

KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR

ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

June 30, 2023

To all RFP bidders,

The State evaluation committee has reviewed, evaluated, and scored the proposals received in response to RFP #0822-721-01 issued by the Department of Management - Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) on behalf of the Iowa Secretary of State on August 5, 2022 for a Voter Registration and Election Management Solution.

Seven (7) proposals were received by the due date and time. The Respondents were:

- Canton Group
- Civix
- ES&S
- Knowink
- Kopis
- Stonewall Solutions
- Tenex

In order to be eligible for an award pursuant to this procurement, proposers were required to submit all required documents, pass all Mandatory Requirements, and receive a minimum 4,500 points (60%) of a maximum 7,500 points for Section 4.4 Scored Technical Specifications.

Technical Evaluation Scoring

Evaluators reviewed, but did not score, the proposal independently, before meeting as a group to discuss the technical proposal. Evaluators considered the information discussed during the meetings and worked as a group to determine a consensus score. At the end of the Evaluation Committee meetings, technical evaluation scoring was completed. Technical scores were scored out of 10 and respondents received a percentage of the points available.

Six (6) of the technical proposals were deemed responsive and were subsequently reviewed by the Committee. Knowink's proposal was considered not responsive and was not scored by the committee.

Respondent	Technical Score (out of 7,500 possible points)
Canton Group	6,592
Civix	6,507
ES&S	7,227
Kopis	4,262

Stonewall	5,385
Tenex	6,209

Per Section 5.3.4 of the RFP, only those responses whose Technical Proposals scored at least 60% of the available points were considered for Cost Proposal scoring. The minimum point totals required is 4,500 (7,500 Technical Proposal points available x 60% = 4,500), thus Respondent Kopis was not eligible for cost scoring.

Cost Proposal Scoring

Per section 5.4 Cost Proposal points available was established by ranking the cost proposals from least to most expensive. The least expensive cost proposal received the maximum number of points available. To determine the number of points to be awarded to all other cost proposals, the least expensive cost proposals was used in all cases as the numerator. Each of the other cost proposals were used as the denominator. The percentage was then multiplied by the maximum number of points available and the resulting number was used as the cost points awarded.

Respondent	Cost Score (out of 2,500 possible points)	Technical Score (out of 7,500 possible points)	Total Composite Score (out of 10,000 possible points)
Canton Group	825	6,592	7,417
Civix	2,500	6,507	9,007
ES&S	1,500	7,227	8,727
Stonewall	2,275	5,385	7,660
Tenex	1,425	6,209	7,634

The State of Iowa hereby gives Notice of Intent to Award to the following firms (“Awardee”):

Awardee

Civix

Per Section 2.34 of the RFP, any Respondent to this RFP that wishes to file an Notice of Intent to Appeal must do so within five days of the date of this notice, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal State holidays. Notices of appeal received after that time will be dismissed.

This Notice of Intent to Award is contingent upon the successful execution of a written contract and, as a

result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the State and the Awardee. The Awardee shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the RFP until a written contract acceptable to the State of Iowa has been executed.

If the Awardee fails to execute a contract with the State for any reason, the State, in its sole discretion, may cancel this Notice of Intent to Award, or withdraw the RFP entirely. The State further reserves the right to cancel the Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Iowa.

Mike Nolan
OCIO Business Services Division

cc: file

State of Iowa OCIO – RFP #0822-721-01
Technical Proposal Scoring Tabulation

Scored Criteria	Description	Possible Points	Canton Group		Civix		ES&S		Kopis		Stonewall		Tenex	
			Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received
4.4.1	Describe the proposed solution, including product features/capabilities, alignment with the Agency's goals, system design, user experience, and other information supporting a determination that the proposed solution will meet the needs of the Agency for a Voter Registration and Election Management solution similar in nature to the background provided in Section 1.3 and the Mandatory Specifications in Section 4.3.	74	10	74	10	74	10	74	6	44	8	59	10	74
4.4.2	Provide contact information for at least three references for a completed Voter Registration and Election Management system (as described in Section 1.3) where you served as the prime contractor.	17	5	9	10	17	10	17	5	9	10	17	10	17
4.4.3	Provide a description of how you will respond to system malfunctions, security breaches, and diagnose and solve problems with the network, hardware, or software. Responses should include the plan to be provided to the State, which would include identifying the team responsible to	90		0	10	90	10	90	6	54	7	63	10	90
4.4.4	Describe how the solution is optimized for use on mobile devices. Explain how the solution will provide functionality while also maintaining security for mobile access.	6	10	6	5	3	10	6	5	3	10	6	10	6
4.4.5	Describe how the proposed solution uses GIS information to maintain the most recent address information available in the state of Iowa.	79	8	63	8	63	10	79	5	40	5	40	9	71
4.4.6	Provide a solution that accommodates separate environments for production, testing, development, and training. The configuration allows a particular system component to exist in simultaneous, secure versions: (a) a production version, (b) a version undergoing testing, and (c) development.	57	10	57	10	57	10	57	6	34	7	40	0	0
4.4.7	Describe your experience in using an information technology lifecycle management process for work of the same scope as this project. Describe the lifecycle processes used to manage hardware and software. How will these processes ensure that updates appropriately address security considerations?	170	10	170	8.5	145	10	170	4	68	8	136	9	153
4.4.8	Describe how the proposed solution facilitates efficient communication from users to voters to keep them informed of things like registration status, absentee ballot status, polling locations, etc.	124	7	87	10	124	10	124	7	87	7	87	10	124
4.4.9	Describe the customization abilities designed into the proposed solution to enhance the user experience (for example, setting tabs or shortcuts for commonly used modules).	68	7	48	8	54	9	61	7	48	7	48	10	68
4.4.10	Describe how the proposed solution allows users to efficiently administer multiple elections simultaneously.	107	10	107	10	107	10	107	5	54	10	107	10	107
4.4.11	Describe how the proposed solution assists users with election scheduling and organizing/managing the timelines for each election.	51	6	31	8	41	7	36	5	26	7	36	10	51
4.4.12	Describe how the proposed solution provides useful warnings or prompts to users to ease use and maintain election and voter records.	90	5	45	10	90	8	72	6	54	9	81	10	90
4.4.13	Describe how system administrators can customize the notifications for alerts related to errors, performance, and usage volume.	40	6	24	9	36	10	40	6	24	9	36	9	36
4.4.14	Provide information about your capability to scale during higher peak election periods.	130	9	117	10	130	9.5	124	3	39	9	117	10	130
4.4.15	Describe how the proposed solution facilitates easy, quick, and efficient data entry (e.g. automated data formatting, highlighting required fields, positional cursor control, predictive/suggested text or addresses, etc.).	113	10	113	10	113	9	102	8	90	7	79	8.5	96
4.4.16	Describe the application programming interface (API) capabilities within the proposed solution, such as connecting to the state Department of Transportation for validation of voter information and ID number.	181	9	163	10	181	10	181	6	109	7	127	8	145
4.4.17	Describe how the search function in the proposed solution aids users in locating information in an easy, swift, and efficient manner.	130	7	91	10	130	10	130	6	78	7	91	8	104
4.4.18	Describe the analytics capabilities of the proposed solution	28	10	28	10	28	8	22	5	14	7	20	8	22
4.4.19	Describe the process for creating, saving, and refining user-created reports in the proposed solution, emphasizing the ease of use for new or unfamiliar users.	79	8	59	10	79	6	47	7	55	8	63	9.5	75
4.4.20	Demonstrate how users can access reporting tools quickly and easily from any part of the proposed solution.	57	10	57	5	29	10	57	7	40	9	51	7	40

**State of Iowa OCIO – RFP #0822-721-01
 Technical Proposal Scoring Tabulation**

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			Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received	Evaluation Score (out of 10)	Points Received
4.4.21	Describe how the proposed solution facilitates recognition of voter registrations after redistricting.	34	10	34	10	34	10	34	7	24	10	34	7	24
4.4.22	Describe how your solution facilitates the easy setup of an election, including selecting the correct districts for an election, and conversely, the elections relevant to a given district. Also include how the solution facilitates the	158	10	158	8	126	9	142	6	95	7	111	6	95
4.4.23	Describe how the proposed solution conspicuously indicates if a voter is currently ineligible to vote, but will be eligible in time for the election, per Section 4.3.162.	40	10	40	5	20	10	40	7	28	10	40	6	24
4.4.24	Describe how the proposed solution handles UOCAVA requests for an extended period of time.	181	10	181	10	181	10	181	8	145	10	181	9	163
4.4.25	Describe how the proposed solution notifies users to follow up on absentee ballots not yet received and complete.	23	10	23	10	23	10	23	8	18	10	23	5	12
4.4.26	Explain how the solution will assist users in creating PEO records and assigning PEOs to the polls for a given election.	45	10	43	9.5	43	10	45	6	27	10	45	10	45
4.4.27	Describe your project management plan for implementation of the proposed solution.	158	10	158	7	111	10	158	6	95	9	142	9	142
4.4.28	Provide a detailed description of your training plan for both state-level and county-level staff, including system administrators.	141	7	99	7	99	10	141	4	56	5	71	8	113
4.4.29	Provide a description of processes you use for testing, patching, and anomaly handling.	249	8	199	7	174	10	249	7	174	8	199	8	199
4.4.30	Describe the security environment for the proposed solution, including the measures designed to prevent unauthorized access to voter and election records.	283	9	255	10	283	10	283	5	142	5	142	10	283
4.4.31	Describe the internal control structure of the proposed solution, as relates to the prevention of voter fraud.	136	9	122	5	68	10	136	5	68	7.5	102	10	136
4.4.32	Describe how the proposed solution assists Users in determining NVRA status, active vs. inactive voter status, eligible vs. ineligible, etc.	181	8	145	8	145	10	181	5	91	10	181	9	163
4.4.33	Provide all work locations and descriptions of physical and logical security requirements, handling of sensitive materials, and emergency and disaster backup provisions. Describe how you will manage various work locations from the perspective of election security. This includes adherence to the State requirements that all work and data storage be	198	8	158	10	198	10	198	6	119	10	198	10	198
4.4.34	Describe the security audits and penetration analysis performed on a regular basis. If conducted, provide annual security audit reports conducted by an independent auditor. Provide examples of prior security testing and	209	9	188	8	167	10	209	6	125	5	105	8	167
4.4.35	Provide evidence of certification or registration according to national quality or security standards. Describe your adherence to standardized quality principles, such as through registration as ISO 9001 (general quality) and ISO/IEC 27001 (information security). Both are strongly preferred. If you do not follow a standardized quality principle, provide your documented processes and evidence that you monitor adherence to those processes.	204	10	204	10	204	10	204	4	82	5	102	10	204
4.4.36	Detail your approach to supply chain management, including the selection process for suppliers.	158	10	158	8	126	10	158	8	126	7	111	9.5	150
4.4.37	Describe how information sensitivity is categorized and how access to sensitive information is managed and documented for each category, including your ability to create reports and machine-readable data extracts for both private and public dissemination. <u>Clearly delineate responsibilities.</u>	255	10	255	10	255	10	255	7	179	7	179	8	204
4.4.38	Describe in detail the controls placed on data and access to data. Include requirements for location, access rights, maintenance and enforcement of access rights, encryption, incident response and backup capabilities, and logging and forensics capabilities.	271	10	271	7	190	10	271	6	163	9	244	9	244

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4.4.39	If the solution will be hosted in a cloud or multi-tenant environment provided by Azure, AWS, or Google, include information on the adherence to the appropriate CIS Benchmark for Cloud Service Offerings. Explain the reason for any deviation from that Benchmark and provide any additional options that are available. If using another cloud provider, include the full menu of security options and services offered by the hosting provider, and which specific security options and services are included in the proposal.	271	10	271	8	217	8.5	230	3	81	6	163	9	244
4.4.40	For user- and client-specific software and applications, confirm on which types of systems and, where applicable, browsers the product will have full functionality. In general, products should be fully functional on a host of systems, to include notebooks (such as Chromebooks) and all major browsers. If managing voter or ballot data, provide the data format(s) you are using and identify common functions supported with those formats (e.g., risk-limiting audits).	232	10	232	9	209	10	232	6	139	10	232	9	209
	Provide a full description of the proposed solution's security architecture. Describes completely how architecture will ensure security of election infrastructure.	277	10	277	10	277	10	277	7	194	7	194	0	0
4.4.42	Describe your approach to cryptography, including which cryptographic modules and protocols you use, and how you conduct key management and manage the secrecy of private keys, if applicable.	119	10	119	7	83	10	119	6	71	0	0	9	107
4.4.43	If the proposal includes commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) or modified off-the-shelf (MOTS) software, address ownership of the software and design assets both during the project and afterward. Also, address whether source code and other artifacts will be held in escrow or delivered to the State upon the project and ownership of IP .	170	10	170	9	153	9	153	5	85	10	170	9	153
4.4.44	Detail certifications obtained for the solution(s) you intend to deploy and how these meet applicable federal, state, or local security standards.	136	10	136	8	109	7	95	5	68	5	68	9	122
4.4.45	If personal information will be handled, describe how you will manage the minimization, collection, storage, and transmission of that PII. Describe confidentiality and privacy approaches with regard to personal information.	181	10	181	8.5	154	8.5	154	6	109	3.5	63	8	145
4.4.46	Confirm that you have advanced endpoint protection for any server or workstation that is part of the core service offering.	187	10	187	8	150	9	168	5	94	8	150	8	150
4.4.47	Define specific levels of service for key work activities including performance standards for each service. These should include, but not be limited to:	221	10	221	5	111	10	221	5	111	8	177	0	0
4.4.48	Provide a description of the threat environment as it applies to the systems and their interconnections that are addressed in your proposal. Provide an assessment of the severity of threats, and identify and align mitigation approaches to the threats. Also, provide an assessment of the residual risks following mitigation actions.	175	10	175	9	158	9	158	6	105	7	123	8	140
4.4.49	Describe how you monitor ongoing security threat changes and respond to evolving threats, including monitoring common vulnerabilities and exposures (CVEs) and any ability to receive and share real-time threat information.	249	10	249	10	249	10	249	7	174	6	149	10	249
4.4.50	Provide detailed information regarding cybersecurity controls relevant to the vendor's selected framework throughout the life of the Contract.	232	10	232	10	232	10	232	5	116	5	116	9	209
4.4.51	Clearly describe expected scope of cybersecurity-related tasks under this contract and who (e.g., contractor, State) is responsible for executing those tasks.	243	10	243	8	194	10	243	3	73	7	170	10	243
4.4.52	Describe your process for moving data, whether digitally or physically, while maintaining appropriate security protection and data integrity.	192	10	192	9	173	10	192	6	115	5	96	9	173
TECHNICAL PROPOSAL TOTAL				6,592		6,507		7,227		4,262		5,385		6,209
Cost Proposal Score				825		2,500		1,500				2,275		1425

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		Total Score		7,417		9,007		8,727					7,660	7,634
Security score						4489		6166						