



Request for Proposals (RFP)

Consulting Services for Technology Innovation and Commercialization Plan

No. 2023-01

Questions and Responses

Responses Posted: January 24, 2023

1. What is the budget that has been allocated to this engagement?

RESPONSE: *Pricing should be all-inclusive, covering all services listed in Section 3 of the RFP, including travel expenses, personnel costs, and all other estimated necessary expenses required in the performance of the engagement. As provided in Section 10 of the RFP price will account for 25% of the evaluation criteria with 75% allocated to experience and qualifications. In order to best foster a competitive procurement for these services THEF is not releasing a cost ceiling with this RFP.*

2. What level of an implementation and action plan for the strategy is THEF seeking? Any guidance on the balance of activities including research/analysis, strategy development, and implementation planning would be appreciated.

RESPONSE: *Development of a thoughtful, informed, and researched driven Tech Innovation and Commercialization Plan for Texas is the main priority for this project. That plan should include strategies to grow tech transfer and commercialization activities at Texas higher education institutions and improve statewide tech transfer outcomes. The majority of activities conducted by the consultant should be in service of strategy development and implementation planning.*

We would like a targeted implementation plan to offer guidance on key issues, including (but not limited to) what role THEF and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) can play in

supporting growth in innovation and tech transfer activity, what statewide resources (if any) would be helpful to higher education institutions in growing their tech transfer efforts, and what are reasonable steps in terms of product/program development that may be implemented in the near future to support tech transfer activity and outcomes.

We expect strategy development and implementation planning to be informed by research and analysis. The consultant(s) selected for this work will be expected to coordinate with research teams, as selected by THEF, to understand the results of national benchmarking and survey work. The consultant(s) will be expected to leverage that analysis to inform strategy development and implementation planning. This does not preclude consultant(s) from conducting complementary research and analysis that will aid their efforts to develop an informed strategy and to provide implementation guidance for THEF.

3. What level of engagement do you anticipate with the Tech Transfer Advisory Council and with individual institutions? For the purposes of budgeting this engagement, should proposers assume in-person engagement, virtual engagement, or a hybrid approach? For in-person engagement, where do you anticipate that taking place?

RESPONSE: *THECB has convened the Tech Transfer Advisory Council since Fall 2022. The Council is comprised of representatives from higher education institutions in Texas, target industries, and venture capital firms. We would like the consultant(s) to engage with the Tech Transfer Advisory Council every other month in virtual meetings to gather input and feedback from Council members.*

Council members may also be able to connect the consultant(s) with others at their individual institutions for additional stakeholder engagement efforts needed to develop the Tech Innovation and Commercialization Plan. Consultant(s) may propose additional plans for engagement with individual institutions and the best approach (in-person, virtual, hybrid) for that engagement.