

# FLORIDA

**Request for Qualifications (RFQ)**

**#30-SPED-0625 Florida**

**Special Education Instructional  
& Related Services**

**IDEA Florida, Inc.  
Purchasing Department  
2115 West Pike Blvd  
Weslaco, TX 78596**

**[solicitations@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:solicitations@ideapublicschools.org)**



Florida

**IDEA**

**Public Schools**

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## PART I – GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

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**Procurement Analyst:** Humberto Hinojosa

**Contact email:** [solicitations@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:solicitations@ideapublicschools.org)

**IDEA Florida, Inc.** (herein referred to as IDEA or the organization) is seeking a Statement of Qualifications from qualified Respondents or individuals in response to this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for **Special Education Instructional & Related Services**. The qualified Respondent(s) must be able to execute duties and provide in-person services with the utmost diligence, cooperation, and ethical behavior in addition to being knowledgeable of industry standards as it relates to special education instructional & related services for public schools. The chosen Respondent should also demonstrate high levels of trust, competence, and integrity.

IDEA reserves the right to revise and amend the qualifications prior to the date set for the receipt of the Statement of Qualifications. Respondents are requested to clarify any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or other error(s) in the RFQ in writing. Revisions or amendments, if any, will be made by issuing an addendum. Every effort will be made to send addenda issued to the parties known to have been furnished a complete copy of the RFQ. It is the responsibility of each respondent, prior to submitting the Statement of Qualifications, to contact IDEA to determine if addenda were issued and, if so, to obtain such addenda for attachment to the Statement of Qualifications. Addenda are posted to IDEA’s website: <https://ideapublicschools.org/states/florida/>.

### Request For Qualifications Timeline

*All dates and times are tentative and subject to change.*

RFQ Issue Date:	Wednesday, February 19, 2025
Pre-Qualification Meeting	Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 10:00 AM (CST)
Respondent Question Cut-Off Date	Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 5:00 PM (CST)
Addendum Issue Date	Tuesday, March 25, 2025
<b>Statement of Qualifications Due Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Wednesday, April 02, 2025, at 2:00 PM (CST)</b>
Evaluation Period:	April 04 - April 11, 2025
Board Meeting:	June 2025
Initial Proposed Contract Term:	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028
Renewal option #1	July 1, 2028 – June 30, 2029
Renewal option #2	July 1, 2029 – June 30, 2030

**Pre-Proposal Conference**

A virtual pre-qualification meeting will be held at 10:00 AM CST via TEAMS video conference on Tuesday, February 25, 2025. Questions regarding this RFQ must be submitted in writing to [solicitations@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:solicitations@ideapublicschools.org) no later than 5:00 PM CST on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. Respondents are responsible for reviewing questions and answers prior to submitting a statement of qualifications. Oral communications regarding this RFQ shall not be binding and shall in no way excuse a Respondent of the obligations set forth in this solicitation. While the pre-qualification meeting is non-mandatory, it is highly encouraged that all potential respondents participate and attend.

Join TEAMS Meeting: [Join the meeting now](#)

**Meeting ID:** 296 353 130 23

**Passcode:** FS7G9MR7

**PART II – BACKGROUND & SCOPE OF SERVICES**

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**Introduction:** IDEA Florida, Inc. (“IDEA”) is a Florida nonprofit corporation and a tax-exempt organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Pursuant to Chapter 1002 of the Florida School Code and its Contract for Charter with Florida District School Boards, IDEA is a public charter school holder. IDEA prepares Florida students from underserved communities for success in college and citizenship. IDEA is a growing network of 8 high-performing charter schools serving approximately 3,500 students located throughout Florida in the Duval and Hillsborough County regions. Although IDEA’s growth is rapid, it is also carefully planned. Schools begin with select grade levels and eventually reach full scale as a K-12 campus as grade levels are added to accommodate the student’s advancement.

IDEA’s mission is College for All. IDEA serves primarily low-income students in underserved areas of both rural and urban communities. Over 80% of IDEA students are considered low-income and one of every three students is the first in their family to go to college. Since the first graduating class in 2007, 100% of seniors have been accepted and matriculated to a college or university every year for fourteen consecutive years. Thanks to a rigorous path to college that begins in Kindergarten, IDEA students attend selective universities throughout the country, win national awards and scholarships, and complete college at a rate six times the national average for low-income students.

*Note: While IDEA’s affiliates serve students in other states, this Request for Qualifications and any subsequent contract is only for goods or services provided to IDEA’s Florida-based charter school and campuses.*

**Scope of Services**

IDEA Florida, Inc. is seeking a Statement of Qualifications from qualified and experienced Respondent(s) in providing exemplary special education instructional & related services that will be essential to scholar growth and development in schools within IDEA Florida, Inc. Qualified Respondent(s) will be placed on a list of qualified vendors available for campus/departamental use. Respondents must be able to meet and uphold the following standards and qualifications as specified in this RFQ:

- a) Vendor shall ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state, local statutory requirements, State Board of Education and Department of Health & Human

Services rules, as well as IDEA's local board policy with respect to special education and/or related aids and services.

- b) Vendor shall ensure adherence to appropriate safety procedures and report potential health or safety hazards to the designated campus administrator.
- c) Vendor shall provide in-person services and provide their own testing kits, protocols, equipment and laptops.
- d) Vendor's assigned staff members shall be responsible for the following, as applicable:
  - 1. Provide special education and/or related aids and services as determined for each assigned student;
  - 2. Maintain logs and therapy notes for student services;
  - 3. Provide logs with invoices for therapy;
  - 4. Attend IEP meetings;
  - 5. Maintain and submit individual student reports to IDEA Regional SPED Teams (LSSPs/SLPs/Leads);
  - 6. Complete or assist with individual educational plans (IEP);
  - 7. Complete progress reports for services;
  - 8. Consult with school staff;
  - 9. Complete evaluations, IEPs, and Progress Reports on the Focus system;
  - 10. Assist IDEA staff with their student's IEP progress reports;
  - 11. Assist school staff with equipment orders if applicable;
  - 12. Create collaborative relationships on school campuses;
  - 13. Track Medicaid services for each assigned student, if applicable.
  - 14. Attend On-Boarding (required)
- e) To guarantee uninterrupted service delivery and minimize any potential delays or disruptions **respondent(s) shall ensure they have qualified and available staff in place at the time the contract is implemented to meet the contract's demands and service students promptly and efficiently.** Awarded vendor(s) shall also bill for each school/region by sending invoices to Accounts Payable ([payableFL@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:payableFL@ideapublicschools.org)), and copying Special Programs Grant and Budget Manager, Elianey Moya ([elianey.moya@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:elianey.moya@ideapublicschools.org)), and the Regional

Director. Respondents are proposing to serve in **Florida including Jacksonville and Tampa Bay.**

## Requested Services

IDEA is requesting the following Special Education Instructional & Related Services in **Florida including Jacksonville and Tampa Bay for in-person services** for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Adaptive Physical Education
- Assistive Technology Evaluations (Autism)
- Auditory Impairment/Deaf Ed Teacher
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)
- Brailist
- Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA)
- Educational Diagnostician
- Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)
- Nursing
- Occupational Therapist
- Orientation and Mobility Teacher
- Physical Therapist
- Registered Behavior Technicians
- School Psychologist
- Sensory Evaluations (Autism)
- Speech Language Pathologist
- Speech Language Pathologist Assistant (SLPA)
- Special Education Teacher
- Special Education Co-Teacher (Paraprofessional)
- Visual Impairment Teacher

## Qualifications to Perform Requested Services

The qualifications to perform one or all the required special education instructional & related services mentioned above are outlined below. Respondents must also complete the *Geographic Coverage* in Attachment G of this RFQ. **IDEA requires that these services be provided In-Person.**

## Adaptive Physical Education (APE) Teacher

- a. **Primary Purpose:** Provide direct APE services, complete evaluations, and implement instructional programs in physical and motor fitness, fundamental motor skills and patterns, and skills in individual and group games, and sports for students with disabilities. The APE teacher also consults with school general education and special education staff in modifying and adapting general physical education to ensure access for students with physical and cognitive needs.

- b. Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Physical education may be provided by special education instructional or related service personnel who have the necessary skills and knowledge, or physical education teachers, or occupational therapists, or physical therapists, or occupational or physical therapy assistants working under the supervision of certified personnel in accordance with the standards of their profession.
- c. Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
- Provide direct or indirect individual education plans (IEP) APE services.
  - Maintain logs for direct and indirect services.
  - Assist special education teacher in IEP development or develop IEPs as requested.
  - Assist special education teacher in progress report completion or complete progress reports for direct services as requested.
  - Complete evaluations, IEPs, and progress reports in Focus.

## Assistive Technology Evaluations (Autism)

- a. Primary Purpose:** Complete Evaluations using evidence-based tools or assessments to determine Assistive Technology solutions.
- b. Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) Certification.
- c. Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
- Provide services using a variety of methods: monitoring, consulting, and working directly with students and teams.
  - Provide training and technical support for school staff in activities and accommodation to be implemented throughout the student's day to increase independence and success.

## Auditory Impairment/Deaf Ed Teacher

- a. Primary Purpose:** Provide direct and indirect support for students identified with Auditory Impairment (AI).
- b. Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** An assignment for a Teacher of Students with Auditory Impairments is allowed with one of the following certificates. (1) Deaf and Severely Hard of Hearing. (2) Hearing Impaired. (3) Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Early Childhood-Grade 12.
- c. Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
- Direct and indirect AI services.
  - Consult with parents and school staff.
  - Train school staff, consult, and support in ordering and maintaining equipment to help students access general education.
  - Assist and consult with assessment personnel and SLPs to gather necessary evaluations such as Ontological and Audiological evaluations.
  - Consult with outside providers for equipment, evaluations, etc.

- Complete and assist in individual education plan (IEP) development, complete, and assist in progress reports, and maintain logs for direct and indirect services.

## Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)

- Primary Purpose:** Provide behavior support for special education students and students in Response to Intervention (RTI) or in the process of being referred for Special Education.
- Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Certification as a BCBA.
- Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
  - Complete Functional Behavior Assessment and Behavior Intervention Plans in the Focus system.
  - Consult with school staff, consult with parents, and provide training as needed.

## Brailist

- Primary Purpose:** Provide in-person services for the transcribing of educational materials into alternative formats for students who are blind or visually impaired. In addition, the Brailist will provide support to the district's program for students with visual impairments.
- Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Knowledge of various braille codes including Unified English Braille (UEB), Foreign Languages, UEB Math, Nemeth Code, Tactile Graphics. Experience working with children who are blind or visually impaired is strongly preferred.
- Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
  - Transcribe print materials, including textbooks and other books not readily available into literary braille.
  - Use computer software and technology required for transcription to braille.
  - Produce adaptive instructional materials for students with visual impairments in accordance with the specifications from the visually impaired teacher.
  - Emboss, re-edit, and bind materials using various methods.
  - Create tactile graphics of maps, charts, pictures, routes, and other tactile displays using various tools, materials, and resources.
  - Manage and maintain all braille, large-print, and instructional material.
  - Implement lessons and activities with students with visual impairments in classrooms, one-to-one, and/or small group setting while under the direction of the visually impaired teacher.

## Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA)

- Primary Purpose:** Provides a powerful learning environment, plans, and delivers purposeful, educational-based occupational therapy, follows treatment plans for fine motor, visual motor integration, and coordinator deficits, as well as dysregulation, sensory issues, and behavioral deficits, tracks student progress toward goals, analyzes data to intervene and adjusts therapy. The COTA will consult with general education and special education school staff to assist in modifying and adapting scholar's general education to allow access for students with occupational needs.
- Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Occupational Therapy may be provided by



special education instructional or related service personnel who have the necessary skills and knowledge, working under the supervision of certified personnel in accordance with the standards of their profession. Required Associate Degree from an American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) accredited program, 1+ year experience as an Occupational Therapist Assistant, certification from the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, and a valid COTA license from the State of Florida.

**c. Major Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Review individual education plans (IEPs) and ensure implementation of extensive knowledge in appropriate implementation of assessment tools, interpret, and identify students with the presence of fine motor deficits, dysregulation, sensory issues, and/or behavioral deficits and determine eligibility for services according to IDEA Public Schools policies and procedures, DOE, and licensing boards.
- Provide top quality direct or indirect IEP services, maintain, and monitor paper and digital tracking logs, ARD logs, and Evaluation logs on a daily basis for direct and indirect services.
- Partner with the Occupational Therapist (OT) and/or special education teacher in IEP development or develop IEPs aligned with curriculum.
- Assist special education teacher in progress report completion or complete progress reports for direct services in order to update goals and requests.
- Complete initial (re)evaluations prior to deadline, IEPs, and progress report in Focus.

## Educational Diagnostician

**a. Primary Purpose:** Educational Diagnostician should demonstrate knowledge and skill in assessment, eligibility for Special Education, academic and behavioral interventions, state and federal legal frameworks for Special Education, and ensures compliance with Special Education legislation. The Educational Diagnostician is a key partner in ensuring support of students and parents by helping to problem-solve interventions with students who may be struggling both academically and behaviorally.

**b. Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Educational Diagnostician services may be provided by special education instructional or related service personnel who have the necessary skills and knowledge, working under the supervision of certified personnel in accordance with the standards of their profession. Required Master's Degree in Special Education or Education from accredited college or university and a Florida Educational Diagnostician Certificate, and preferably at least 3 years experience as a campus Diagnostician.

**c. Major Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Meet 100% compliance in Annual ARDs and ensure all paperwork is submitted in a timely manner.
- Conduct dyslexia evaluations for 504 students.
- Conduct multidisciplinary evaluations Full and Individual Evaluations for all Non-Speech only students, Non-Autism, and Non-Emotional Disturbance students who are referred for 1 (one) or more eligibility categories (out of 13 (thirteen) eligibility categories).
- Adhere to the most up-to-date evaluation tools and standards as stipulated in the American Psychological Association Testing Standards.
- Conduct evaluations as needed for student College Board accommodations.

## Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)

- a. **Primary Purpose:** Social Workers will work directly with our at-risk scholars to ensure that they are on track by providing them with individualized emotional, behavioral, and mental health support. Social Workers will manage a caseload of at-risk scholars and provide individual and group interventions to support the scholars independently, and master coping skills to address and overcome mental, behavioral, and academic challenges. Social workers will also support students and families with the removal of barriers to persistence, attendance, and academic success through connections to community resources.
- b. **Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Licensed Master Social Worker services may be provided by special education instructional or related service personnel who have the necessary skills and knowledge, working under the supervision of certified personnel in accordance with the standards of their profession. Required Master's Degree in Social Work from an accredited college or university, Florida Social Work license, and preferably 1+ year(s) of teaching experience.
- c. **Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
  - Collaborate with key stakeholders on campus to support implementation of mental health, social-emotional learning, and counseling supports.
  - Meet direct service requirements for both individuals and groups.
  - Create Quarterly Reports to demonstrate impact.

## Nursing

- a. **Primary Purpose:** Provide 1:1 skilled nursing in-person service as per student individual education plans (IEPs):
- b. **Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Bachelor's Degree from a college or university and licensure as a registered nurse.
- c. **Major Responsibilities:**
  - Provide direct one-to-one skilled nursing services as well as complete documentation in the Focus system.
  - Attend ARD meetings for the student.

## Occupational Therapist

- a. **Primary Purpose:** To provide direct and indirect Occupational Therapy services and evaluations for students.
- b. **Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** A Bachelor's Degree in Occupational Therapy from an university certified by the ACOTE (Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education) or AOTA (American -Occupational Therapy Association). Certified by the National Board for Certification.
- c. **Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
  - Provide direct and indirect (consult) occupational therapy services to students in the region that have individual education plan (IEP) occupational therapy (OT) services.

- Provide OT initial evaluation and re-evaluation support as needed for students in the region.

## Orientation and Mobility Teacher

- Primary Purpose:** To provide direct and indirect support for students with visual impairment that require orientation and mobility services per their individual education plan (IEP).
- Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Bachelor's and/or Master's Degree. Certification from the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP).
- Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
  - Provide direct and indirect (consult) orientation and mobility support to students with visual impairment.
  - Provide orientation and mobility evaluation and re-evaluation support as needed for students in the region.

## Physical Therapist

- Primary Purpose:** To provide direct and indirect support for students with physical therapy services per their individual education plan (IEP).
- Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Physical therapists must have an advanced degree. This can be a Master of Physical Therapy Degree or, more commonly, a Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree.
- Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
  - Provide direct and indirect (consult) physical therapy support to students per their IEP.
  - Provide orientation and mobility evaluation and re-evaluation support as needed for students in the region.

## Registered Behavior Technicians

- Primary Purpose:** The Registered Behavior Technician® (RBT®) certification is a paraprofessional certification in behavior analysis. RBTs assist in delivering behavior-analytic services and practice under the direction and close supervision of a BCBA.
- Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Active Registered Behavior Technician® (RBT®) certification with the Behavior Analytic Certification Board (BACB). High School Diploma.
- Major Responsibilities And Duties:**
  - Prepare and implement behavior data collection procedures (i.e. discontinuous and continuous procedures).
  - Conduct preference assessments and assist in functional assessment procedures.
  - Use contingencies for reinforcement including differential reinforcement procedures.
  - Implement skills acquisition applied behavior analysis (ABA) strategies (i.e. naturalistic teaching, discrete trial training, shaping procedures, etc.).
  - Implement behavior reduction ABA strategies (i.e. functions of behavior, differential

- reinforcement, extinction procedures, crisis procedures, etc.).
- Actively seek clinical direction from supervisor (supervising BCBA) in a timely manner.
- Generate objective session notes for service verification.

## School Psychologist

- Primary Purpose:** To provide evaluation support on an as needed basis.
- Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Master of Arts in Psychology Licensed as a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology.
- Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
  - Provide evaluation support through student testing.
  - Provide a Full Individual Evaluation (FIE) in IDEA's Focus FIE program.

## Sensory Evaluations (Autism)

- Primary Purpose:** Complete Evaluations using evidence-based tools or assessments to determine individualized student's sensory needs/solutions.
- Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Licensed Occupational Therapist.
- Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
  - Complete Individualized Sensory Evaluations (i.e. Evaluation in Ayres Sensory Integration (EASI) assessment, Sensory Profile) that meet evaluation timelines.
  - Present Evaluations to school staff and families.
  - Train school staff on recommendations if requested.

## Speech Language Pathologist

- Primary Purpose:** To provide short-term speech therapy services to students per their individual education plan (IEP) and/or to provide speech therapy evaluation support.
- Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology from an accredited college or university, valid Florida license as a speech-language pathologist granted by the State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (SBESLPA).
- Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
  - Provide direct and indirect (consult) speech therapy support to students per their IEP.
  - Provide speech/language evaluation and re-evaluation support as needed for students in the region.

## Speech Language Pathologist Assistant (SLPA)

- Primary Purpose:** Speech Language Pathologist Assistant under the supervision of a Certified

Speech Language Pathologist will work with key members such as regional instructional leaders and teachers to maximize student outcomes. Speech Language Pathologist Assistant (SLPA) sets ambitious goals for student achievement and invests in students and families in accomplishing them. S/he will create a powerful learning environment and deliver purposeful therapy in order to close gaps in communication and academic skills. S/he will provide therapeutic intervention as designated by his/her supervising Speech Language Pathologist in the area of communication disorders, track student progress toward goals, and collaborate with the multidisciplinary team to ensure each students' academic success.

- b. Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Speech Language Pathologist Assistant may be provided by special education instructional or related service personnel who have the necessary skills and knowledge, working under the supervision of certified personnel in accordance with the standards of their profession. Required valid driver's license (class C), Bachelor's Degree in Communication Disorders from an accredited college or university, valid Florida license as a Speech Language Pathologist- Assistant granted by the Florida Department of Licensing and Regulation, minimum of 1 (one) year of pediatric and/or school-based experience, and oral and written fluency in second language, preferably Spanish.
- c. Major Responsibilities and Duties:**
- Review IEPs designed by Supervising Speech Language Pathologist and ARD Committee and ensure 100% implementation of extensive knowledge and provide top-quality speech therapy services.
  - Implement the treatment program or the Individual Education Program (IEP) by utilizing therapeutic interventions that are aligned with instruction.
  - Provide appropriate feedback to students as to the accuracy of their responses.
  - Use appropriate stimuli, cues/prompts with the student to elicit behaviors as defined in the treatment protocol.
  - Provide culturally appropriate treatment materials and behavioral reinforcement consistent with the student's developmental age, culture, and disorder.
  - Monitor students' therapy and academic progress throughout the year in order to provide the supervising SLP an update on students' goals.
  - Implement designated treatment objectives/goals in specific appropriate sequence.
  - Maintain Therapy Notes, Tracking Logs, and Billing logs on a daily basis.
  - Submit Therapy Logs on a Quarterly Basis
  - Ensure and monitor students' progress in order to complete progress reports on a quarterly basis under the supervision of the Supervising SLP.
  - Complete documentation by district timelines.

## Special Education Teacher

- a. Primary Purpose:** Special Education teachers are responsible for the achievement and support of critical students. Special education teachers work with students who have a wide range of learning, cognitive, emotional, and physical disabilities. They teach various subjects, such as reading, writing, and math, to students with gaps of 2 (two) or more years. The main goal is to close that gap by 2 (two) years in just 1 (one) school year. The Special Education teacher provides the crucial bridge between home and school for our highest-need students and their families.
- b. Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** A Special Education teacher may be provided by special education instructional or related service personnel who have the necessary skills and

knowledge, working under the supervision of certified personnel in accordance with the standards of their profession. Required Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university, experience in a Special Education classroom setting, and a valid Florida state certification in Special Education.

**c. Major Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Adapt lessons to meet the needs of students.
- Develop Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for a caseload of 12-15 students.
- Implement IEPs, assess students' performance, and track their progress.
- Update IEPs to reflect students' progress and goals.
- Assess student skills to determine their needs and to develop teaching plans.
- Collect and analyze student data in order to make effective decisions to maximize achievement.
- Discuss student progress with parents, teachers, counselors, and administrators.
- Implement state learning standards and IDEA curricula and assessments to meet ambitious academic expectations.
- Implement formal and informal assessments to track each individual student's progress and learning needs, adjust lesson plans accordingly and update grade book weekly.
- Communicate student progress with students and families on a weekly basis.
- Effective facilitation and personal use of technology as a communication and educational tool to improve student achievement and manage work-related tasks.

## Special Education Co-Teacher (Paraprofessional)

**a. Primary Purpose:** A Co-Teacher in a life skills or self-contained special education classroom plays a critical role in supporting the Special Education teacher and students. They assist with the implementation of individualized education plans, delivering targeted one-on-one or small-group instruction tailored to each student's unique needs. Their responsibilities include helping to manage classroom behavior, adapting educational materials, and ensuring that students develop essential academic, social, and daily living skills.

**b. Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** Associates Degree.

**c. Major Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Work with students with cognitive and behavioral needs on a one-to-one or in a small group.
- Communicate student progress with the Special Education teacher.
- Work collaboratively with the Special Education teacher and other service providers to implement student individual education plans and support.
- Support students with feeding, diapering, and other life skills needs.

## Visual Impairment Teacher

**a. Primary Purpose:** Provide direct and indirect support for students with visual impairment services per their individual education plan (IEP).

**b. Minimum Education/Certification Qualifications:** A Bachelor's Degree from a college or university. Florida certification for teachers of students with visual impairments.

**c. Major Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Provide direct and indirect (consult) visual impairment support to students.
- Provide visual impairment evaluation and re-evaluation support as needed for students in the region.

## **PART III – STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

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The Statement of Qualifications should be prepared in such a way as to demonstrate a straightforward, concise delineation of capabilities that satisfy the requirements of the RFQ. Emphasis should be concentrated on the respondent's ability to ensure IDEA Florida, Inc. compliance with policies, procedures, DOE, and licensing boards when conducting any special education instructional and/or related services.

To be considered, the Statement of Qualifications must be prepared according to the following specifications:

- I.** Cover Letter
- II.** Table of Contents
- III.** Respondent(s)/Individual Profile
- IV.** Approach to Services and Methodology
- V.** References
- VI.** Required Forms

- a) To be eligible for consideration the Statement of Qualifications should be received by using the [Public Purchase](#) website, or mailed to the **IDEA Public Schools Headquarters in C/O IDEA Florida, Inc., Attn: Purchasing Department, 2115 W Pike Blvd, Weslaco, TX 78596** no later than **2:00 PM CST on April 02, 2025**, along with the requisite signature pages and completed certification forms. All Statement of Qualifications must be received by the deadline. Statement of Qualifications submitted after the closing time and date will **not** be accepted. Faxed or emailed statements of Qualifications will **not** be accepted.
- b) **Statement of Qualifications Guarantee:** Statement of Qualifications shall be honored for 120 days after the due date or until agreement is in place.
- c) All supplemental information required by the RFQ must be included with the Statement of Qualifications. Failure to provide complete and accurate information may disqualify the respondent from consideration.
- d) All costs incurred in the preparation and submission of the RFQ response shall be paid solely by the Respondent. Where Respondents may be required to perform a

presentation, give demonstrations, and provide samples and/or technical literature, or participate in any interview process as related to this RFQ, all costs shall be paid by the Respondent.

- e) Any Statement of Qualifications submitted in response to this RFQ will be irrevocable upon the closing time and remain open for acceptance for 120 days from the closing date whether or not another RFQ has been accepted.
- f) Submission of a Statement of Qualifications shall be construed to mean that the Respondent agrees to carry out all conditions set forth in this document. Any proposed variation from the specifications, terms, and conditions shall be clearly identified. Please provide details of any noncompliance with stated conditions via email at [solicitations@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:solicitations@ideapublicschools.org). If no changes are indicated, IDEA shall expect to receive the service(s) exactly as specified.
- g) IDEA reserves the right to select any offer it determines provides the best value, regardless of price.
- h) IDEA may accept multiple offers for the same services. There may not be exclusivity with any selected Respondent.

### RFQ Clarification

Questions regarding the requirements specified in this RFQ must be submitted via email to the IDEA Public Schools Solicitations Division at [solicitations@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:solicitations@ideapublicschools.org) **no later than March 12, 2025, at 5:00 PM CST. The email subject line should read: Questions- RFQ 30-SPED-0625 Florida Special Education Instructional & Related Services.** Questions submitted by Respondents by the submission deadline and answers prepared by IDEA, along with any errata or addenda to this RFQ, if applicable, will be posted on the IDEA website at: <https://ideapublicschools.org/states/florida/> or on the [Public Purchase](#) website. IDEA will not answer questions verbally and any informal oral answers provided by IDEA or its agents shall not be binding. No modification or amendment to this RFQ shall be valid unless it is set forth in writing, via a signed addendum or amendment from IDEA.

### Proposer Responsibility

IDEA expects Respondents to be thoroughly familiar with all requirements of this RFQ. Respondent's failure or omission to examine any relevant form, article, site, or document will not relieve Respondent from any obligation regarding this RFQ. By submitting a Statement of Qualifications, Respondent is presumed to concur with all terms, conditions, and specifications of this RFQ. Any exception must be clearly defined and referenced to the proper paragraph in this RFQ. Objections considered by IDEA as excessive or affecting vital terms may reduce or eliminate respondent's prospects for award.

### Completeness

Statement of Qualifications will represent a true and correct statement and shall contain no cause for claim of omission or error. Request for withdrawal of a Statement of Qualifications is



allowed based on proof of mechanical error; however, Respondent may be removed from approved Respondent list.

### False/Misleading Statements

Statement of Qualifications which contain false or misleading statements, or which provide references which do not support an attribute or capability of the proposed system or service, may be rejected. If, in the opinion of IDEA, such information was intended to mislead IDEA in its evaluation of the Statement of Qualifications and the attribute, condition, or capability as a requirement of the RFQ, the Statement of Qualifications shall be rejected.

### Statement of Qualifications Signatures

The Statement of Qualifications must be signed by an individual with proper authority to obligate the Respondent. The signature should indicate the title or position that the individual holds in the partner (if applicable).

### Selection of Respondent(s)

IDEA may award this RFQ to multiple Respondents or to a single respondent in its sole discretion, provides the best value to IDEA, based upon the evaluation of Statement of Qualifications. Thus, the result will be determined by the applicable criteria as listed under Evaluation Criteria referenced in this RFQ. Once the Statement of Qualifications is received the qualifications will be evaluated by IDEA and then interviews will be conducted (if required) with selected respondents.

### Administrative Procedure for Bidder Complaints

Members of the public having complaints regarding the IDEA's purchasing procedures or operations may present their complaints or concerns to IDEA by writing to the following address:

**IDEA Public Schools Headquarters in C/O IDEA Florida, Inc.  
Attn: Director of Procurement  
2115 West Pike Blvd Weslaco, TX 78596  
956-377-8000**

## **PART IV – SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

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Statement of Qualifications may be submitted using the [Public Purchase](#) website or by sending a hard copy to:

IDEA Public Schools Headquarters in C/O IDEA Florida, Inc.  
Attn: Purchasing Department

2115 West Pike Blvd Weslaco, TX 78596  
956-377-8000

**Statement of Qualifications must be in a sealed envelope marked with the RFQ Number and Title (#30-SPED-0625 Florida Special Education Instructional & Related Services) and include:**

1. One (1) clearly identified hard copy ORIGINAL of the Statement of Qualifications response.
2. One (1) copy of the Statement of Qualifications on FLASH DRIVE, marked with the Respondent's name.

**Note: Submissions via fax or email will not be accepted.**

The respondents' Statement of Qualifications itself shall be organized as identified in *Part III (three), Statement of Qualifications Submission Requirements*.

## **PART V – REQUIREMENTS**

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### **STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OPENING**

Statement of Qualifications Opening is scheduled for **April 02, 2025, at 2:00 PM (CST)**. A formal "opening" will not be held. Trade secrets and confidential information contained in Statement of Qualifications shall not generally be open for public inspection, but IDEA's records are a matter of public record.

### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO RESPOND**

Respondents who can meet the requirements for quality and other terms of this RFQ package, and who are not debarred and/or suspended from conducting business with IDEA, federal and state-funded agencies are invited to respond. A prospective respondent, by submitting a Statement of Qualifications, represents to IDEA that it meets the following requirements:

- Possess or is able to obtain adequate financial resources as required to perform under this RFQ.
- Is able to comply with the required scope of the RFQ.
- Have a satisfactory record of integrity to ethics.
- Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award.
- Be in service standing with the applicable national or state associations.

## PART VI – EVALUATION CRITERIA

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IDEA will evaluate each Respondent’s Statement of Qualifications(s) in the areas listed in this solicitation. The committee evaluating the Statement of Qualifications submitted in response to this RFQ may conduct interviews in order to allow Respondents to clarify or elaborate on their Statement of Qualifications. Upon completion of interviews or discussions, Respondents may be requested to revise any or all portions of their Statement of Qualifications. Respondents will be scored on the evaluation criteria below.

<b>35 Points</b>	<b>Vendor’s level of Expertise &amp; Range of Service.</b> Vendor demonstrates their competence and has the qualifications to perform the services. Vendor is able to service the regions as listed in <i>Attachment G – Geographic Coverage</i> .
<b>25 Points</b>	<b>Vendor’s ability to comply with RFQ.</b> Vendor completes and signs all required documentation on <i>Attachments A – I</i> . Vendor is able to comply with all ‘ <i>Statements of Qualifications Requirements</i> ’ within the RFQ.
<b>15 Point</b>	<b>Vendor’s ability to provide in-person services.</b> Vendor is able to provide in-person services on <i>Attachment G – Geographic Coverage</i> .
<b>15 Points</b>	<b>Vendor’s ability to provide own tech, testing kits, and equipment.</b> Vendor notates this on <i>Attachment H -Vendor Questionnaire</i> .
<b>10 Points</b>	<b>Vendor has demonstrated experience providing similar services to K-12 Public and/or Charter Schools in the past 3 years.</b> Vendor notates this on <i>Attachment I – Reference Sheet</i> .
<b>100 Points</b>	<b>Total Possible Score</b>

## PART VII – ATTACHMENTS

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The attachments listed below are required and should be included with the Statement of Qualifications, along with any other forms included in this RFQ. All forms requiring signature must be signed as indicated.

1. **Attachment A** – Title Page
2. **Attachment B** – Respondent Certification
3. **Attachment C** – Certification Regarding Lobbying
4. **Attachment D** – Debarment or Suspension Certification
5. **Attachment E** – Reference Sheet
6. **Attachment F** – Proof of Insurance or Bonding Requirements
7. **Attachment G** – Geographic Coverage
8. **Attachment H** – Vendor Questionnaire
9. **Attachment I** – RFQ Completion Checklist

Attachment A – Title Page



**A Proposal Submitted in  
Response to  
IDEA’s Request for Proposals  
#30-SPED-0625-Special  
Education Instructional &  
Related Services (Florida)**

Submitted By:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Full Legal Name of Vendor)

Vendor dba (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Requirements:

The proposal must include the name of each person with at least 25% ownership of the business.

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

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

On:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Date of Proposal Submission)

## Attachment B – Respondent Certification

I, the undersigned, submit this Statement of Qualifications and have read the specifications, which are a part of this RFQ. My signature also certifies that I am authorized to submit this Statement of Qualifications, sign as a representative for Vendor, and carry out services solicited in this RFQ.

Signature of Authorized Agent:

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Printed Name and Title of Agent:

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Respondent Name:

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Address:

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Telephone Number:

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Fax Number:

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Contact Person:

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Email Address (if applicable):

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Web Site Address (if applicable):

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## Attachment C – Certification Regarding Lobbying

Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction and is imposed by section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Any person who fails to file the required certifications shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an office or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, or an officer or employee of Congress, an employee of a Member of Congress, or any Board Member, officer, or employee of IDEA in connection with the awarding of Federal contract, the making of a Federal grant, the making of a Federal Loan, the entering into a cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, an employee of a Member of Congress, or any Board Member, officer, or employee of IDEA in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form –LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying”, in accordance with its instructions.

The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the awarded documents for all covered sub-awards exceeding \$100,000 in Federal funds at all appropriate tiers and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

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Respondent Name

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Signature of Authorized Respondent

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Date

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Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

## Attachment D – Debarment or Suspension Certificate

IDEA is prohibited from contracting with or making sub-awards under covered transaction to parties that are suspended or debarred or whose owners/members/principals and certain employees are suspended or debarred. Respondent must certify that it and its owners/members/principals are not suspended or debarred under federal law and rule.

By submitting signing contract and this certificate, Respondent certifies that no suspension or debarment is in place, which would otherwise preclude Respondent or its Owner/Members/Principals or employees from receiving a federally funded contract under applicable federal regulations and federal OMB Circulars.

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Respondent Name

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Signature of Authorized Representative

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Date

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Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

## Attachment E – Reference Sheet

Please list a **minimum of three (3) verifiable references** of clients/organizations (governments, charter schools, or ISDs) that have used your services. Preferably the Respondent shall list references for any projects completed in the past 3 years that are similar to the scope of work in this Solicitation. If additional space is required, attach additional pages hereto. IDEA would prefer some of the references to be new customers in the last year, and Florida clients/organizations are preferred:

COMPANY NAME OR CONTACT PERSON			
STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
CONTACT PERSON		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
PRODUCTS/SERVICES USED			
DESCRIBE AND DOCUMENT YOUR INVOLVEMENT WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES IN SIMILAR TYPE OF WORK			
COMPANY NAME OR CONTACT PERSON			
STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
CONTACT PERSON		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
PRODUCTS/SERVICES USED			
DESCRIBE AND DOCUMENT YOUR INVOLVEMENT WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES IN SIMILAR TYPE OF WORK			



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COMPANY NAME OR CONTACT PERSON

---

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

---

CONTACT PERSON

TELEPHONE NUMBER

---

PRODUCTS/SERVICES USED

---

DESCRIBE AND DOCUMENT YOUR INVOLVEMENT WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES IN SIMILAR TYPE OF WORK

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## Attachment F – Proof of Insurance or Bonding Requirements

Please provide proof of insurance or bonding for each individual state included in this RFQ as applicable. IDEA requires the minimum insurance coverage & limits as stated below:

<b>MINIMUM INSURANCE COVERAGE &amp; LIMITS FOR VENDORS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS</b>			
<b>Type of Contractor</b>	<b>Required Coverage</b>	<b>Required Coverage Limits</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Vendor General Insurance Requirements</b>	Commercial General Liability	Each Occurrence: \$1,000,000  General Aggregate: \$2,000,000  Personal and Advertising Injury: \$500,000	Additional Insured Endorsement
	Automobile Liability Including: <input type="checkbox"/> Owned Vehicles <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Owned Vehicles <input type="checkbox"/> Hired Vehicles <i>(Required for vehicles driven on school property)</i>	Combined Single Limit: \$1,000,000	
	Workers' Compensation* Employers' Liability	Limit: State- Statutory  Each Occurrence \$500,000	Waiver of Subrogation  Endorsement

**For the contractor categories below, the following coverages may apply in addition to the general insurance requirements listed above:**

<b>Professional Services (accountants, architects, attorneys, education consultants, etc.)</b>	Professional Liability	General Aggregate: \$2,000,000 Each Occurrence: \$1,000,000 Abuse of Molestation (If applicable) \$1,000,000	Additional Insured Endorsement
<b>Nurses, therapists, medical providers</b>	Professional Liability or Medical Malpractice (as applicable)	General Aggregate: \$3,000,000 Each Occurrence: \$1,000,000 Abuse of Molestation: (If applicable) \$1,000,000	Additional Insured Endorsement

## Attachment G – Geographic Coverage

Respondent shall provide geographic coverage for services referenced in this RFQ in their qualification submission. Do not fill in the sample below, the Excel Sheet *Attachment G – Geographic Coverage* must be downloaded. Please fill out columns B, C & D of the Excel Sheet.

*Attachment G – Geographic Coverage* may be downloaded at:

<https://ideapublicschools.org/states/florida/>

Jacksonville, Florida					
Special Education Instructional & Related Services	Can Services be Provided? Yes or No	Can this service be provided In-Person, Virtual or Both?	Can Services be Provided for ALL Campuses in the Region? Yes or No <i>If No, which campuses can be serviced?</i>	Jacksonville Campus List	
				<b>*Campuses are provided for information purposes only.</b>	
				Campus	Address
Adaptive Physical Education				IDEA River Bluff	2354 University Blvd N Jacksonville, FL 32211
Assistive Technology Evaluations (Autism)				IDEA Bassett	1845 Bassett Road Jacksonville, FL 32208
Auditory Impairment/Deaf Ed Teacher				IDEA Compass	4949 Blanding Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL 32210
Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)					
Brailleist					
Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA)					
Educational Diagnostician					
Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)					
Nursing					
Occupational Therapist					
Orientation and Mobility Teacher					
Physical Therapist					
Registered Behavior Technicians					
School Psychologist					
Sensory Evaluations (Autism)					
Speech Language Pathologist					
Speech Language Pathologist Assistant (SLPA)					
Special Education Teacher					
Special Education Co-Teacher (Paraprofessional)					
Visual Impairment Teacher					
Tampa Bay, Florida					
Special Education Instructional & Related Services	Can Services be Provided? Yes or No	Can this service be provided In-Person, Virtual or Both?	Can Services be Provided for ALL Campuses in the Region? Yes or No <i>If No, which campuses can be serviced?</i>	Tampa Bay Campus List	
				<b>*Campuses are provided for information purposes only.</b>	
				Campus	Address
Adaptive Physical Education				IDEA Hope	5050 E 10th Ave Tampa, FL 33619
Assistive Technology Evaluations (Autism)				IDEA Victory	11612 N Nebraska Ave Tampa, FL 33612
Auditory Impairment/Deaf Ed Teacher				IDEA Lakeland	1775 Interstate Dr. Lakeland, FL 33805
Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)					
Brailleist					
Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA)					
Educational Diagnostician					
Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)					
Nursing					
Occupational Therapist					
Orientation and Mobility Teacher					
Physical Therapist					
Registered Behavior Technicians					
School Psychologist					
Sensory Evaluations (Autism)					
Speech Language Pathologist					
Speech Language Pathologist Assistant (SLPA)					
Special Education Teacher					
Special Education Co-Teacher (Paraprofessional)					
Visual Impairment Teacher					

## Attachment H – Vendor Questionnaire

*All questions must be answered with the submission of qualifications.*

1. Please describe the types of services your company can provide in each of our requested regions.

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2. Can your company provide its own testing kits, protocols, equipment, and laptop for services that you can provide? IDEA will not be providing these if your company cannot provide these.

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3. Can your company provide 9-week quotes/estimates of services typically around the following dates: August 7- October 6, October 9 – December 15, January 4 – March 8, March 18 – May 31, and June 1 – June 30?

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4. Can your company provide monthly invoices by the second business day of the following month for services provided? **Yes or No.** If Invoices cannot be submitted by the second business day of the following month explain why.

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5. Does your company have staffed providers in all disciplines and all locations that have been outlined in your qualifications submission or will your company staff providers after awarded a contract, if awarded, or after the request is made of needed disciplines?

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6. Please provide your rate sheet for all services you can provide in each of the regions specified within the RFQ (**rate sheet shall be submitted with statement for qualifications**).

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## Attachment I – RFQ Completion Checklist

**The documents below are required for statement of qualifications submission to be considered complete. Failure to submit the required documents may result in a statement of qualifications being deemed nonresponsive.**

- Cover Letter
- Table of Contents
- Respondent(s)/Individual Profile
- Approach to Services and Methodology
- Attachment A – Title Page
- Attachment B – Respondent Certification
- Attachment C – Certification Regarding Lobbying
- Attachment D – Debarment or Suspension Certification
- Attachment E – Reference Sheet (minimum of 3 verifiable references)
- Attachment F – Proof of Insurance or Bonding Requirements
- Attachment G – Geographic Coverage
- Attachment H – Vendor Questionnaire
- Attachment I – RFQ Completion Checklist
- By selecting this checkbox, the vendor acknowledges and agrees to the terms and conditions outlined in this solicitation document.**

**END OF IDEA FLORIDA, INC. RFQ**