms and Conditions in this solicitation, the Special Terms and Conditions shall apply.

L. QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFERORS: The Commonwealth may make such reasonable investigations as deemed proper and necessary to determine the ability of the offeror to perform the services/furnish the goods and the offeror shall furnish to the Commonwealth all such information and data for this purpose as may be requested. The Commonwealth reserves the

right to inspect offeror's physical facilities prior to award to satisfy questions regarding the offeror's capabilities. The Commonwealth further reserves the right to reject any proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigations of, such offeror fails to satisfy the Commonwealth that such offeror is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to provide the services and/or furnish the goods contemplated therein.

M. TESTING AND INSPECTION: The Commonwealth reserves the right to conduct any test/inspection it may deem advisable to assure goods and services conform to the specifications.

N. ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT: A contract shall not be assignable by the contractor in whole or in part without the written consent of the Commonwealth.

O. CHANGES TO THE CONTRACT: Changes can be made to the contract in any of the following ways:

1. The parties may agree in writing to modify the scope of the contract. An increase or decrease in the price of the contract resulting from such modification shall be agreed to by the parties as a part of their written agreement to modify the scope of the contract.

2. The Purchasing Agency may order changes within the general scope of the contract at any time by written notice to the contractor. Changes within the scope of the contract include, but are not limited to, things such as services to be performed, the method of packing or shipment, and the place of delivery or installation. The contractor shall comply with the notice upon receipt. The contractor shall be compensated for any additional costs incurred as the result of such order and shall give the Purchasing Agency a credit for any savings. Said compensation shall be determined by one of the following methods:

   a. By mutual agreement between the parties in writing; or

   b. By agreeing upon a unit price or using a unit price set forth in the contract, if the work to be done can be expressed in units, and the contractor accounts for the number of units of work performed, subject to the Purchasing Agency's right to audit the contractor's records and/or to determine the correct number of units independently; or

   c. By ordering the contractor to proceed with the work and keep a record of all costs incurred and savings realized. A markup for overhead and profit may be allowed if provided by the contract. The same markup shall be used for determining a decrease in price as the result of savings realized. The contractor shall present the Purchasing Agency with all vouchers and records of expenses incurred and savings realized. The Purchasing Agency shall have the right to audit the records of the contractor as it deems necessary to determine costs or savings. Any claim for an adjustment in price under this provision must be asserted by written notice to the Purchasing Agency within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written order from the Purchasing Agency. If the parties fail to agree on an amount of adjustment, the question of an increase or decrease in the contract price or time for performance shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures for resolving disputes provided by the Disputes Clause of this contract or, if there is none, in accordance with the disputes provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Purchasing Manual for Institutions of Higher Education and their Vendors. Neither the existence of a claim nor a dispute resolution process, litigation or any other provision of this contract shall excuse the contractor from promptly complying with the changes ordered by the Purchasing Agency or with the performance of the contract generally.

P. DEFAULT: In case of failure to deliver goods or services in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the Commonwealth, after due oral or written notice, may procure them from other sources and hold the contractor responsible for any resulting additional purchase and administrative costs. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies which the Commonwealth may have.

Q. INSURANCE: By signing and submitting a proposal under this solicitation, the offeror certifies that if awarded the contract, it will have the following insurance coverage at the time the contract is awarded. For construction contracts, if any subcontractors are involved, the subcontractor will have workers' compensation insurance in accordance with§ 25 of the Rules Governing Procurement – Chapter 2, Exhibit J, Attachment 1, and 65.2-800 et. Seq. of the Code of Virginia (available for review at http://www.jmu.edu/procurement) The offeror further certifies that the contractor and any subcontractors will maintain these insurance coverage during the entire term of the contract and that all insurance coverage will be provided by insurance companies authorized to sell insurance in Virginia by the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

MINIMUM INSURANCE COVERAGES AND LIMITS REQUIRED FOR MOST CONTRACTS:

1. Workers' Compensation: Statutory requirements and benefits. Coverage is compulsory for employers of three or more employees, to include the employer. Contractors who fail to notify the Commonwealth of increases in the number of employees that change their workers' compensation requirement under the Code of Virginia during the course of the contract shall be in noncompliance with the contract.

2. Employer's Liability: $100,000

3. Commercial General Liability: $1,000,000 per occurrence and $2,000,000 in the aggregate. Commercial General Liability is to include bodily injury and property damage, personal injury and advertising injury, products and completed operations coverage. The Commonwealth of Virginia must be named as an additional insured and so endorsed on the policy.

4. Automobile Liability: $1,000,000 combined single limit. (*Required only if a motor vehicle not owned by the Commonwealth is to be used in the contract. Contractor must assure that the required coverage is maintained by the Contractor (or third party owner of such motor vehicle.*)

R. ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD: Upon the award or the announcement of the decision to award a contract over $100,000, as a result of this solicitation, the purchasing agency will publicly post such notice on the DGS/DPS eVA web site (www.eva.virginia.gov) for a minimum of 10 days.

S. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE: During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees to (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the contractor's employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor that the contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) include the provisions of the foregoing

clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over $10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

For the purposes of this section, "drug-free workplace" means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific contract awarded to a contractor, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the contract.

T. NONDISCRIMINATION OF CONTRACTORS: An offeror, or contractor shall not be discriminated against in the solicitation or award of this contract because of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, faith-based organizational status, any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment or because the offeror employs ex-offenders unless the state agency, department or institution has made a written determination that employing ex-offenders on the specific contract is not in its best interest. If the award of this contract is made to a faith-based organization and an individual, who applies for or receives goods, services, or disbursements provided pursuant to this contract objects to the religious character of the faith-based organization from which the individual receives or would receive the goods, services, or disbursements, the public body shall offer the individual, within a reasonable period of time after the date of his objection, access to equivalent goods, services, or disbursements from an alternative provider.

U. eVA BUSINESS TO GOVERNMENT VENDOR REGISTRATION, CONTRACTS, AND ORDERS: The eVA Internet electronic procurement solution, website portal www.eVA.virginia.gov, streamlines and automates government purchasing activities in the Commonwealth. The eVA portal is the gateway for vendors to conduct business with state agencies and public bodies. All vendors desiring to provide goods and/or services to the Commonwealth shall participate in the eVA Internet eprocurement solution by completing the free eVA Vendor Registration. All offerors must register in eVA and pay the Vendor Transaction Fees specified below; failure to register will result in the proposal being rejected. Vendor transaction fees are determined by the date the original purchase order is issued and the current fees are as follows:

Vendor transaction fees are determined by the date the original purchase order is issued and the current fees are as follows:

1. For orders issued July 1, 2014 and after, the Vendor Transaction Fee is:

   a. Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) certified Small Businesses: 1% capped at $500 per order.

   b. Businesses that are not Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) certified Small Businesses: 1% capped at $1,500 per order.

2. For orders issued prior to July 1, 2014 the vendor transaction fees can be found at www.eVA.virginia.gov.

3. The specified vendor transaction fee will be invoiced by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of General Services approximately 60 days after the corresponding purchase order is issued and payable 30 days after the invoice date. Any adjustments (increases/decreases) will be handled through purchase order changes.

V. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS: It is understood and agreed between the parties herein that the Commonwealth of Virginia shall be bound hereunder only to the extent of the funds available or which may hereafter become available for the purpose of this agreement.

W. PRICING CURRENCY: Unless stated otherwise in the solicitation, offerors shall state offered prices in U.S. dollars.

X. E-VERIFY REQUIREMENT OF ANY CONTRACTOR: Any employer with more than an average of 50 employees for the previous 12 months entering into a contract in excess of $50,000 with James Madison University to perform work or provide services pursuant to such contract shall register and participate in the E-Verify program to verify information and work authorization of its newly hired employees performing work pursuant to any awarded contract.

Y. CIVILITY IN STATE WORKPLACES: The contractor shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that no individual, while performing work on behalf of the contractor or any subcontractor in connection with this agreement (each, a "Contract Worker"), shall engage in 1) harassment (including sexual harassment), bullying, cyber-bullying, or threatening or violent conduct, or 2) discriminatory behavior on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religious belief, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, political affiliation, veteran status, or disability.

The contractor shall provide each Contract Worker with a copy of this Section and will require Contract Workers to participate in training on civility in the State workplace. Upon request, the contractor shall provide documentation that each Contract Worker has received such training.

For purposes of this Section, "State workplace" includes any location, permanent or temporary, where a Commonwealth employee performs any work-related duty or is representing his or her agency, as well as surrounding perimeters, parking lots, outside meeting locations, and means of travel to and from these locations. Communications are deemed to occur in a State workplace if the Contract Worker reasonably should know that the phone number, email, or other method of communication is associated with a State workplace or is associated with a person who is a State employee.

Additionally, in accordance *Code of with Virginia § 18.2-283.2*, Contractor shall comply with both the Code and *University Policy 1105, Prohibition of Weapons*, and shall ensure that all Contract Workers comply with the standards of conduct required by this policy.

The Commonwealth of Virginia may require, at its sole discretion, the removal and replacement of any Contract Worker who the Commonwealth reasonably believes to have violated this Section.

This Section creates obligations solely on the part of the contractor. Employees or other third parties may benefit incidentally from this Section and from training materials or other communications distributed on this topic , but the Parties to this agreement intend this Section to be enforceable solely by the Commonwealth and not by employees or other third parties.

VIII. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. AUDIT: The Contractor hereby agrees to retain all books, records, systems, and other documents relative to this contract for five (5) years after final payment, or until audited by the Commonwealth of Virginia, whichever is sooner. The Commonwealth of Virginia, its

authorized agents, and/or State auditors shall have full access to and the right to examine any of said materials during said period.

B. CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT: James Madison University reserves the right to cancel and terminate any resulting contract, in part or in whole, without penalty, upon 60 days written notice to the contractor. In the event the initial contract period is for more than 12 months, the resulting contract may be terminated by either party, without penalty, after the initial 12 months of the contract period upon 60 days written notice to the other party. Any contract cancellation notice shall not relieve the contractor of the obligation to deliver and/or perform on all outstanding orders issued prior to the effective date of cancellation.

C. IDENTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL ENVELOPE: The signed proposal should be returned in a separate envelope or package, sealed and identified as follows:

From: Blackberry Mulch (Name of Offeror) — September 3, 2026 2:00pm (Due Date / Time)

P.O. Box 63 (Street or Box No.) — ADF-1266 (RFP #)

Riner, Virginia 24149 (City, State, Zip Code) — Shredded Mulch & Landscaping Plants (RFP Title)

Name of Purchasing Officer: Lorrie Kaye Wheeler

The envelope should be addressed as directed on the title page of the solicitation.

The Offeror takes the risk that if the envelope is not marked as described above, it may be inadvertently opened and the information compromised, which may cause the proposal to be disqualified. Proposals may be hand-delivered to the designated location in the office issuing the solicitation. No other correspondence or other proposals should be placed in the envelope.

D. LATE PROPOSALS: To be considered for selection, proposals must be received by the issuing office by the designated date and hour. The official time used in the receipt of proposals is that time on the automatic time stamp machine in the issuing office. Proposals received in the issuing office after the date and hour designated are automatically non responsive and will not be considered. The University is not responsible for delays in the delivery of mail by the U.S. Postal Service, private couriers, or the intra university mail system. It is the sole responsibility of the Offeror to ensure that its proposal reaches the issuing office by the designated date and hour.

E. UNDERSTANDING OF REQUIREMENTS: It is the responsibility of each offeror to inquire about and clarify any requirements of this solicitation that is not understood. The University will not be bound by oral explanations as to the meaning of specifications or language contained in this solicitation. Therefore, all inquiries deemed to be substantive in nature must be in writing and submitted to the responsible buyer in the Procurement Services Office. Offerors must ensure that written inquiries reach the buyer at least five (5) days prior to the time set for receipt of offerors proposals. A copy of all queries and the respective response will be provided in the form of an addendum to all offerors who have indicated an interest in responding to this solicitation. Your signature on your Offer certifies that you fully understand all facets of this solicitation. These questions may be sent via email directly to the Procurement Officer listed on the signature page of this solicitation or by Fax to 540/568-7935.

F. RENEWAL OF CONTRACT: This contract may be renewed by the Commonwealth for a period of four (4) successive one year periods under the terms and conditions of the original

contract except as stated in 1. and 2. below. Price increases may be negotiated only at the time of renewal. Written notice of the Commonwealth's intention to renew shall be given approximately 90 days prior to the expiration date of each contract period.

1. If the Commonwealth elects to exercise the option to renew the contract for an additional one-year period, the contract price(s) for the additional one year shall not exceed the contract price(s) of the original contract increased/decreased by no more than the percentage increase/decrease of the other services category of the CPI-W section of the Consumer Price Index of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the latest twelve months for which statistics are available.

2. If during any subsequent renewal periods, the Commonwealth elects to exercise the option to renew the contract, the contract price(s) for the subsequent renewal period shall not exceed the contract price(s) of the previous renewal period increased/decreased by more than the percentage increase/decrease of the other services category of the CPI-W section of the Consumer Price Index of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the latest twelve months for which statistics are available.

G. SUBMISSION OF INVOICES: All invoices shall be submitted within sixty days of contract term expiration for the initial contract period as well as for each subsequent contract renewal period. Any invoices submitted after the sixty day period will not be processed for payment.

H. OPERATING VEHICLES ON JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY CAMPUS: Operating vehicles on sidewalks, plazas, and areas heavily used by pedestrians is prohibited. In the unlikely event a driver should find it necessary to drive on James Madison University sidewalks, plazas, and areas heavily used by pedestrians, the driver must yield to pedestrians. For a complete list of parking regulations, please go to www.jmu.edu/parking; or to acquire a service representative parking permit, contact Parking Services at 540.568.3300. The safety of our students, faculty and staff is of paramount importance to us. Accordingly, violators may be charged.

I. COOPERATIVE PURCHASING / USE OF AGREEMENT BY THIRD PARTIES: It is the intent of this solicitation and resulting contract(s) to allow for cooperative procurement. Accordingly, any public body, (to include government/state agencies, political subdivisions, etc.), cooperative purchasing organizations, public or private health or educational institutions or any University related foundation and affiliated corporations may access any resulting contract if authorized by the Contractor.

Participation in this cooperative procurement is strictly voluntary. If authorized by the Contractor(s), the resultant contract(s) will be extended to the entities indicated above to purchase goods and services in accordance with contract terms. As a separate contractual relationship, the participating entity will place its own orders directly with the Contractor(s) and shall fully and independently administer its use of the contract(s) to include contractual disputes, invoicing and payments without direct administration from the University. No modification of this contract or execution of a separate agreement is required to participate; however, the participating entity and the Contractor may modify the terms and conditions of this contract to accommodate specific governing laws, regulations, policies, and business goals required by the participating entity. Any such modification will apply solely between the participating entity and the Contractor.

The Contractor will notify the University in writing of any such entities accessing this contract. The Contractor will provide semi-annual usage reports for all entities accessing the contract. The University shall not be held liable for any costs or damages incurred by any other

participating entity as a result of any authorization by the Contractor to extend the contract. It is understood and agreed that the University is not responsible for the acts or omissions of any entity and will not be considered in default of the contract no matter the circumstances.

Use of this contract(s) does not preclude any participating entity from using other contracts or competitive processes as needed.

J. SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTING AND EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

1. It is the goal of the Commonwealth that 42% of its purchases are made from small businesses. This includes discretionary spending in prime contracts and subcontracts. All potential offerors are required to submit a Small Business Subcontracting Plan. Unless the offeror is registered as a Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)-certified small business and where it is practicable for any portion of the awarded contract to be subcontracted to other suppliers, the contractor is encouraged to offer such subcontracting opportunities to SBSD-certified small businesses. This shall not exclude SBSD-certified women-owned and minority-owned businesses when they have received SBSD small business certification. No offeror or subcontractor shall be considered a Small Business, a Women-Owned Business or a Minority-Owned Business unless certified as such by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) by the due date for receipt of proposals. If small business subcontractors are used, the prime contractor agrees to report the use of small business subcontractors by providing the purchasing office at a minimum the following information: name of small business with the SBSD certification number or FEIN, phone number, total dollar amount subcontracted, category type (small, women-owned, or minority-owned), and type of product/service provided. **This information shall be submitted to: JMU Office of Procurement Services, Attn: SWAM Subcontracting Compliance, MSC 5720, Harrisonburg, VA 22807 or swamreporting@jmu.edu .**

2. Each prime contractor who wins an award in which provision of a small business subcontracting plan is a condition of the award, shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution with every request for payment, evidence of compliance (subject only to insubstantial shortfalls and to shortfalls arising from subcontractor default) with the small business subcontracting plan. **This information shall be submitted to: JMU Office of Procurement Services, SWAM Subcontracting Compliance, MSC 5720, Harrisonburg, VA 22807 or swamreporting@jmu.edu** . When such business has been subcontracted to these firms and upon completion of the contract, the contractor agrees to furnish the purchasing office at a minimum the following information: name of firm with the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) certification number or FEIN number, phone number, total dollar amount subcontracted, category type (small, women-owned, or minority-owned), and type of product or service provided. Payment(s) may be withheld until compliance with the plan is received and confirmed by the agency or institution. The agency or institution reserves the right to pursue other appropriate remedies to include, but not be limited to, termination for default.

3. Each prime contractor who wins an award valued over $200,000 shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution with every request for payment, information on use of subcontractors that are not Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)-certified small businesses. When such business has been subcontracted to these firms and upon completion of the contract, the contractor agrees to furnish the purchasing office at a minimum the following information: name of firm, phone number, FEIN number, total dollar amount subcontracted, and type of product or service provided. **This information shall be submitted to: JMU Office of Procurement Services, Attn: SWAM**

Subcontracting Compliance, MSC 5720, Harrisonburg, VA 22807 or swamreporting@jmu.edu .

K. AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN THE COMMONWEALTH: A contractor organized as a stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company, business trust, or limited partnership or registered as a registered limited liability partnership shall be authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth as a domestic or foreign business entity if so required by Title 13.1 or Title 50 of the Code of Virginia or as otherwise required by law. Any business entity described above that enters into a contract with a public body shall not allow its existence to lapse or its certificate of authority or registration to transact business in the Commonwealth, if so required under Title 13.1 or Title 50, to be revoked or cancelled at any time during the term of the contract. A public body may void any contract with a business entity if the business entity fails to remain in compliance with the provisions of this section.

L. PUBLIC POSTING OF COOPERATIVE CONTRACTS: James Madison University maintains a web-based contracts database with a public gateway access. Any resulting cooperative contract/s to this solicitation will be posted to the publicly accessible website. Contents identified as proprietary information will not be made public.

M. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS OF PERSONNEL ASSIGNED BY CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM WORK ON JMU PROPERTY: The Contractor shall obtain criminal background checks on all of their contracted employees who will be assigned to perform services on James Madison University property. The results of the background checks will be directed solely to the Contractor. The Contractor bears responsibility for confirming to the University contract administrator that the background checks have been completed prior to work being performed by their employees or subcontractors. The Contractor shall only assign to work on the University campus those individuals whom it deems qualified and permissible based on the results of completed background checks. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, and to ensure the safety of students, faculty, staff and facilities, James Madison University reserves the right to approve or disapprove any contract employee that will work on JMU property. Disapproval by the University will solely apply to JMU property and should have no bearing on the Contractor's employment of an individual outside of James Madison University.

N. INDEMNIFICATION: Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Commonwealth of Virginia, its officers, agents, and employees from any claims, damages and actions of any kind or nature, whether at law or in equity, arising from or caused by the use of any materials, goods, or equipment of any kind or nature furnished by the contractor/any services of any kind or nature furnished by the contractor, provided that such liability is not attributable to the sole negligence of the using agency or to failure of the using agency to use the materials, goods, or equipment in the manner already and permanently described by the contractor on the materials, goods or equipment delivered.

O. ADDITIONAL GOODS AND SERVICES: The University may acquire other goods or services that the supplier provides than those specifically solicited. The University reserves the right, subject to mutual agreement, for the Contractor to provide additional goods and/or services under the same pricing, terms, and conditions and to make modifications or enhancements to the existing goods and services. Such additional goods and services may include other products, components, accessories, subsystems, or related services that are newly introduced during the term of this Agreement. Such additional goods and services will be provided to the University at favored nations pricing, terms, and conditions.

P. **WORK SITE DAMAGES:** Any damage to existing utilities, equipment or finished surfaces resulting from the performance of this contract shall be repaired to the Commonwealth's satisfaction at the contractor's expense.

Q. **STANDARDS OF CONDUCT:** The work site will be occupied by students and University Personnel during the times work is performed. Contractor and Contractor's personnel shall exercise a particularly high level of discipline, safety and cooperation at all times while on the job site. The Contractor shall be responsible for controlling employee conduct, for assuring that its employees are not boisterous or rude, and assuring that they are not engaging in any destructive or criminal activity. The Contractor is also responsible for ensuring that its employees do not disturb papers on desks, or open desk drawers, cabinets, or briefcases, or use State phones, and the like, except as authorized. .

IX. METHOD OF PAYMENT

The contractor will be paid based on invoices submitted in accordance with the solicitation and any negotiations. James Madison University recognizes the importance of expediting the payment process for our vendors and suppliers; we **require** that our vendors and suppliers enroll in our bank's Comprehensive Payable options: either the Virtual Payables Virtual Card or the PayMode-X electronic deposit (ACH) to your bank account so that future payments are made electronically. Contractors signed up for the Virtual Payables process will receive the benefit of being paid Net 15. Additional information is available online at: http://www.jmu.edu/financeoffice/accounting-operations-disbursements/cash-investments/vendor-payment-methods.shtml

Suppliers that do not sign up for one of these payment processes may risk their contract being suspended until such enrollment occurs or terminated, at the discretion of the university. Enrollment should begin no more than 10 days after award. Invoices shall include the applicable PO number.

X. PRICING SCHEDULE

The offeror shall provide pricing for all products and services included in proposal indicating one-time and on-going costs. The resulting contract will be cooperative and pricing shall be inclusive for the attached Zone Map, of which JMU falls within Zone 2.

Specify any associated charge card processing fees, if applicable, to be billed to the university.

Additional fees/charges not specified in contract pricing will not be accepted.

Mulch:

Description	Unit Price
Double Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch	$ 26.16 Per Cubic Yard
Triple Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch	$ Per Cubic Yard N/A
Double Shredded Brown Dyed Mulch	$ 46.15 Per Cubic Yard
Triple Shredded Brown Dyed Mulch	$ Per Cubic Yard N/A
Clean Oak Wood Chips	$ N/A

	Per Cubic Yard
Other Mulch	$ N/A
Delivery Charges	$ Free
Additional Fees	$ N/A

Landscaping Plants:

The pricing schedule for Landscaping Plants shall be submitted as a separate attachment. Pricing shall be organized into three distinct categories: (1) Product (JMU pick-up) (2) Product Delivery (Contractor Delivers), and (3) Contractor Delivery and Installation.
Within each category, pricing shall be further itemized by plant material type and shall identify any quantity-based percentage of discounts available.

The resulting contract shall be a cooperative contract; Offerors providing plant materials and/or services to other Zones shall provide discount breakdown for each Zone offering goods and services to as outlined above.

XI. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Offeror Data Sheet

Attachment B: Small, Women, and Minority-owned Business (SWaM) Utilization Plan

Attachment C: Standard Contract Sample

Attachment D: Zone Map

Attachment E: SWaM Sub-contractor Reporting Template (*For example purposes only; this form is not required to be completed or submitted as part of the offeror's response.)*

Attachment F: Student Internship and Learning Opportunities

ATTACHMENT A

OFFEROR DATA SHEET

TO BE COMPLETED BY OFFEROR

1. QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFEROR: Offerors must have the capability and capacity in all respects to fully satisfy the contractual requirements.

2. YEARS IN BUSINESS: Indicate the length of time you have been in business providing these types of goods and services.

   Years 29 Months _____

3. REFERENCES: Indicate below a listing of at least five (5) organizations, either commercial or governmental/educational, that your agency is servicing. Include the name and address of the person the purchasing agency has your permission to contact.

CLIENT	LENGTH OF SERVICE	ADDRESS	CONTACT PERSON/PHONE #
UVA	28 yrs	575 Alderman Rd, Charlottesville, VA 22904	Chris Ward 434-962-8473
Valley Landscaping	28 yrs	3000 Peppers Ferry Rd, Radford, VA. 24141	Mark Vaughn 540-320-4434
City of Harrisonburg	23 yrs	320 East Mosby, Harrisonburg, VA 22801	Peggy Fambach 540-434-5928
Heritage Stone Yard	25 yrs	P.O. Box 182, New River, VA 24129	Gary Bradley 540-239-8962
Horizon Lawncare	17 yrs	P.O. Box 1665, Radford, VA. 24143	Juston Daniels 540-641-2035

4. List full names and addresses of Offeror and any branch offices which may be responsible for administering the contract.

   Lorrie Kaye Wheeler — P.O. Box 63, Riner, VA. 24149
   Melissa G. Graham — same

5. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA: Is any member of the firm an employee of the Commonwealth of Virginia who has a personal interest in this contract pursuant to the CODE OF VIRGINIA, SECTION 2.2-3100 – 3131?

   [ ] YES [X] NO

   IF YES, EXPLAIN: _____

ATTACHMENT B

Small, Women and Minority-owned Businesses (SWaM) Utilization Plan

Offeror Name: _____ **Preparer Name:** _____

Date: _____

Is your firm a **Small Business Enterprise** certified by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)? Yes_____ No_____

If yes, certification number: _____ Certification date:_____

Is your firm a **Woman-owned Business Enterprise** certified by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)? Yes_____ No_____

If yes, certification number: _____ Certification date:_____

Is your firm a **Minority-Owned Business Enterprise** certified by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)? Yes____ No_____

If yes, certification number: _____ Certification date:_____

Is your firm a **Micro Business** certified by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)? Yes_____ No_____

If yes, certification number: _____ Certification date: _____

Instructions: *Populate the table below to show your firm's plans for utilization of small, women-owned and minority-owned business enterprises in the performance of the contract. Describe plans to utilize SWAMs businesses as part of joint ventures, partnerships, subcontractors, suppliers, etc.*

Small Business: "Small business " means a business, independently owned or operated by one or more persons who are citizens of the United States or non-citizens who are in full compliance with United States immigration law, which, together with affiliates, has 250 or fewer employees, or average annual gross receipts of $10 million or less averaged over the previous three years.

Woman-Owned Business Enterprise: A business concern which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more women who are U.S. citizens or legal resident aliens, or in the case of a corporation, partnership or limited liability company or other entity, at least 51 percent of the equity ownership interest in which is owned by one or more women, and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of such individuals. **For purposes of the SWAM Program, all certified women-owned businesses are also a small business enterprise.**

Minority-Owned Business Enterprise: A business concern which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more minorities or in the case of a corporation, partnership or limited liability company or other entity, at least 51 percent of the equity ownership interest in which is owned by one or more minorities and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of such individuals. **For purposes of the SWAM Program, all certified minority-owned businesses are also a small business enterprise.**

Micro Business is a certified Small Business under the SWaM Program and has no more than twenty-five (25) employees **AND** no more than $3 million in average annual revenue over the three-year period prior to their certification.

All small, women, and minority owned businesses must be certified by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) to be counted in the SWAM program. Certification applications are available through SBSD at 800-223-0671 in Virginia, 804-786-6585 outside Virginia, or online at http://www.sbsd.virginia.gov/ (Customer Service).

RETURN OF THIS PAGE IS REQUIRED

ATTACHMENT B (CNT'D)

Small, Women and Minority-owned Businesses (SWaM) Utilization Plan

Procurement Name and Number: _____ Date Form Completed: _____

Listing of Sub-Contractors, to include, Small, Woman Owned and Minority Owned Businesses
for this Proposal and Subsequent Contract

Offeror / Proposer:

_____ _____ _____

Firm Address Contact Person/No.

Sub-Contractor's Name and Address	Contact Person & Phone Number	SBSD Certification Number	Services or Materials Provided	Total Subcontractor Contract Amount (to include change orders)	Total Dollars Paid Subcontractor to date (to be submitted with request for payment from JMU)

(Form shall be submitted with proposal and if awarded, a SWaM Sub-contractor Reporting Form shall be submitted to swamreporting@jmu.edu)

RETURN OF THIS PAGE IS REQUIRED

ATTACHMENT C

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STANDARD CONTRACT

Contract No._____

This contract entered into this_____day of_____20____,by _____ hereinafter called the "Contractor" and Commonwealth of Virginia, James Madison University called the "Purchasing Agency".

WITNESSETH that the Contractor and the Purchasing Agency, in consideration of the mutual covenants, promises and agreements herein contained, agree as follows:

SCOPE OF CONTRACT: The Contractor shall provide the services to the Purchasing Agency as set forth in the Contract Documents.

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: From_____ through_____

The contract documents shall consist of:

(1) This signed form;

(2) The following portions of the Request for Proposals dated _____:
- (a) The Statement of Needs,
- (b) The General Terms and Conditions,
- (c) The Special Terms and Conditions together with any negotiated modifications of those Special Conditions;
- (d) List each addendum that may be issued

(3) The Contractor's Proposal dated _____and the following negotiated modification to the Proposal, all of which documents are incorporated herein.
- (a) Negotiations summary dated _____.

SAMPLE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Contract to be duly executed intending to be bound thereby.

CONTRACTOR:	PURCHASING AGENCY:
By:_____ (Signature)	By:_____ (Signature)
_____ (Printed Name)	_____ (Printed Name)
Title:_____	Title:_____

ATTACHMENT D

Zone Map



Virginia Association of State College & University Purchasing Professionals (VASCUPP)

List of member institutions by zones

Zone 1
George Mason University (Fairfax)

Zone 2
James Madison University (Harrisonburg)

Zone 3
University of Virginia (Charlottesville)

Zone 4
University of Mary Washington (Fredericksburg)

Zone 5
Christopher Newport University (Newport News)
College of William and Mary (Williamsburg)
Norfolk State University (Norfolk)
Old Dominion University (Norfolk)

Zone 6
Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond)
Virginia State University (Petersburg)

Zone 7
Longwood University (Farmville)

Zone 8
Virginia Military Institute (Lexington)
Virginia Tech (Blacksburg)
Radford University (Radford)

Zone 9
University of Virginia - Wise (Wise)

ATTACHMENT F

Student Internship and Learning Opportunities

Firm Name:
Primary Contact Name & Title:
Email Address:
Phone Number:

Section 1: Overview of Student Engagement Potential/Opportunities
Summary of approach/willingness:

Section 2: Proposed Student Internship & Learning Opportunities ***(check all applicable or of interest to your firm)***

[ ] **Career Fairs**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Career Fairs, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Paid Experiential Roles**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Paid Experiential Roles, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Unpaid Experiential Roles**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Unpaid Experiential Roles, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Participation in Projects**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Participation in Projects, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Job Shadowing**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Job Shadowing, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Mentoring Program**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Mentoring Programs, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Career Talks / Guest Lectures**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Career Talks/Guest Lectures, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Campus Interviews**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Campus Interviews, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Engagement with JMU Employer Services Team**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Engagement with JMU Employer Services Team, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Other**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Other, if different from Primary Contact:

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Request for Proposal

RFP# ADF-1266

Shredded Mulch and Landscaping Plants

August 3, 2026

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF STATE COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PURCHASING PROFESSIONALS

VASCUPP

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP# ADF-1266

Issue Date: **August 3, 2026**

Title: **Shredded Mulch and Landscaping Plants**

Issuing Agency: **Commonwealth of Virginia**
James Madison University
Procurement Services MSC 5720
752 Ott Street, Wine Price Building
First Floor, Suite 1023
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Period of Contract: From Date of Award Through One Year (Renewable)

Sealed Proposals Will Be Received Until 2:00 PM on September 3, 2026 for Furnishing The Services Described Herein. (See Special Terms & Conditions "D. Late Proposals")

SEALED PROPOSALS MAY BE MAILED, EXPRESS MAILED, SUBMITTED IN eVA, OR HAND DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO THE ISSUING AGENCY SHOWN ABOVE.

If you are an individual with a disability with need of reasonable accommodations to participate in this activity, please notify the buyer below no later than 5:00 PM on August 19, 2026. Individuals with Hearing/Speech disability are encouraged to use the Virginia Relay Service. TDD Users – 800-828-1120.

All Inquiries For Information And Clarification Should Be Directed To: Autumn Foster, Lead Commodity Contract Officer/Project Manager, Procurement Services, delli2ad@jmu.edu, 540-568-4501; (Fax) 540-568-7935 not later than five business days before the proposal closing date.

NOTE: THE SIGNED PROPOSAL AND ALL ATTACHMENTS SHALL BE RETURNED.
In compliance with this Request for Proposal and to all the conditions imposed herein, the undersigned offers and agrees to furnish the goods/services in accordance with the attached signed proposal or as mutually agreed upon by subsequent negotiation.

Name and Address of Firm:

_____

_____

_____

By: _____
(Signature)

Name: _____
(Please Print)

Date: _____ Title: _____

Web Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Fax #: _____

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF ADDENDUM: #1_____ #2_____ #3_____ #4_____ #5_____ (please initial)

SMALL, WOMAN OR MINORITY OWNED BUSINESS:
□ YES; □ NO; *IF YES* ⇒⇒ □ SMALL; □ WOMAN; □ MINORITY ***IF MINORITY***: □ AA; □ HA; □ AsA; □ NW; □ Micro

Note: This public body does not discriminate against faith-based organizations in accordance with the *Code of Virginia*, § 2.2-4343.1 or against an offeror because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP # ADF-1266

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A. Offeror Data Sheet
B. SWaM Utilization Plan
C. Sample of Standard Contract
D. Zone Map
E. SWaM Standard Reporting Template (*For example purposes only; this form is not required to be completed or submitted as part of the offeror's response.)*
F. Student Internship and Learning Opportunities

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to solicit sealed proposals from qualified sources to provide shredded mulch, landscaping and planting materials, flowers (annuals & perennials), trees, bushes, seasonal plants, bulbs and nursery stock along with the equipment necessary for delivery of products for James Madison University (JMU), an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Initial contract shall be for one (1) year with an option to renew for four (4) additional one-year periods.

II. BACKGROUND

James Madison University (JMU) is a comprehensive public institution in Harrisonburg, Virginia with an enrollment of approximately 23,000 students and approximately 4,000 faculty and staff. There are over 600 individual departments on campus that support eight (8) academic divisions. The University offers over 130 majors, minors, and concentrations. Further information about the University can be found at the following website: www.jmu.edu.

The Contractor shall be responsible to deliver, upon request, the quantities and items specified on any agreed delivery dates. James Madison University reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantities as necessary.

III. SMALL, WOMAN-OWNED AND MINORITY PARTICIPATION

It is the policy of the Commonwealth of Virginia to contribute to the establishment, preservation, and strengthening of small businesses and businesses owned by women and minorities, and to encourage their participation in State procurement activities. The Commonwealth encourages contractors to provide for the participation of small businesses and businesses owned by women and minorities through partnerships, joint ventures, subcontracts, and other contractual opportunities. Attachment B contains information on reporting spend data with subcontractors.

IV. STATEMENT OF NEEDS

Offerors may submit proposals for any or all of the products requested under this solicitation. A proposal is not required to include both mulch and landscaping plants; offerors may propose on one product category, multiple product categories, or the complete scope of products identified in this RFP.
The general specifications for the materials to be purchased and other requirements under this solicitation are as follows:

A. Mulch

The Contractor shall furnish and deliver the specified product on "as needed" basis. Deliveries will begin approximately March 1st of each year.

1. General Specifications:

All mulch shall meet the following specifications:

a. Double or Triple shredded hardwood bark mulch shall be made of 100% hardwoods containing a minimum of 65% oak.
b. Double or Triple shredded brown dyed mulch of high quality and consistency.

c. Product shall not contain large chucks, sawdust, germination, or growth-inhibiting factors.
d. Product shall not be musty, moldy, caked, decayed or extremely dusty.
e. Products shall be free of insects, pests, their eggs, and larvae.

James Madison University Facilities Management Landscape Superintendent reserves the right to:

a. Inspect and approve product at Contractor's place of business and again upon delivery before acceptance of product.
b. Accept no substitutions
c. Coordinate all deliveries with Contractor.
d. Designate delivery areas if necessary – only one delivery area is planned.

2. Deliveries:

a. James Madison University will contact the contractor three (3) to five (5) days in advance for placement of quantities to be delivered.
b. Deliveries shall be made to the James Madison University Landscape Department mulch compound. The Contractor will be advised at the time of request if other delivery locations apply.
c. James Madison University Landscaping Department shall be notified 24 hours prior to delivery of any product so that personnel may be available to allow access to the compound and verify product received. Contact information will be provided upon award of contract.
d. Delivery and unloading should be complete by 7:00 am
e. Due to additional deliveries being required in the spring months of April and May, James Madison University will advise the contractor of the spring delivery schedule at least two (2) weeks prior when deliveries are to begin.
f. All delivery fees must be disclosed. No additional charges shall be allowed.

B. Landscaping Plants

1. The University is unable to provide known quantities or requirement for delivery ahead of placing an order. All orders shall be on an as needed basis. Orders may vary in size and timing. Requirements may include large-volume orders placed in advance to accommodate growing and scheduled delivery needs, as well as smaller purchases needed on a more immediate basis. Smaller orders may be selected by JMU Landscaping staff and may either be picked up by the University or delivered by the Contractor.Multiple contracted suppliers may be used for any given project, depending on the size, type and availability of plants required.

2. Planting beds are typically designed months in advance of planting using specific cultivars, sizes and colors of plants; therefore, when specific large quantity orders are placed, no substitutions shall be made without prior approval from the Landscaping Department. *If vendor is located beyond the 60-mile radius; weekly to bi-weekly digital photos shall be provided to the Landscaping Department to show the progress and growth patterns of our plants. This process will be enforced!*

3. For each quote requested, the vendor shall furnish a detailed list of cost for size and species or description along with any other related charges approved by this contract. Orders $10,000 and over shall require an eVA Purchase Order ***before*** the supplier shall

allow for any purchase or deliveries. Contracted vendors not abiding by this requirement may not have their contract renewed.

ANY INFERIOR PLANTS DELIVERED TO JMU WILL BE REJECTED AND JMU SHALL NOT BE CHARGED OR ITEM SHALL BE PURCHASED AT VENDOR EXPENSE FROM ANOTHER SOURCE. JMU WILL NOT ACCEPT PLANTS THAT DO NOT MEET THE HIGHEST QUALITY STANDARDS AS GIVEN BELOW:

All potted and tray plants, trees, shrubs, etc. shall have/be:

- Fresh, healthy plants that have been properly taken care of,
- Unless specified otherwise, ALL POTS ***shall have three plants per 5 ½" to 6"*** pot and shall be showing color blooms and/or buds,
- "Leggy" plants WILL NOT be accepted,
- Healthy, well-developed root systems,
- Grown under ideal growing conditions with proper light, water, fertilizer and relative humidity,
- **All plants shall be "hardened off"/" toughened up" at least two days prior to delivery so they will handle immediate exposure to the elements. This is a REQUIREMENT and shall be done prior to any requested delivery!**
- Blooming plants shall be showing color, uniform growth with high-quality blossoms and/or buds (unless otherwise specified in request for quote or pick-up selection), and free of yellow growth,
- Grown in premium quality planting mix,
- Delivered in an enclosed truck, or if this is not possible, so transported that the plants are not exposed to drying and whipping action of the wind. ***Plants shall be either shipped on racks or stacked "one high" to eliminate crushing of plants. If crushed plants arrive, they will be rejected immediately at no cost to the University.***
- Free of any pests, including but not limited to whiteflies, snails/slugs, or mealy bugs. Presence of any pests may be cause for rejection,
- Free of fungus,
- Free of decaying/dying plants,
- All pots and trays shall be legibly marked or labeled with plant name.

C. Offeror's Response

To be considered for award, Offerors must provide a complete and detailed response to each of the requirements outlined below. Responses should clearly demonstrate the Offeror's ability to meet the University's needs and provide sufficient information for JMU to evaluate the Offeror's qualifications, capabilities, and proposed approach.

1. Describe a brief history of firm, list relevant experience, qualifications and success in providing plant and/or mulching material.

2. Describe all plant and/or mulching varieties available and specific season, if necessary.

3. Describe growing processes and materials to ensure high quality plants and usage of recycled dirt.

4. Describe any plant warranties offered. If additional changes are related to those warranties, the charges shall be identified in the pricing schedule.

5. Describe hours of operation and ability of JMU landscaping personnel to hand select stock plants for pick-up or delivery (as required).

6. Describe the minimum dollar amount required for delivery, if any, as per the pricing schedule in section X .

V. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

A. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

To ensure timely and adequate consideration of your proposal, offerors are to limit all contact, whether verbal or written, pertaining to this RFP to the James Madison University Procurement Office for the duration of this Proposal process. Failure to do so may jeopardize further consideration of Offeror's proposal.

ELECTRONIC OR PAPER SUBMISSIONS MAY BE ACCEPTED FOR THIS PROPOSAL. INSTRUCTIONS BELOW FOR OFFEROR'S CHOSEN METHOD (A. ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION or B. PAPER RESPONSE).

1. RFP Response: In order to be considered for selection, the **Offeror shall submit a complete response to this RFP**; and shall submit to the issuing Purchasing Agency:

   a. **ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION**:

      i. ELECTRONIC RESPONSES SUBMITTED THROUGH eVA WILL BE ACCEPTED. **Emailed responses will not be accepted.** Please see below, "eVA Procurement Website and Registration" for additional information on registration. It is the responsibility of the Supplier to ensure their proposal and all required documentation is properly completed, readable, and uploaded to eVA. Suppliers should allow sufficient time to account for any technical difficulties they may encounter during online submission or uploading of the documents. In the event of any technical difficulties, Suppliers shall contact the eVA Customer Care Center at 1-866-289-7367 or via email at eVACustomerCare@DGS.virginia.gov.

      ii. eVA Procurement Website and Registration The Commonwealth's procurement portal, eVA, located at http://www.eva.virginia.gov, provides information about Commonwealth solicitations and awards. Suppliers shall be registered in eVA in order submit a proposal to this RFP. To register with eVA, select "Register Now" on the eVA website homepage, http://www.eva.virginia.gov. For registration instructions and assistance, as well as instructions on how to submit proposals and accept orders please select "I Sell to Virginia". Suppliers are encouraged to check this site on a regular basis and, in particular, prior to submission of proposals to identify any amendments to the RFP that may have been issued.

      iii. Electronic Responses submitted through eVA shall be in WORD format or searchable PDF of the entire proposal, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS. PDFs must be submitted in an unlocked format. Any proprietary information should be clearly marked in accordance with Section V.4.f. below.

b. **PAPER SUBMISSIONS:**

i. **One (1) original** and **two (2) copies** of the entire proposal, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS. Any proprietary information should be clearly marked in accordance with V.4.e. below.

ii. **One (1) electronic copy in WORD format or searchable PDF** (*CD or flash drive*) of the entire proposal, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS. Any proprietary information should be clearly marked in accordance with Section V.4.f. below.

iii. Each copy of the proposal should be bound or contained in a single volume where practical. All documentation submitted with the proposal should be contained in that single volume.

iv. See additional information in Section VIII.C, *IDENTIFICATION OF PROPSAL ENVELOPE*.

2. Should the proposal contain **proprietary information**, **provide one (1) redacted copy of the proposal** and all attachments with **proprietary portions removed or blacked out**. This copy should be clearly marked *"Redacted Copy"* on the front cover. The classification of an entire proposal document, line-item prices, and/or total proposal prices as proprietary or trade secrets is not acceptable. JMU shall not be responsible for the Contractor's failure to exclude proprietary information from this redacted copy.

   No other distribution of the proposal shall be made by the Offeror.

3. The version of the solicitation issued by JMU Procurement Services, as amended by an addenda, is the mandatory controlling version of the document. Any modification of, or additions to, the solicitation by the Offeror shall not modify the official version of the solicitation issued by JMU Procurement services unless accepted in writing by the University. Such modifications or additions to the solicitation by the Offeror may be cause for rejection of the proposal; however, JMU reserves the right to decide, on a case-by-case basis in its sole discretion, whether to reject such a proposal. If the modification or additions are not identified until after the award of the contract, the controlling version of the solicitation document shall still be the official state form issued by Procurement Services.

4. Proposal Preparation

   a. Proposals shall be signed by an authorized representative of the Offeror. All information requested should be submitted. Failure to submit all information requested may result in the purchasing agency requiring prompt submissions of missing information and/or giving a lowered evaluation of the proposal. Proposals which are substantially incomplete or lack key information may be rejected by the purchasing agency. Mandatory requirements are those required by law or regulation or are such that they cannot be waived and are not subject to negotiation.

   b. Proposals shall be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Emphasis should be placed on completeness and clarity of content.

c. Proposals should be organized in the order in which the requirements are presented in the RFP. All pages of the proposal should be numbered. Each paragraph in the proposal should reference the paragraph number of the corresponding section of the RFP. It is also helpful to cite the paragraph number, sub letter, and repeat the text of the requirement as it appears in the RFP. If a response covers more than one page, the paragraph number and sub letter should be repeated at the top of the next page. The proposal should contain a table of contents which cross references the RFP requirements. Information which the offeror desires to present that does not fall within any of the requirements of the RFP should be inserted at the appropriate place or be attached at the end of the proposal and designated as additional material. Proposals that are not organized in this manner risk elimination from consideration if the evaluators are unable to find where the RFP requirements are specifically addressed.

d. As used in this RFP, the terms "must", "shall", "should" and "may" identify the criticality of requirements. "Must" and "shall" identify requirements whose absence will have a major negative impact on the suitability of the proposed solution. Items labeled as "should" or "may" are highly desirable, although their absence will not have a large impact and would be useful, but are not necessary. Depending on the overall response to the RFP, some individual "must" and "shall" items may not be fully satisfied, but it is the intent to satisfy most, if not all, "must" and "shall" requirements. The inability of an offeror to satisfy a "must" or "shall" requirement does not automatically remove that offeror from consideration; however, it may seriously affect the overall rating of the offeror' proposal.

e. Each copy of the proposal should be bound or contained in a single volume where practical. All documentation submitted with the proposal should be contained in that single volume.

f. Ownership of all data, materials and documentation originated and prepared for the State pursuant to the RFP shall belong exclusively to the State and be subject to public inspection in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Trade secrets or proprietary information submitted by the offeror shall not be subject to public disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; however, the offeror must invoke the protection of Section 2.2-4342F of the Code of Virginia, in writing, either before or at the time the data is submitted. **The written notice must specifically identify the data or materials to be protected and state the reasons why protection is necessary. The proprietary or trade secret materials submitted must be identified by some distinct method such as highlighting or underlining and must indicate only the specific words, figures, or paragraphs that constitute trade secret or proprietary information. The classification of an entire proposal document, line-item prices and/or total proposal prices as proprietary or trade secrets is not acceptable. Marking an entire proposal as confidential or attempts to prevent disclosure of pricing information by designating it as confidential, proprietary or trade secret will be ignored.**

5. Oral Presentation: Offerors who submit a proposal in response to this RFP may be required to give an oral presentation of their proposal to James Madison University. This provides an opportunity for the Offeror to clarify or elaborate on the proposal. This is a fact-finding and explanation session only and does not include negotiation. James Madison University will schedule the time and location of these presentations. Oral presentations are an option of the University and may or may not be conducted. Therefore, proposals should be complete.

B. SPECIFIC PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

Proposals should be as thorough and detailed as possible so that James Madison University may properly evaluate your capabilities to provide the required services. Offerors are required to submit the following items as a complete proposal:

1. Return RFP cover sheet and all addenda acknowledgements, if any, signed and filled out as required. (Electronic signature shall be accepted, i.e. Adobe Sign, DocuSign, etc.)

2. Plan and methodology for providing the goods/services as described in Section IV. Statement of Needs of this Request for Proposal.

3. A written narrative statement to include, but not be limited to, the expertise, qualifications, and experience of the firm and resumes of specific personnel to be assigned to perform the work.

4. Offeror Data Sheet, included as *Attachment A* to this RFP.

5. Small Business Subcontracting Plan, included as *Attachment B* to this RFP. Offeror shall provide a Small Business Subcontracting plan which summarizes the planned utilization of Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)-certified small businesses which include businesses owned by women and minorities, when they have received Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) small business certification, under the contract to be awarded as a result of this solicitation. This is a requirement for all prime contracts in excess of $100,000 unless no subcontracting opportunities exist.

6. Identify the amount of sales your company had during the last twelve months with each VASCUPP Member Institution. A list of VASCUPP Members can be found at: www.VASCUPP.org.

7. Proposed Cost. See Section X. Pricing Schedule of this Request for Proposal.

8. Student Internship Learning Opportunities: JMU values partnerships that contribute to the professional development of its students. While not mandatory, the University encourages Firms to consider offering internships, cooperative education, or applied learning opportunities to JMU students in connection with the goods and/or services provided under this agreement. If applicable, please describe in the **Student Internship and Learning Opportunities Attachment G** any opportunities your Firm may offer for student engagement, such as:

   - Career Fairs
   - Paid or unpaid experiential roles (inclusive of short-term or semester-long internships)
   - Participation in relevant projects or initiatives
   - Job shadowing, mentoring, or career talks
   - Campus Interviews
   - Your organization's HR meeting with JMU Employer Services Team

   Firms are welcome to outline any support structures for student participants, including mentorship, training, or supervision. Responses will be sent to JMU's University Career Center office for coordination with Firms to connect students with potential opportunities.

VI. EVALUATION AND AWARD CRITERIA

A. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals shall be evaluated by James Madison University using the following criteria:

		Points
1.	Quality of products/services offered and suitability for intended purposes	30
2.	Qualifications and experience of Offeror in providing the goods/services	20
3.	Specific plans or methodology to be used to perform the services	20
4.	Participation of Small, Women-Owned, & Minority (SWaM) Businesses	10
5.	Cost	20
		100

AWARD TO MULTIPLE OFFERORS: Selection shall be made of two or more offerors deemed to be fully qualified and best suited among those submitting proposals on the basis of the evaluation factors included in the Request for Proposals, including price, if so stated in the Request for Proposals. Negotiations shall be conducted with the offerors so selected. Price shall be considered, but need not be the sole determining factor. After negotiations have been conducted with each offeror so selected, the agency shall select the offeror which, in its opinion, has made the best proposal, and shall award the contract to that offeror. The Commonwealth reserves the right to make multiple awards as a result of this solicitation. The Commonwealth may cancel this Request for Proposals or reject proposals at any time prior to an award, and is not required to furnish a statement of the reasons why a particular proposal was not deemed to be the most advantageous. Should the Commonwealth determine in writing and in its sole discretion that only one offeror is fully qualified, or that one offeror is clearly more highly qualified than the others under consideration, a contract may be negotiated and awarded to that offeror. The award document will be a contract incorporating by reference all the requirements, terms and conditions of the solicitation and the contractor's proposal as negotiated.

VII. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. PURCHASING MANUAL: This solicitation is subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia's Purchasing Manual for Institutions of Higher Education and Their Vendors and any revisions thereto, which are hereby incorporated into this contract in their entirety. A copy of the manual is available for review at the purchasing office. In addition, the manual may be accessed electronically at http://www.jmu.edu/procurement or a copy can be obtained by calling Procurement Services at (540) 568-3145.

B. APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS: This solicitation and any resulting contract shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the Commonwealth. The Contractor shall comply with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

C. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION: By submitting their proposals, offerors certify to the Commonwealth that they will conform to the provisions of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, as well as the Virginia Fair Employment Contracting Act of 1975, as amended, where applicable, the Virginians With Disabilities Act, the Americans With Disabilities Act and §10 of the Rules Governing Procurement, Chapter 2, Exhibit J, Attachment 1 (available for review at http://www.jmu.edu/procurement). If the award is made to a faith-based organization, the organization shall not discriminate against any recipient of goods, services, or disbursements made pursuant to the contract on the basis of the recipient's religion, religious belief, refusal to participate in a religious practice, or on the basis of race, age, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin and shall be subject to the same rules as other organizations that contract with public bodies to account for the use of the funds provided; however, if the faith-based organization segregates public funds into separate accounts, only the accounts and programs funded with public funds shall be subject to audit by the public body. *(§6 of the Rules Governing Procurement*).

In every contract over $10,000 the provisions in 1. and 2. below apply:

1. During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

   a. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

   b. The contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, will state that such contractor is an equal opportunity employer.

   c. Notices, advertisements, and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule, or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting these requirements.

2. The contractor will include the provisions of 1. above in every subcontract or purchase order over $10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

D. ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING: By submitting their proposals, offerors certify that their proposals are made without collusion or fraud and that they have not offered or received any kickbacks or inducements from any other offeror, supplier, manufacturer or subcontractor in connection with their proposal, and that they have not conferred on any public employee having official responsibility for this procurement transaction any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services or anything of more than nominal value, present or promised, unless consideration of substantially equal or greater value was exchanged.

E. IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986: By entering into a written contract with the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Contractor certifies that the Contractor does not, and shall not during the performance of the contract for goods and services in the Commonwealth, knowingly employ an unauthorized alien as defined in the federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

F. DEBARMENT STATUS: By submitting their proposals, offerors certify that they are not currently debarred by the Commonwealth of Virginia from submitting proposals on contracts for the type of goods and/or services covered by this solicitation, nor are they an agent of any person or entity that is currently so debarred.

G. ANTITRUST: By entering into a contract, the contractor conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the Commonwealth of Virginia all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may now have or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, relating to the particular goods or services purchased or acquired by the Commonwealth of Virginia under said contract.

H. MANDATORY USE OF STATE FORM AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS RFPs: Failure to submit a proposal on the official state form provided for that purpose may be a cause for rejection of the proposal. Modification of or additions to the General Terms and Conditions of the solicitation may be cause for rejection of the proposal; however, the Commonwealth reserves the right to decide, on a case by case basis, in its sole discretion, whether to reject such a proposal.

I. CLARIFICATION OF TERMS: If any prospective offeror has questions about the specifications or other solicitation documents, the prospective offeror should contact the buyer whose name appears on the face of the solicitation no later than five working days before the due date. Any revisions to the solicitation will be made only by addendum issued by the buyer.

J. PAYMENT:

1. To Prime Contractor:

a. Invoices for items ordered, delivered and accepted shall be submitted by the contractor directly to the payment address shown on the purchase order/contract. All invoices shall show the state contract number and/or purchase order number; social security number (for individual contractors) or the federal employer identification number (for proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations).

b. Any payment terms requiring payment in less than 30 days will be regarded as requiring payment 30 days after invoice or delivery, whichever occurs last. This shall not affect offers of discounts for payment in less than 30 days, however.

c. All goods or services provided under this contract or purchase order, that are to be paid for with public funds, shall be billed by the contractor at the contract price, regardless of which public agency is being billed.

d. The following shall be deemed to be the date of payment: the date of postmark in all cases where payment is made by mail, or the date of offset when offset proceedings have been instituted as authorized under the Virginia Debt Collection Act.

e. Unreasonable Charges. Under certain emergency procurements and for most time and material purchases, final job costs cannot be accurately determined at the time orders are placed. In such cases, contractors should be put on notice that final payment in full is contingent on a determination of reasonableness with respect to all invoiced charges. Charges which appear to be unreasonable

will be researched and challenged, and that portion of the invoice held in abeyance until a settlement can be reached. Upon determining that invoiced charges are not reasonable, the Commonwealth shall promptly notify the contractor, in writing, as to those charges which it considers unreasonable and the basis for the determination. A contractor may not institute legal action unless a settlement cannot be reached within thirty (30) days of notification. The provisions of this section do not relieve an agency of its prompt payment obligations with respect to those charges which are not in dispute (*Rules Governing Procurement, Chapter 2, Exhibit J, Attachment 1 § 53; available for review at http://www.jmu.edu/procurement*).

2. To Subcontractors:

   a. A contractor awarded a contract under this solicitation is hereby obligated:

      (1) To pay the subcontractor(s) within seven (7) days of the contractor's receipt of payment from the Commonwealth for the proportionate share of the payment received for work performed by the subcontractor(s) under the contract; or

      (2) To notify the agency and the subcontractors, in writing, of the contractor's intention to withhold payment and the reason.

   b. The contractor is obligated to pay the subcontractor(s) interest at the rate of one percent per month (unless otherwise provided under the terms of the contract) on all amounts owed by the contractor that remain unpaid seven (7) days following receipt of payment from the Commonwealth, except for amounts withheld as stated in (2) above. The date of mailing of any payment by U. S. Mail is deemed to be payment to the addressee. These provisions apply to each sub-tier contractor performing under the primary contract. A contractor's obligation to pay an interest charge to a subcontractor may not be construed to be an obligation of the Commonwealth.

3. Each prime contractor who wins an award in which provision of a SWAM procurement plan is a condition to the award, shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution, on or before request for final payment, evidence and certification of compliance (subject only to insubstantial shortfalls and to shortfalls arising from subcontractor default) with the SWAM procurement plan. Final payment under the contract in question may be withheld until such certification is delivered and, if necessary, confirmed by the agency or institution, or other appropriate penalties may be assessed in lieu of withholding such payment.

4. The Commonwealth of Virginia encourages contractors and subcontractors to accept electronic and credit card payments.

K. PRECENDENCE OF TERMS: Paragraphs A through J of these General Terms and Conditions and the Commonwealth of Virginia Purchasing Manual for Institutions of Higher Education and their Vendors, shall apply in all instances. In the event there is a conflict between any of the other General Terms and Conditions and any Special Terms and Conditions in this solicitation, the Special Terms and Conditions shall apply.

L. QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFERORS: The Commonwealth may make such reasonable investigations as deemed proper and necessary to determine the ability of the offeror to perform the services/furnish the goods and the offeror shall furnish to the Commonwealth all such information and data for this purpose as may be requested. The Commonwealth reserves the

right to inspect offeror's physical facilities prior to award to satisfy questions regarding the offeror's capabilities. The Commonwealth further reserves the right to reject any proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigations of, such offeror fails to satisfy the Commonwealth that such offeror is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to provide the services and/or furnish the goods contemplated therein.

M. TESTING AND INSPECTION: The Commonwealth reserves the right to conduct any test/inspection it may deem advisable to assure goods and services conform to the specifications.

N. ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT: A contract shall not be assignable by the contractor in whole or in part without the written consent of the Commonwealth.

O. CHANGES TO THE CONTRACT: Changes can be made to the contract in any of the following ways:

1. The parties may agree in writing to modify the scope of the contract. An increase or decrease in the price of the contract resulting from such modification shall be agreed to by the parties as a part of their written agreement to modify the scope of the contract.

2. The Purchasing Agency may order changes within the general scope of the contract at any time by written notice to the contractor. Changes within the scope of the contract include, but are not limited to, things such as services to be performed, the method of packing or shipment, and the place of delivery or installation. The contractor shall comply with the notice upon receipt. The contractor shall be compensated for any additional costs incurred as the result of such order and shall give the Purchasing Agency a credit for any savings. Said compensation shall be determined by one of the following methods:

   a. By mutual agreement between the parties in writing; or

   b. By agreeing upon a unit price or using a unit price set forth in the contract, if the work to be done can be expressed in units, and the contractor accounts for the number of units of work performed, subject to the Purchasing Agency's right to audit the contractor's records and/or to determine the correct number of units independently; or

   c. By ordering the contractor to proceed with the work and keep a record of all costs incurred and savings realized. A markup for overhead and profit may be allowed if provided by the contract. The same markup shall be used for determining a decrease in price as the result of savings realized. The contractor shall present the Purchasing Agency with all vouchers and records of expenses incurred and savings realized. The Purchasing Agency shall have the right to audit the records of the contractor as it deems necessary to determine costs or savings. Any claim for an adjustment in price under this provision must be asserted by written notice to the Purchasing Agency within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written order from the Purchasing Agency. If the parties fail to agree on an amount of adjustment, the question of an increase or decrease in the contract price or time for performance shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures for resolving disputes provided by the Disputes Clause of this contract or, if there is none, in accordance with the disputes provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Purchasing Manual for Institutions of Higher Education and their Vendors. Neither the existence of a claim nor a dispute resolution process, litigation or any other provision of this contract shall excuse the contractor from promptly complying with the changes ordered by the Purchasing Agency or with the performance of the contract generally.

P. DEFAULT: In case of failure to deliver goods or services in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the Commonwealth, after due oral or written notice, may procure them from other sources and hold the contractor responsible for any resulting additional purchase and administrative costs. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies which the Commonwealth may have.

Q. INSURANCE: By signing and submitting a proposal under this solicitation, the offeror certifies that if awarded the contract, it will have the following insurance coverage at the time the contract is awarded. For construction contracts, if any subcontractors are involved, the subcontractor will have workers' compensation insurance in accordance with§ 25 of the Rules Governing Procurement – Chapter 2, Exhibit J, Attachment 1, and 65.2-800 et. Seq. of the Code of Virginia (available for review at http://www.jmu.edu/procurement) The offeror further certifies that the contractor and any subcontractors will maintain these insurance coverage during the entire term of the contract and that all insurance coverage will be provided by insurance companies authorized to sell insurance in Virginia by the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

MINIMUM INSURANCE COVERAGES AND LIMITS REQUIRED FOR MOST CONTRACTS:

1. Workers' Compensation: Statutory requirements and benefits. Coverage is compulsory for employers of three or more employees, to include the employer. Contractors who fail to notify the Commonwealth of increases in the number of employees that change their workers' compensation requirement under the Code of Virginia during the course of the contract shall be in noncompliance with the contract.

2. Employer's Liability: $100,000

3. Commercial General Liability: $1,000,000 per occurrence and $2,000,000 in the aggregate. Commercial General Liability is to include bodily injury and property damage, personal injury and advertising injury, products and completed operations coverage. The Commonwealth of Virginia must be named as an additional insured and so endorsed on the policy.

4. Automobile Liability: $1,000,000 combined single limit. (*Required only if a motor vehicle not owned by the Commonwealth is to be used in the contract. Contractor must assure that the required coverage is maintained by the Contractor (or third party owner of such motor vehicle.*)

R. ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD: Upon the award or the announcement of the decision to award a contract over $100,000, as a result of this solicitation, the purchasing agency will publicly post such notice on the DGS/DPS eVA web site (www.eva.virginia.gov) for a minimum of 10 days.

S. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE: During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees to (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the contractor's employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor that the contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) include the provisions of the foregoing

clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over $10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

For the purposes of this section, "drug-free workplace" means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific contract awarded to a contractor, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the contract.

T. NONDISCRIMINATION OF CONTRACTORS: An offeror, or contractor shall not be discriminated against in the solicitation or award of this contract because of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, faith-based organizational status, any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment or because the offeror employs ex-offenders unless the state agency, department or institution has made a written determination that employing ex-offenders on the specific contract is not in its best interest. If the award of this contract is made to a faith-based organization and an individual, who applies for or receives goods, services, or disbursements provided pursuant to this contract objects to the religious character of the faith-based organization from which the individual receives or would receive the goods, services, or disbursements, the public body shall offer the individual, within a reasonable period of time after the date of his objection, access to equivalent goods, services, or disbursements from an alternative provider.

U. eVA BUSINESS TO GOVERNMENT VENDOR REGISTRATION, CONTRACTS, AND ORDERS: The eVA Internet electronic procurement solution, website portal www.eVA.virginia.gov, streamlines and automates government purchasing activities in the Commonwealth. The eVA portal is the gateway for vendors to conduct business with state agencies and public bodies. All vendors desiring to provide goods and/or services to the Commonwealth shall participate in the eVA Internet eprocurement solution by completing the free eVA Vendor Registration. All offerors must register in eVA and pay the Vendor Transaction Fees specified below; failure to register will result in the proposal being rejected. Vendor transaction fees are determined by the date the original purchase order is issued and the current fees are as follows:

Vendor transaction fees are determined by the date the original purchase order is issued and the current fees are as follows:

1. For orders issued July 1, 2014 and after, the Vendor Transaction Fee is:

   a. Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) certified Small Businesses: 1% capped at $500 per order.

   b. Businesses that are not Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) certified Small Businesses: 1% capped at $1,500 per order.

2. For orders issued prior to July 1, 2014 the vendor transaction fees can be found at www.eVA.virginia.gov.

3. The specified vendor transaction fee will be invoiced by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of General Services approximately 60 days after the corresponding purchase order is issued and payable 30 days after the invoice date. Any adjustments (increases/decreases) will be handled through purchase order changes.

V. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS: It is understood and agreed between the parties herein that the Commonwealth of Virginia shall be bound hereunder only to the extent of the funds available or which may hereafter become available for the purpose of this agreement.

W. PRICING CURRENCY: Unless stated otherwise in the solicitation, offerors shall state offered prices in U.S. dollars.

X. E-VERIFY REQUIREMENT OF ANY CONTRACTOR: Any employer with more than an average of 50 employees for the previous 12 months entering into a contract in excess of $50,000 with James Madison University to perform work or provide services pursuant to such contract shall register and participate in the E-Verify program to verify information and work authorization of its newly hired employees performing work pursuant to any awarded contract.

Y. CIVILITY IN STATE WORKPLACES: The contractor shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that no individual, while performing work on behalf of the contractor or any subcontractor in connection with this agreement (each, a "Contract Worker"), shall engage in 1) harassment (including sexual harassment), bullying, cyber-bullying, or threatening or violent conduct, or 2) discriminatory behavior on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religious belief, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, political affiliation, veteran status, or disability.

The contractor shall provide each Contract Worker with a copy of this Section and will require Contract Workers to participate in training on civility in the State workplace. Upon request, the contractor shall provide documentation that each Contract Worker has received such training.

For purposes of this Section, "State workplace" includes any location, permanent or temporary, where a Commonwealth employee performs any work-related duty or is representing his or her agency, as well as surrounding perimeters, parking lots, outside meeting locations, and means of travel to and from these locations. Communications are deemed to occur in a State workplace if the Contract Worker reasonably should know that the phone number, email, or other method of communication is associated with a State workplace or is associated with a person who is a State employee.

Additionally, in accordance *Code of with Virginia § 18.2-283.2*, Contractor shall comply with both the Code and *University Policy 1105, Prohibition of Weapons*, and shall ensure that all Contract Workers comply with the standards of conduct required by this policy.

The Commonwealth of Virginia may require, at its sole discretion, the removal and replacement of any Contract Worker who the Commonwealth reasonably believes to have violated this Section.

This Section creates obligations solely on the part of the contractor. Employees or other third parties may benefit incidentally from this Section and from training materials or other communications distributed on this topic , but the Parties to this agreement intend this Section to be enforceable solely by the Commonwealth and not by employees or other third parties.

VIII. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. AUDIT: The Contractor hereby agrees to retain all books, records, systems, and other documents relative to this contract for five (5) years after final payment, or until audited by the Commonwealth of Virginia, whichever is sooner. The Commonwealth of Virginia, its

authorized agents, and/or State auditors shall have full access to and the right to examine any of said materials during said period.

B. CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT: James Madison University reserves the right to cancel and terminate any resulting contract, in part or in whole, without penalty, upon 60 days written notice to the contractor. In the event the initial contract period is for more than 12 months, the resulting contract may be terminated by either party, without penalty, after the initial 12 months of the contract period upon 60 days written notice to the other party. Any contract cancellation notice shall not relieve the contractor of the obligation to deliver and/or perform on all outstanding orders issued prior to the effective date of cancellation.

C. IDENTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL ENVELOPE: The signed proposal should be returned in a separate envelope or package, sealed and identified as follows:

From: _____

Name of Offeror	Due Date	Time
Street or Box No.	RFP #	
City, State, Zip Code	RFP Title	

Name of Purchasing Officer: _____

The envelope should be addressed as directed on the title page of the solicitation.

The Offeror takes the risk that if the envelope is not marked as described above, it may be inadvertently opened and the information compromised, which may cause the proposal to be disqualified. Proposals may be hand-delivered to the designated location in the office issuing the solicitation. No other correspondence or other proposals should be placed in the envelope.

D. LATE PROPOSALS: To be considered for selection, proposals must be received by the issuing office by the designated date and hour. The official time used in the receipt of proposals is that time on the automatic time stamp machine in the issuing office. Proposals received in the issuing office after the date and hour designated are automatically non responsive and will not be considered. The University is not responsible for delays in the delivery of mail by the U.S. Postal Service, private couriers, or the intra university mail system. It is the sole responsibility of the Offeror to ensure that its proposal reaches the issuing office by the designated date and hour.

E. UNDERSTANDING OF REQUIREMENTS: It is the responsibility of each offeror to inquire about and clarify any requirements of this solicitation that is not understood. The University will not be bound by oral explanations as to the meaning of specifications or language contained in this solicitation. Therefore, all inquiries deemed to be substantive in nature must be in writing and submitted to the responsible buyer in the Procurement Services Office. Offerors must ensure that written inquiries reach the buyer at least five (5) days prior to the time set for receipt of offerors proposals. A copy of all queries and the respective response will be provided in the form of an addendum to all offerors who have indicated an interest in responding to this solicitation. Your signature on your Offer certifies that you fully understand all facets of this solicitation. These questions may be sent via email directly to the Procurement Officer listed on the signature page of this solicitation or by Fax to 540/568-7935.

F. RENEWAL OF CONTRACT: This contract may be renewed by the Commonwealth for a period of four (4) successive one year periods under the terms and conditions of the original

contract except as stated in 1. and 2. below. Price increases may be negotiated only at the time of renewal. Written notice of the Commonwealth's intention to renew shall be given approximately 90 days prior to the expiration date of each contract period.

1. If the Commonwealth elects to exercise the option to renew the contract for an additional one-year period, the contract price(s) for the additional one year shall not exceed the contract price(s) of the original contract increased/decreased by no more than the percentage increase/decrease of the other services category of the CPI-W section of the Consumer Price Index of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the latest twelve months for which statistics are available.

2. If during any subsequent renewal periods, the Commonwealth elects to exercise the option to renew the contract, the contract price(s) for the subsequent renewal period shall not exceed the contract price(s) of the previous renewal period increased/decreased by more than the percentage increase/decrease of the other services category of the CPI-W section of the Consumer Price Index of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the latest twelve months for which statistics are available.

G. SUBMISSION OF INVOICES: All invoices shall be submitted within sixty days of contract term expiration for the initial contract period as well as for each subsequent contract renewal period. Any invoices submitted after the sixty day period will not be processed for payment.

H. OPERATING VEHICLES ON JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY CAMPUS: Operating vehicles on sidewalks, plazas, and areas heavily used by pedestrians is prohibited. In the unlikely event a driver should find it necessary to drive on James Madison University sidewalks, plazas, and areas heavily used by pedestrians, the driver must yield to pedestrians. For a complete list of parking regulations, please go to www.jmu.edu/parking; or to acquire a service representative parking permit, contact Parking Services at 540.568.3300. The safety of our students, faculty and staff is of paramount importance to us. Accordingly, violators may be charged.

I. COOPERATIVE PURCHASING / USE OF AGREEMENT BY THIRD PARTIES: It is the intent of this solicitation and resulting contract(s) to allow for cooperative procurement. Accordingly, any public body, (to include government/state agencies, political subdivisions, etc.), cooperative purchasing organizations, public or private health or educational institutions or any University related foundation and affiliated corporations may access any resulting contract if authorized by the Contractor.

Participation in this cooperative procurement is strictly voluntary. If authorized by the Contractor(s), the resultant contract(s) will be extended to the entities indicated above to purchase goods and services in accordance with contract terms. As a separate contractual relationship, the participating entity will place its own orders directly with the Contractor(s) and shall fully and independently administer its use of the contract(s) to include contractual disputes, invoicing and payments without direct administration from the University. No modification of this contract or execution of a separate agreement is required to participate; however, the participating entity and the Contractor may modify the terms and conditions of this contract to accommodate specific governing laws, regulations, policies, and business goals required by the participating entity. Any such modification will apply solely between the participating entity and the Contractor.

The Contractor will notify the University in writing of any such entities accessing this contract. The Contractor will provide semi-annual usage reports for all entities accessing the contract. The University shall not be held liable for any costs or damages incurred by any other

participating entity as a result of any authorization by the Contractor to extend the contract. It is understood and agreed that the University is not responsible for the acts or omissions of any entity and will not be considered in default of the contract no matter the circumstances.

Use of this contract(s) does not preclude any participating entity from using other contracts or competitive processes as needed.

J. SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTING AND EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

1. It is the goal of the Commonwealth that 42% of its purchases are made from small businesses. This includes discretionary spending in prime contracts and subcontracts. All potential offerors are required to submit a Small Business Subcontracting Plan. Unless the offeror is registered as a Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)-certified small business and where it is practicable for any portion of the awarded contract to be subcontracted to other suppliers, the contractor is encouraged to offer such subcontracting opportunities to SBSD-certified small businesses. This shall not exclude SBSD-certified women-owned and minority-owned businesses when they have received SBSD small business certification. No offeror or subcontractor shall be considered a Small Business, a Women-Owned Business or a Minority-Owned Business unless certified as such by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) by the due date for receipt of proposals. If small business subcontractors are used, the prime contractor agrees to report the use of small business subcontractors by providing the purchasing office at a minimum the following information: name of small business with the SBSD certification number or FEIN, phone number, total dollar amount subcontracted, category type (small, women-owned, or minority-owned), and type of product/service provided. **This information shall be submitted to: JMU Office of Procurement Services, Attn: SWAM Subcontracting Compliance, MSC 5720, Harrisonburg, VA 22807 or swamreporting@jmu.edu .**

2. Each prime contractor who wins an award in which provision of a small business subcontracting plan is a condition of the award, shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution with every request for payment, evidence of compliance (subject only to insubstantial shortfalls and to shortfalls arising from subcontractor default) with the small business subcontracting plan. **This information shall be submitted to: JMU Office of Procurement Services, SWAM Subcontracting Compliance, MSC 5720, Harrisonburg, VA 22807 or swamreporting@jmu.edu** . When such business has been subcontracted to these firms and upon completion of the contract, the contractor agrees to furnish the purchasing office at a minimum the following information: name of firm with the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) certification number or FEIN number, phone number, total dollar amount subcontracted, category type (small, women-owned, or minority-owned), and type of product or service provided. Payment(s) may be withheld until compliance with the plan is received and confirmed by the agency or institution. The agency or institution reserves the right to pursue other appropriate remedies to include, but not be limited to, termination for default.

3. Each prime contractor who wins an award valued over $200,000 shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution with every request for payment, information on use of subcontractors that are not Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)-certified small businesses. When such business has been subcontracted to these firms and upon completion of the contract, the contractor agrees to furnish the purchasing office at a minimum the following information: name of firm, phone number, FEIN number, total dollar amount subcontracted, and type of product or service provided. **This information shall be submitted to: JMU Office of Procurement Services, Attn: SWAM**

Subcontracting Compliance, MSC 5720, Harrisonburg, VA 22807 or swamreporting@jmu.edu .

K. AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN THE COMMONWEALTH: A contractor organized as a stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company, business trust, or limited partnership or registered as a registered limited liability partnership shall be authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth as a domestic or foreign business entity if so required by Title 13.1 or Title 50 of the Code of Virginia or as otherwise required by law. Any business entity described above that enters into a contract with a public body shall not allow its existence to lapse or its certificate of authority or registration to transact business in the Commonwealth, if so required under Title 13.1 or Title 50, to be revoked or cancelled at any time during the term of the contract. A public body may void any contract with a business entity if the business entity fails to remain in compliance with the provisions of this section.

L. PUBLIC POSTING OF COOPERATIVE CONTRACTS: James Madison University maintains a web-based contracts database with a public gateway access. Any resulting cooperative contract/s to this solicitation will be posted to the publicly accessible website. Contents identified as proprietary information will not be made public.

M. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS OF PERSONNEL ASSIGNED BY CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM WORK ON JMU PROPERTY: The Contractor shall obtain criminal background checks on all of their contracted employees who will be assigned to perform services on James Madison University property. The results of the background checks will be directed solely to the Contractor. The Contractor bears responsibility for confirming to the University contract administrator that the background checks have been completed prior to work being performed by their employees or subcontractors. The Contractor shall only assign to work on the University campus those individuals whom it deems qualified and permissible based on the results of completed background checks. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, and to ensure the safety of students, faculty, staff and facilities, James Madison University reserves the right to approve or disapprove any contract employee that will work on JMU property. Disapproval by the University will solely apply to JMU property and should have no bearing on the Contractor's employment of an individual outside of James Madison University.

N. INDEMNIFICATION: Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Commonwealth of Virginia, its officers, agents, and employees from any claims, damages and actions of any kind or nature, whether at law or in equity, arising from or caused by the use of any materials, goods, or equipment of any kind or nature furnished by the contractor/any services of any kind or nature furnished by the contractor, provided that such liability is not attributable to the sole negligence of the using agency or to failure of the using agency to use the materials, goods, or equipment in the manner already and permanently described by the contractor on the materials, goods or equipment delivered.

O. ADDITIONAL GOODS AND SERVICES: The University may acquire other goods or services that the supplier provides than those specifically solicited. The University reserves the right, subject to mutual agreement, for the Contractor to provide additional goods and/or services under the same pricing, terms, and conditions and to make modifications or enhancements to the existing goods and services. Such additional goods and services may include other products, components, accessories, subsystems, or related services that are newly introduced during the term of this Agreement. Such additional goods and services will be provided to the University at favored nations pricing, terms, and conditions.

P. **WORK SITE DAMAGES:** Any damage to existing utilities, equipment or finished surfaces resulting from the performance of this contract shall be repaired to the Commonwealth's satisfaction at the contractor's expense.

Q. **STANDARDS OF CONDUCT:** The work site will be occupied by students and University Personnel during the times work is performed. Contractor and Contractor's personnel shall exercise a particularly high level of discipline, safety and cooperation at all times while on the job site. The Contractor shall be responsible for controlling employee conduct, for assuring that its employees are not boisterous or rude, and assuring that they are not engaging in any destructive or criminal activity. The Contractor is also responsible for ensuring that its employees do not disturb papers on desks, or open desk drawers, cabinets, or briefcases, or use State phones, and the like, except as authorized.

IX. METHOD OF PAYMENT

The contractor will be paid based on invoices submitted in accordance with the solicitation and any negotiations. James Madison University recognizes the importance of expediting the payment process for our vendors and suppliers; we **require** that our vendors and suppliers enroll in our bank's Comprehensive Payable options: either the Virtual Payables Virtual Card or the PayMode-X electronic deposit (ACH) to your bank account so that future payments are made electronically. Contractors signed up for the Virtual Payables process will receive the benefit of being paid Net 15. Additional information is available online at: http://www.jmu.edu/financeoffice/accounting-operations-disbursements/cash-investments/vendor-payment-methods.shtml

Suppliers that do not sign up for one of these payment processes may risk their contract being suspended until such enrollment occurs or terminated, at the discretion of the university. Enrollment should begin no more than 10 days after award. Invoices shall include the applicable PO number.

X. PRICING SCHEDULE

The offeror shall provide pricing for all products and services included in proposal indicating one-time and on-going costs. The resulting contract will be cooperative and pricing shall be inclusive for the attached Zone Map, of which JMU falls within Zone 2.

Specify any associated charge card processing fees, if applicable, to be billed to the university.

A**dditional fees/charges not specified in contract pricing will not be accepted.**

Mulch:

Description	Unit Price
Double Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch	$ Per Cubic Yard
Triple Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch	$ Per Cubic Yard
Double Shredded Brown Dyed Mulch	$ Per Cubic Yard
Triple Shredded Brown Dyed Mulch	$ Per Cubic Yard
Clean Oak Wood Chips	$

	Per Cubic Yard
Other Mulch	$
Delivery Charges	$
Additional Fees	$

Landscaping Plants:

The pricing schedule for Landscaping Plants shall be submitted as a separate attachment. Pricing shall be organized into three distinct categories: (1) Product (JMU pick-up) (2) Product Delivery (Contractor Delivers), and (3) Contractor Delivery and Installation.
Within each category, pricing shall be further itemized by plant material type and shall identify any quantity-based percentage of discounts available.

The resulting contract shall be a cooperative contract; Offerors providing plant materials and/or services to other Zones shall provide discount breakdown for each Zone offering goods and services to as outlined above.

XI. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Offeror Data Sheet

Attachment B: Small, Women, and Minority-owned Business (SWaM) Utilization Plan

Attachment C: Standard Contract Sample

Attachment D: Zone Map

Attachment E: SWaM Sub-contractor Reporting Template (*For example purposes only; this form is not required to be completed or submitted as part of the offeror's response.)*

Attachment F: Student Internship and Learning Opportunities

ATTACHMENT A

OFFEROR DATA SHEET

TO BE COMPLETED BY OFFEROR

1. QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFEROR: Offerors must have the capability and capacity in all respects to fully satisfy the contractual requirements.

2. YEARS IN BUSINESS: Indicate the length of time you have been in business providing these types of goods and services.

   Years_____ Months_____

3. REFERENCES: Indicate below a listing of at least five (5) organizations, either commercial or governmental/educational, that your agency is servicing. Include the name and address of the person the purchasing agency has your permission to contact.

CLIENT	LENGTH OF SERVICE	ADDRESS	CONTACT PERSON/PHONE #

4. List full names and addresses of Offeror and any branch offices which may be responsible for administering the contract.

_____

_____

_____

_____

5. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA: Is any member of the firm an employee of the Commonwealth of Virginia who has a personal interest in this contract pursuant to the CODE OF VIRGINIA, SECTION 2.2-3100 – 3131?
   [ ] YES [ ] NO
   IF YES, EXPLAIN:_____

_____

_____

_____

ATTACHMENT B

Small, Women and Minority-owned Businesses (SWaM) Utilization Plan

Offeror Name: _____ Preparer Name: _____

Date: _____

Is your firm a **Small Business Enterprise** certified by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)? Yes_____ No_____

If yes, certification number: _____ Certification date:_____

Is your firm a **Woman-owned Business Enterprise** certified by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)? Yes_____ No_____

If yes, certification number: _____ Certification date:_____

Is your firm a **Minority-Owned Business Enterprise** certified by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)? Yes____ No_____

If yes, certification number: _____ Certification date:_____

Is your firm a **Micro Business** certified by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD)? Yes_____ No_____

If yes, certification number: _____ Certification date: _____

Instructions: *Populate the table below to show your firm's plans for utilization of small, women-owned and minority-owned business enterprises in the performance of the contract. Describe plans to utilize SWAMs businesses as part of joint ventures, partnerships, subcontractors, suppliers, etc.*

Small Business: "Small business " means a business, independently owned or operated by one or more persons who are citizens of the United States or non-citizens who are in full compliance with United States immigration law, which, together with affiliates, has 250 or fewer employees, or average annual gross receipts of $10 million or less averaged over the previous three years.

Woman-Owned Business Enterprise: A business concern which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more women who are U.S. citizens or legal resident aliens, or in the case of a corporation, partnership or limited liability company or other entity, at least 51 percent of the equity ownership interest in which is owned by one or more women, and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of such individuals. **For purposes of the SWAM Program, all certified women-owned businesses are also a small business enterprise.**

Minority-Owned Business Enterprise: A business concern which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more minorities or in the case of a corporation, partnership or limited liability company or other entity, at least 51 percent of the equity ownership interest in which is owned by one or more minorities and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of such individuals. **For purposes of the SWAM Program, all certified minority-owned businesses are also a small business enterprise.**

Micro Business is a certified Small Business under the SWaM Program and has no more than twenty-five (25) employees **AND** no more than $3 million in average annual revenue over the three-year period prior to their certification.

All small, women, and minority owned businesses must be certified by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD) to be counted in the SWAM program. Certification applications are available through SBSD at 800-223-0671 in Virginia, 804-786-6585 outside Virginia, or online at http://www.sbsd.virginia.gov/ (Customer Service).

RETURN OF THIS PAGE IS REQUIRED

ATTACHMENT B (CNT'D)

Small, Women and Minority-owned Businesses (SWaM) Utilization Plan

Procurement Name and Number: _____ Date Form Completed:_____

Listing of Sub-Contractors, to include, Small, Woman Owned and Minority Owned Businesses
for this Proposal and Subsequent Contract

Offeror / Proposer:

_____	_____	_____
Firm	Address	Contact Person/No.

Sub-Contractor's Name and Address	Contact Person & Phone Number	SBSD Certification Number	Services or Materials Provided	Total Subcontractor Contract Amount (to include change orders)	Total Dollars Paid Subcontractor to date (to be submitted with request for payment from JMU)

(Form shall be submitted with proposal and if awarded, a SWaM Sub-contractor Reporting Form shall be submitted to swamreporting@jmu.edu)

RETURN OF THIS PAGE IS REQUIRED

ATTACHMENT C



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STANDARD CONTRACT

Contract No._____

This contract entered into this_____day of_____20____,by _____ hereinafter called the "Contractor" and Commonwealth of Virginia, James Madison University called the "Purchasing Agency".

WITNESSETH that the Contractor and the Purchasing Agency, in consideration of the mutual covenants, promises and agreements herein contained, agree as follows:

SCOPE OF CONTRACT: The Contractor shall provide the services to the Purchasing Agency as set forth in the Contract Documents.

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: From_____ through_____

The contract documents shall consist of:

(1) This signed form;

(2) The following portions of the Request for Proposals dated _____:
- (a) The Statement of Needs,
- (b) The General Terms and Conditions,
- (c) The Special Terms and Conditions together with any negotiated modifications of those Special Conditions;
- (d) List each addendum that may be issued

(3) The Contractor's Proposal dated _____and the following negotiated modification to the Proposal, all of which documents are incorporated herein.
- (a) Negotiations summary dated _____.

SAMPLE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Contract to be duly executed intending to be bound thereby.

CONTRACTOR:	PURCHASING AGENCY:
By:_____	By:_____
(Signature)	(Signature)
_____	_____
(Printed Name)	(Printed Name)
Title:_____	Title:_____

ATTACHMENT D

Zone Map



Virginia Association of State College & University Purchasing Professionals (VASCUPP)

List of member institutions by zones

Zone 1	**Zone 2**	**Zone 3**
George Mason University (Fairfax)	James Madison University (Harrisonburg)	University of Virginia (Charlottesville)
Zone 4	**Zone 5**	**Zone 6**
University of Mary Washington (Fredericksburg)	Christopher Newport University (Newport News) College of William and Mary (Williamsburg) Norfolk State University (Norfolk) Old Dominion University (Norfolk)	Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond) Virginia State University (Petersburg)
Zone 7	**Zone 8**	**Zone 9**
Longwood University (Farmville)	Virginia Military Institute (Lexington) Virginia Tech (Blacksburg) Radford University (Radford)	University of Virginia - Wise (Wise)

ATTACHMENT F

Student Internship and Learning Opportunities

Firm Name:
Primary Contact Name & Title:
Email Address:
Phone Number:

Section 1: Overview of Student Engagement Potential/Opportunities
Summary of approach/willingness:

Section 2: Proposed Student Internship & Learning Opportunities *(check all applicable or of interest to your firm*)

[ ] **Career Fairs**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Career Fairs, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Paid Experiential Roles**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Paid Experiential Roles, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Unpaid Experiential Roles**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Unpaid Experiential Roles, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Participation in Projects**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Participation in Projects, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Job Shadowing**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Job Shadowing, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Mentoring Program**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Mentoring Programs, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Career Talks / Guest Lectures**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Career Talks/Guest Lectures, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Campus Interviews**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Campus Interviews, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Engagement with JMU Employer Services Team**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Engagement with JMU Employer Services Team, if different from Primary Contact:

[ ] **Other**
Brief Description:
Contact Information for Other, if different from Primary Contact: