

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS ~ STANDARD CONTRACT FORM



This form is jointly issued and published by the Office of the Comptroller (CTR), the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (ANF), and the Operational Services Division (OSD) as the default contract for all Commonwealth Departments when another form is not prescribed by regulation or policy. The Commonwealth deems void any changes made on or by attachment (in the form of addendum, engagement letters, contract forms or invoice terms) to the terms in this published form or to the [Standard Contract Form Instructions](#) and [Contractor Certifications](#), the [Commonwealth Terms and Conditions](#), the [Commonwealth Terms and Conditions for Human and Social Services](#) or the [Commonwealth IT Terms and Conditions](#) which are incorporated by reference herein. Additional non-conflicting terms may be added by Attachment. Contractors are required to access published forms at CTR Forms: <https://www.macomptroller.org/forms>. Forms are also posted at OSD Forms: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/osd-forms>.

CONTRACTOR LEGAL NAME: (and d/b/a):		COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT NAME: MMARS Department Code:	
Legal Address: (W-9, W-4):		Business Mailing Address:	
Contract Manager:	Phone:	Billing Address (if different):	
E-Mail:	Fax:	Contract Manager:	Phone:
Contractor Vendor Code: VC		E-Mail:	Fax:
Vendor Code Address ID (e.g. "AD001"): AD ____ (Note: The Address ID must be set up for EFT payments.)		MMARS Doc ID(s):	
		RFR/Procurement or Other ID Number:	
NEW CONTRACT PROCUREMENT OR EXCEPTION TYPE: (Check one option only) <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Contract (OSD or an OSD-designated Department) <input type="checkbox"/> Collective Purchase (Attach OSD approval, scope, budget) <input type="checkbox"/> Department Procurement (includes all Grants - 815 CMR 2.00) (Solicitation Notice or RFR, and Response or other procurement supporting documentation) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Contract (Attach justification for emergency, scope, budget) <input type="checkbox"/> Contract Employee (Attach Employment Status Form, scope, budget) <input type="checkbox"/> Other Procurement Exception (Attach authorizing language, legislation with specific exemption or earmark, and exception justification, scope and budget)		____ CONTRACT AMENDMENT Enter Current Contract End Date <i>Prior</i> to Amendment: ____, 20 ____. Enter Amendment Amount: \$ _____. (or "no change") AMENDMENT TYPE: (Check one option only. Attach details of amendment changes.) <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment to Date, Scope or Budget (Attach updated scope and budget) <input type="checkbox"/> Interim Contract (Attach justification for Interim Contract and updated scope/budget) <input type="checkbox"/> Contract Employee (Attach any updates to scope or budget) <input type="checkbox"/> Other Procurement Exception (Attach authorizing language/justification and updated scope and budget)	
The Standard Contract Form Instructions and Contractor Certifications and the following Commonwealth Terms and Conditions document are incorporated by reference into this Contract and are legally binding: (Check ONE option): Commonwealth Terms and Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth Terms and Conditions For Human and Social Services <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth IT Terms and Conditions <input type="checkbox"/>			
COMPENSATION: (Check ONE option): The Department certifies that payments for authorized performance accepted in accordance with the terms of this Contract will be supported in the state accounting system by sufficient appropriations or other non-appropriated funds, subject to intercept for Commonwealth owed debts under 815 CMR 9.00 . <input type="checkbox"/> Rate Contract. (No Maximum Obligation) Attach details of all rates, units, calculations, conditions or terms and any changes if rates or terms are being amended.) <input type="checkbox"/> Maximum Obligation Contract. Enter total maximum obligation for total duration of this contract (or new total if Contract is being amended). \$ _____.			
PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNTS (PPD): Commonwealth payments are issued through EFT 45 days from invoice receipt. Contractors requesting accelerated payments must identify a PPD as follows: Payment issued within 10 days ___% PPD; Payment issued within 15 days ___% PPD; Payment issued within 20 days ___% PPD; Payment issued within 30 days ___% PPD. If PPD percentages are left blank, identify reason: ___agree to standard 45 day cycle ___statutory/legal or Ready Payments (M.G.L. c. 29, § 23A); ___ only initial payment (subsequent payments scheduled to support standard EFT 45 day payment cycle. See Prompt Pay Discounts Policy.)			
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CONTRACT PERFORMANCE or REASON FOR AMENDMENT: (Enter the Contract title, purpose, fiscal year(s) and a detailed description of the scope of performance or what is being amended for a Contract Amendment. Attach all supporting documentation and justifications.)			
ANTICIPATED START DATE: (Complete ONE option only) The Department and Contractor certify for this Contract, or Contract Amendment, that Contract obligations: ___ 1. may be incurred as of the Effective Date (latest signature date below) and no obligations have been incurred prior to the Effective Date. ___ 2. may be incurred as of ____, 20____, a date LATER than the Effective Date below and no obligations have been incurred prior to the Effective Date. ___ 3. were incurred as of ____, 20____, a date PRIOR to the Effective Date below, and the parties agree that payments for any obligations incurred prior to the Effective Date are authorized to be made either as settlement payments or as authorized reimbursement payments, and that the details and circumstances of all obligations under this Contract are attached and incorporated into this Contract. Acceptance of payments forever releases the Commonwealth from further claims related to these obligations.			
CONTRACT END DATE: Contract performance shall terminate as of ____, 20____, with no new obligations being incurred after this date unless the Contract is properly amended, provided that the terms of this Contract and performance expectations and obligations shall survive its termination for the purpose of resolving any claim or dispute, for completing any negotiated terms and warranties, to allow any close out or transition performance, reporting, invoicing or final payments, or during any lapse between amendments.			
CERTIFICATIONS: Notwithstanding verbal or other representations by the parties, the " Effective Date " of this Contract or Amendment shall be the latest date that this Contract or Amendment has been executed by an authorized signatory of the Contractor, the Department, or a later Contract or Amendment Start Date specified above, subject to any required approvals. The Contractor certifies that they have accessed and reviewed all documents incorporated by reference as electronically published and the Contractor makes all certifications required under the Standard Contract Form Instructions and Contractor Certifications under the pains and penalties of perjury, and further agrees to provide any required documentation upon request to support compliance, and agrees that all terms governing performance of this Contract and doing business in Massachusetts are attached or incorporated by reference herein according to the following hierarchy of document precedence, the applicable Commonwealth Terms and Conditions, this Standard Contract Form, the Standard Contract Form Instructions and Contractor Certifications, the Request for Response (RFR) or other solicitation, the Contractor's Response (excluding any language stricken by a Department as unacceptable, and additional negotiated terms, provided that additional negotiated terms will take precedence over the relevant terms in the RFR and the Contractor's Response only if made using the process outlined in 801 CMR 21.07 , incorporated herein, provided that any amended RFR or Response terms result in best value, lower costs, or a more cost effective Contract.			
AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE FOR THE CONTRACTOR: X: _____ Date: _____ (Signature and Date Must Be Handwritten At Time of Signature) Print Name: _____ Print Title: _____		AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE FOR THE COMMONWEALTH: X: _____ Date: _____ (Signature and Date Must Be Handwritten At Time of Signature) Print Name: _____ Print Title: _____	



STANDARD CONTRACT FORM INSTRUCTIONS

CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATIONS

COMMONWEALTH TERMS AND CONDITIONS

INSTRUCTIONS

The following Instructions, Contractor Certifications and the applicable Commonwealth Terms and Conditions are incorporated by reference into an executed Standard Contract Form. Instructions are provided to assist with completion of the Standard Contract Form. Additional terms are incorporated by reference. Links to legal citations are to unofficial versions and Departments and Contractors should consult with their legal counsel to ensure compliance with all legal requirements. Please note that not all applicable laws have been cited.

Contractor Legal Name (and D/B/A): Enter the **Full Legal Name** of the Contractor's business as it appears on the Contractor's W-9 or W-4 Form (Contract Employees only) and the applicable Commonwealth Terms and Conditions. If Contractor also has a "doing business as" (d/b/a) name, BOTH the legal name and the "d/b/a" name must appear in this section.

Contractor Legal Address: Enter the Legal Address of the Contractor as it appears on the Contractor's W-9 or W-4 Form (Contract Employees only) which must match the legal address on the 1099I table in MMARS (or the Legal Address in HR/CMS for a Contract Employee).

Contractor Contract Manager: Enter the authorized Contract Manager who will be responsible for managing the Contract. The Contract Manager should be an Authorized Signatory or, at a minimum, a person designated by the Contractor to represent the Contractor, receive legal notices and negotiate ongoing Contract issues. The Contract Manager is considered "Key Personnel" and may not be changed without the prior written approval of the Department. If the Contract is posted on COMMBUYS, the name of the Contract Manager must be included in the Contract on COMMBUYS.

Contractor E-Mail Address/Phone/Fax: Enter the electronic mail (e-mail) address, phone and fax number of the Contractor Contract Manager. This information must be kept current by the Contractor to ensure that the Department can contact the Contractor and provide any required legal notices. Notice received by the Contract Manager (with confirmation of actual receipt) through the listed address, fax number(s) or e-mail address will meet any written legal notice requirements.

Contractor Vendor Code: The Department must enter the MMARS Vendor Code assigned by the Commonwealth. If a Vendor Code has not yet been assigned, leave this space blank and the Department will complete this section when a Vendor Code has been assigned. The Department is responsible under the Vendor File and W-9s Policy for verifying with authorized signatories of the Contractor, as part of contract execution, that the legal name, address and Federal Tax Identification Number (TIN) in the Contract documents match the state accounting system.

Vendor Code Address ID: (e.g., "AD001") The Department must enter the MMARS Vendor Code Address ID identifying the payment remittance address for Contract payments, which MUST be set up for EFT payments PRIOR to the first payment under the Contract in accordance with the Bill Paying and Vendor File and W-9 policies.

Commonwealth Department Name: Enter the full Department name with the authority to obligate funds encumbered for the Contract.

Commonwealth MMARS Alpha Department Code: Enter the three (3) letter MMARS Code assigned to this Commonwealth Department in the state accounting system.

Department Business Mailing Address: Enter the address where all formal correspondence to the Department must be sent. Unless otherwise specified in the Contract, legal notice sent or received by the Department's Contract Manager

(with confirmation of actual receipt) through the listed address, fax number(s) or e-mail address for the Contract Manager will meet any requirements for legal notice.

Department Billing Address: Enter the Billing Address or e-mail address if invoices must be sent to a different location. Billing, confirmation of delivery or performance issues should be resolved through the listed Contract Managers.

Department Contract Manager: Identify the authorized Contract Manager who will be responsible for managing the Contract, who should be an authorized signatory or an employee designated by the Department to represent the Department to receive legal notices and negotiate ongoing Contract issues.

Department E-Mail Address/Phone/Fax: Enter the e-mail address, phone and fax number of the Department Contract Manager. Unless otherwise specified in the Contract, legal notice sent or received by the Contract Manager (with confirmation of actual receipt) through the listed address, fax number(s) or e-mail address will meet any requirements for written notice under the Contract.

MMARS Document ID(s): Enter the MMARS 20-character encumbrance transaction number associated with this Contract, which must remain the same for the life of the Contract. If multiple numbers exist for this Contract, identify all Document IDs.

RFR/Procurement or Other ID Number or Name: Enter the Request for Response (RFR) or other Procurement Reference number, Contract ID Number or other reference or tracking number for this Contract or Amendment which will be entered into the Board Award Field in the MMARS encumbrance transaction for this Contract.

NEW CONTRACTS (Left Side of Form):

Complete this section ONLY if this Contract is brand new. (Complete the CONTRACT AMENDMENT section for any material changes to an existing or an expired Contract, and for exercising options to renew or annual contracts under a multi-year procurement or grant program.)

Procurement or Exception Type: Check the appropriate type of procurement or exception for this Contract. Only one option can be selected. See the Office of the Comptroller Guidance for Vendors Policies (State Finance Law and General Requirements, Acquisition Policy and Fixed Assets) and the Operational Services Division Conducting Best Value Procurements Handbook for details.

Statewide Contract (OSD or an OSD-designated Department): Check this option for a Statewide Contract under OSD, or by an OSD-designated Department.

Collective Purchase approved by OSD: Check this option for Contracts approved by OSD for collective purchases through federal, state, or local government or other entities.

Department Procurement: Check this option for a Department contract procurement including state grants and federal sub-grants under [815 CMR 2.00](#) and State Grants and Federal Subgrants Policy, Departmental Master Agreements (MA). If this is a multi-Department user Contract, state that multi-Department use is allowable in the section labeled "Brief Description."

Emergency Contract: Check this option when the Department has determined that an unforeseen crisis or incident has arisen which requires or mandates immediate purchases to avoid substantial harm to the functioning of government, the provision of necessary or mandated services, or where the health, welfare or safety of clients or other persons or serious damage to property is threatened.

Contract Employee: Check this option when the Department requires the performance of an Individual Contractor, and when the planned Contract performance with an Individual has been classified using the Employment Status



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Form (prior to the Contractor's selection) as work of a Contract Employee and not that of an Independent Contractor.

Other Procurement Exception: Check this option when another procurement exception exists, such as legislation with specific language naming the Contractor as a recipient of a grant or contract, an existing legal obligation, a prohibition or other circumstance that exempts or prohibits a Contract from being competitively procured, or identify any other procurement exception not already listed. Legislative "earmarks" exempt the Contract solely from procurement requirements; all other Contract and state finance laws and policies apply. Supporting documentation must be attached to explain and justify the exemption.

CONTRACT AMENDMENT (Right Side of Form)

Complete this section for any Contract being renewed, amended, or to continue a lapsed Contract. All Contracts with available options to renew must be amended referencing the original procurement and Contract Document IDs, since all continuing contracts must be maintained in the same Contract file (even if the underlying appropriation changes each fiscal year). See "Amendments, Suspensions, and Termination Policy."

Enter Current Contract End Date: Enter the termination date of the Current Contract being amended, even if this date has already passed. (Note: Current Start Date is not requested since this date does not change and is already recorded in MMARS.)

Enter Amendment Amount: Enter the amount of the Amendment increase or decrease to a Maximum Obligation Contract. Enter "no change" for Rate Contracts or if there is no change.

Amendment Type: Identify the type of Amendment being made. Documentation supporting the updates to performance and budget must be attached.

Amendment to Date, Scope or Budget: Check this option when renewing a Contract or executing an Amendment ("material change" in Contract terms) even if the Contract has lapsed. The parties may negotiate a change in any element of Contract performance or cost identified in the RFR or the Contractor's response which results in lower costs, or a more cost-effective or better value performance than was presented in the original selected response, provided the negotiation results in a better value within the scope of the RFR than what was proposed by the Contractor in the original selected response. Any "material change" in the Contract terms must be memorialized in a formal Amendment even if a corresponding MMARS transaction is not needed to support the change. Additional negotiated terms will take precedence over the relevant terms in the RFR and the Contractor's Response only if made using the process outlined in [801 CMR 21.07](#), incorporated herein, provided that any amended RFR or Response terms result in best value, lower costs, or a more cost effective Contract.

Interim Contracts: Check this option for an Interim Contract to prevent a lapse of Contract performance whenever an existing Contract is being re-procured but the new procurement has not been completed, to bridge the gap during implementation between an expiring and a new procurement, or to contract with an interim Contractor when a current Contractor is unable to complete full performance under a Contract.

Contract Employee: Check this option when the Department requires a renewal or other amendment to the performance of a Contract Employee.

Other Procurement Exception: Check this option when another procurement exception exists, such as legislation with specific language naming the Contractor as a recipient of a grant or contract; an existing legal obligation; a prohibition or other circumstance that exempts or prohibits a Contract from being

competitively procured, or identify any other procurement exception not already listed. Legislative "earmarks" exempt the Contract solely from procurement requirements, and all other Contract and state finance laws and policies apply. Attach Supporting documentation to explain and justify the exemption and whether Contractor selection has been publicly posted.

COMMONWEALTH TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Identify which version of the Commonwealth Terms and Conditions is incorporated by reference into this Contract: the Commonwealth Terms and Conditions (TC), the Commonwealth IT Terms and Conditions (TC-IT), or the Commonwealth Terms and Conditions for Human and Social Services (TC-HHS). The Comptroller Expenditure Classification Handbook identifies the applicable Commonwealth Terms and Conditions based upon the object code for the contract.

COMPENSATION

Identify if the Contract is a **Rate Contract** (with no stated Maximum Obligation) or a **Maximum Obligation Contract** (with a stated Maximum Obligation) and identify the Maximum Obligation. If the Contract is being amended, enter the new Maximum Obligation based upon the increase or decreasing Amendment. The Total Maximum Obligation must reflect the total funding for the dates of service under the contract, including the Amendment amount if the Contract is being amended. The Maximum Obligation must match the MMARS encumbrance. Funding and allotments must be verified as available and encumbered prior to incurring obligations. If a Contract includes both a Maximum Obligation component and Rate Contract component, check off both. Specific Maximum Obligation amounts or amended amounts and Attachments must clearly outline the Contract breakdown to match the encumbrance.

PROMPT PAY DISCOUNTS

Payments are processed within a 45 day payment cycle through EFT, in accordance with the Commonwealth Bill Paying Policy for investment and cash flow purposes. Departments may NOT negotiate accelerated payments and Payees are NOT entitled to accelerated payments UNLESS a prompt payment discount (PPD) is provided to support the Commonwealth's loss of investment earnings for this earlier payment, or unless a payment is legally mandated to be made in less than 45 days (e.g. construction contracts, Ready Payments under [M.G.L. c. 29, § 23A](#)). See Prompt Pay Discounts Policy. PPD are identified as a percentage discount which will be automatically deducted when an accelerated payment is made. Reduced contracts rates may not be negotiated to replace a PPD. If PPD fields are left blank, please identify that the Contractor agrees to the standard 45 day cycle, a statutory/legal exemption such as Ready Payments ([M.G.L. c. 29, § 23A](#)), or only an initial accelerated payment for reimbursements or startup costs for a grant, with subsequent payments scheduled to support standard EFT 45 day payment cycle. Financial hardship is not a sufficient justification to accelerate cash flow for *all* payments under a Contract. Initial grant or contract payments may be accelerated for the *first* invoice or initial grant installment, but subsequent periodic installments or invoice payments should be scheduled to support the Payee cash flow needs and the standard 45 day EFT payment cycle, in accordance with the Bill Paying Policy. Any accelerated payment that does not provide for a PPD must have a legal justification in the Contract file for audit purposes explaining why accelerated payments were allowable without a PPD.



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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CONTRACT PERFORMANCE

Enter a brief description of the Contract performance, project name or other identifying information for the Contract to specifically identify the Contract performance, match the Contract with attachments, determine the appropriate expenditure code (as listed in the [Expenditure Classification Handbook](#)) or to identify or clarify important information related to the Contract such as the Fiscal Year(s) of performance (ex. "FY2021" or "FY2021-23"). Identify settlements or other exceptions and attach more detailed justification and supporting documents. Enter "Multi-Department Use" if other Departments can access the procurement. For Amendments, identify the purpose and what items are being amended. Merely stating "see attached" or referencing attachments without a narrative description of performance is insufficient.

ANTICIPATED START DATE

The Department and Contractor must certify when obligations under this Contract/Amendment may be incurred. Option 1 is the default option when performance may begin as of the Effective Date (latest signature date and any required approvals). If the parties want a new Contract or renewal to begin as of the upcoming fiscal year then list the fiscal year(s) (ex. "FY2021" or "FY2021-23") in the Brief Description section. Performance starts and encumbrances reflect the default Effective Date (if no FY is listed) or the later FY start date (if a FY is listed). Use Option 2 only when the Contract will be signed well in advance of the start date and identify a specific future start date. Do not use Option 2 for a fiscal year start unless it is certain that the Contract will be signed prior to the fiscal year. Option 3 is used in lieu of the Settlement and Release Form when the Contract/Amendment is signed late, and obligations are incurred by the Contractor prior to the Effective Date, which the Department has either requested, accepted, or deemed legally eligible for reimbursement, and the Contract includes supporting documents justifying the performance or proof of eligibility and approximate costs. Any obligations incurred outside the scope of the Effective Date under any Option listed, even if the incorrect Option is selected, shall be automatically deemed a settlement included under the terms of the Contract and upon payment to the Contractor will release the Commonwealth from further obligations for the identified performance. All settlement payments require justification and must be under the same encumbrance and object codes as the Contract payments. Performance dates are subject to [M.G.L. c. 4, § 9](#).

CONTRACT END DATE

The Department must enter the date that Contract performance will terminate. **If the Contract is being amended and the Contract End Date is not changing, this date must be entered again here.** A Contract must be signed for at least the initial duration but not longer than the period of procurement listed in the RFR, or other solicitation document (if applicable). No new performance is allowable beyond the end date without an amendment, but the Department may allow a Contractor to complete minimal close out performance obligations if substantial performance has been made prior to the termination date of the Contract and prior to the end of the fiscal year in which payments are appropriated, provided that close out performance is subject to appropriation and funding limits under state finance law, and CTR may adjust encumbrances and payments in the state accounting system to enable final close out payments. Performance dates are subject to [M.G.L. c. 4, § 9](#).

CONTRACTOR AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES FOR EXECUTION

See Comptroller policies entitled "Department Head Signature Authorization" and "Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing" for guidance.

Authorizing Signature for Contractor/Date: The Authorized Contractor Signatory must (in their own handwriting and in ink) sign AND enter the date the Contract is signed. See section above under "Anticipated Contract Start Date." Acceptance of payment by the Contractor shall waive any right of the Contractor to claim the Contract/Amendment is not valid and the Contractor may not void the Contract. **Rubber stamps are not acceptable.** Proof of Contractor signature authorization on a **Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing** may be required by the Department if not already on file. **See the Commonwealth's policy on electronic or digital signatures.**

Contractor Name/Title: The Contractor Authorized Signatory's name and title must appear legibly as it appears on the **Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing.**

Authorizing Signature For Commonwealth/Date: The Authorized Department Signatory must (in their own handwriting and in ink) sign AND enter the date the Contract is signed. See section above under "Anticipated Start Date." **Rubber stamps are not acceptable.** The Authorized Signatory must be an employee within the Department legally responsible for the Contract. See Department Head Signature Authorization. The Department must have the legislative funding appropriated for all the costs of this Contract or funding allocated under an approved Interdepartmental Service Agreement (ISA). A Department may not contract for performance to be delivered to or by another state department without specific legislative authorization (unless this Contract is a Statewide Contract). For Contracts requiring Secretariat signoff, evidence of Secretariat signoff must be included in the Contract file.

Department Name/Title: Legibly enter Authorized Signatory's name and title.

CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATIONS AND LEGAL REFERENCES

Notwithstanding verbal or other representations by the parties, the "Effective Date" of this Contract or Amendment shall be the latest date that this Contract or Amendment has been executed by an authorized signatory of the Contractor, the Department, or a later Contract or Amendment Start Date specified, subject to any required approvals. The Contractor makes all certifications required under this Contract under the pains and penalties of perjury, and agrees to provide any required documentation upon request to support compliance, and agrees that all terms governing performance of this Contract and doing business in Massachusetts are attached or incorporated by reference herein.

Commonwealth and Contractor Ownership Rights. The Contractor certifies and agrees that the Commonwealth is entitled to ownership and possession of all "deliverables" purchased or developed with Contract funds. A Department may not relinquish Commonwealth rights to deliverables nor may Contractors sell products developed with Commonwealth resources without just compensation. The Contract should detail all Commonwealth deliverables and ownership rights and any Contractor proprietary rights.

Qualifications. The Contractor certifies that it is qualified and shall at all times remain qualified to perform this Contract, and that performance shall be timely and meet or exceed industry standards for the performance required, which includes obtaining requisite licenses, registrations, permits, resources for performance, and sufficient professional, liability, and other appropriate insurance to cover the performance. If the Contractor is a business, the Contractor certifies that it is listed under the Secretary of State's website as licensed to do business in Massachusetts, as required by law.

Laws and Regulations Prohibiting Discrimination and Human Trafficking. Contractors acknowledge and certify as a condition of this Contract that they are responsible for complying fully with all state and federal laws prohibiting



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discrimination, human trafficking, and forced labor, including but not limited to M.G.L. c. 265 §§ 49-57.

Business Ethics and Fraud, Waste and Abuse Prevention. The Contractor certifies that performance under this Contract, in addition to meeting the terms of the Contract, will be made using ethical business standards and good stewardship of taxpayer and other public funding and resources to prevent fraud, waste and abuse.

Collusion. The Contractor certifies that this Contract has been offered in good faith and without collusion, fraud, or unfair trade practices with any other person, and that any actions to avoid or frustrate fair and open competition are prohibited by law and shall be grounds for rejection or disqualification of a Response or termination of this Contract.

Public Records and Access. The Contractor shall provide full access to records related to performance and compliance to the Department and officials listed under [Executive Order 195](#) and [M.G.L. c. 11, § 12](#) for six (6) years beginning on the first day after the final payment under this Contract or such longer period as necessary for the resolution of any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit or other inquiry involving this Contract. Access to view Contractor records related to any breach or allegation of fraud, waste and/or abuse may not be denied and Contractor can not claim confidentiality or trade secret protections solely for viewing but not retaining documents. Routine Contract performance compliance reports or documents related to any alleged breach or allegation of non-compliance, fraud, waste, abuse or collusion may be provided electronically and shall be provided at Contractor's own expense. Reasonable costs for copies of non-routine Contract related records shall not exceed the rates for public records under [950 CMR 32.00](#).

Debarment. The Contractor certifies that neither it nor any of its subcontractors are currently debarred or suspended by the federal or state government under any law or regulation including [Executive Order 147](#); [M.G.L. c. 29, § 29F](#); [M.G.L. c. 30, § 39R](#); [M.G.L. c. 149 §§ 27C, 44C and 148B](#); and [M.G.L. c. 152, § 25C](#).

Applicable Laws. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable state laws and regulations including, but not limited to, the Massachusetts General Laws; the Official Code of Massachusetts Regulations; Code of Massachusetts Regulations (unofficial); [801 CMR 21.00](#) (Procurement of Commodity and Service Procurements, Including Human and Social Services); [815 CMR 2.00](#) (Grants and Subsidies); [808 CMR 1.00](#) (Compliance, Reporting and Auditing for Human And Social Services); AICPA Standards; confidentiality of Department records under [M.G.L. c. 66A](#); and the [Massachusetts Constitution Article XVIII](#), if applicable.

Invoices. The Contractor must submit invoices in accordance with the terms of the Contract and the Commonwealth Bill Paying Policy. Contractors must be able to reconcile and properly attribute concurrent payments from multiple Departments. Final invoices in any fiscal year must be submitted no later than August 15 for performance made and received (goods delivered, services completed) prior to June 30, in order to make payment for that performance prior to the close of the fiscal year to prevent reversion of appropriated funds. Failure to submit timely invoices by August 15 or other date listed in the Contract shall authorize the Department to issue an estimated payment based upon the Department's determination of performance delivered and accepted. The Contractor's acceptance of an estimated payment releases the Commonwealth from further claims for these invoices. **If budgetary funds revert due to the Contractor's failure to submit timely final invoices, or for disputing an estimated payment, the Department may deduct a penalty of up to 10% from any final payment in the next fiscal year for failure to submit timely invoices.**

Payments Subject To Appropriation. Pursuant to [M.G.L. c. 29 §§ 26, 27 and 29](#), Departments are required to expend funds only for the purposes set forth by the Legislature and within the funding limits established through appropriation, allotment and subsidiary, including mandated allotment reductions triggered by [M.G.L. c. 29, § 9C](#). A Department cannot authorize or accept performance in excess of an existing appropriation and allotment, or sufficient non-appropriated available funds. Any oral or written representations, commitments, or assurances made by the Department or any other Commonwealth representative are not binding. The Commonwealth has no legal obligation to compensate a Contractor for performance that is not requested and is intentionally delivered by a Contractor outside the scope of a Contract. Contractors should verify funding prior to beginning performance.

Intercept. Contractors may be registered as Customers in the Vendor file if the Contractor owes a Commonwealth debt. Unresolved and undisputed debts, and overpayments of Contract payments that are not reimbursed timely shall be subject to intercept pursuant to [M.G.L. c. 7A, § 3](#) and [815 CMR 9.00](#). Contract overpayments will be subject to immediate intercept or payment offset. The Contractor may not penalize any state Department or assess late fees, cancel a Contract or other services if amounts are intercepted or offset due to recoupment of an overpayment, outstanding taxes, child support, other overdue debts or Contract overpayments.

Tax Law Compliance. The Contractor certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury: (1) tax compliance with federal tax laws; (2) tax compliance with state tax laws including, but not limited to, [M.G.L. c. 62C, § 49A](#), reporting of employees and contractors, withholding and remitting of tax withholdings and child support; and (3) Contractor is in good standing with respect to all state taxes and returns due, reporting of employees and contractors under [M.G.L. c. 62E](#), withholding and remitting child support including [M.G.L. c. 119A, § 12](#), TIR 05-11, New Independent Contractor Provisions and applicable TIRs.

Bankruptcy, Judgments, Potential Structural Changes, Pending Legal Matters and Conflicts. The Contractor certifies it has not been in bankruptcy or receivership within the last three calendar years which would negatively impact Contractor's ability to fulfill the terms of this Contract or Amendment. Contractor certifies that it will immediately notify the Department, in writing, of any filing for bankruptcy and/or receivership, any potential structural change in its organization, or if there is any risk to the solvency of the Contractor that may impact the Contractor's ability to timely fulfill the terms of this Contract or Amendment. The Commonwealth reserves the right to request additional information regarding the financial viability of the Contractor and its ability to perform. The Contractor certifies that at any time during the period of the Contract the Contractor is required to affirmatively disclose in writing to the Department Contract Manager the details of any judgment, criminal conviction, investigation or litigation pending against the Contractor or any of its officers, directors, employees, agents, or subcontractors, including any potential conflicts of interest of which the Contractor has knowledge, or learns of during the Contract term. Law firms or Attorneys providing legal services are required to identify any potential conflict with representation of any Department client in accordance with Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers (BBO) rules.

Federal Anti-Lobbying and Other Federal Requirements. If receiving federal funds, the Contractor certifies compliance with federal anti-lobbying requirements including 31 USC § 1352; other federal requirements; Federal Executive Order 11246; Air Pollution Act; Federal Water Pollution Control Act and Federal Employment Laws.

Protection of Commonwealth Data, Personal Data and Information. The Contractor certifies that all steps will be taken to ensure the security and



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confidentiality of all Commonwealth data for which the Contractor becomes a holder, either as part of performance or inadvertently during performance, with special attention to restricting access, use and disbursement of personal data and information under [M.G.L. c. 93H](#) and [c. 66A](#) and other applicable state and federal privacy requirements. The Contractor shall comply with [M.G.L. c. 93I](#) for the proper disposal of all paper and electronic media, backups or systems containing personal data and information. The Contractor shall also ensure that any personal data or information transmitted electronically or through a portable device is properly encrypted using (at a minimum) the Commonwealth's "Cryptographic Management Standard" set forth in the Enterprise Information Security Policies and Standards published by the Executive Office for Technology, Services and Security (EOTSS), or a comparable Standard prescribed by the Department. Contractors with access to credit card or banking information of Commonwealth customers certify that the Contractor is PCI compliant in accordance with the Payment Card Industry Council Standards, and shall provide confirmation of compliance during the Contract. The Contractor shall immediately notify the Department in the event of any security breach, including the unauthorized access, disbursement, use or disposal of personal data or information and, in the event of a security breach, the Contractor shall cooperate fully with the Commonwealth and provide access to any information necessary for the Commonwealth to respond to the security breach and shall be fully responsible for any damages associated with the Contractor's breach including, but not limited to, damages under [M.G.L. c. 214, § 3B](#).

For all Contracts involving the Contractor's access to personal information, as defined in [M.G.L. c. 93H](#), and personal data, as defined in [M.G.L. c. 66A](#), or access to Department systems containing such information or data, Contractor certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury that the Contractor: (1) has read [M.G.L. c. 93H](#) and [c. 66A](#) and agrees to protect any and all personal information and personal data; and (2) has reviewed all of the Enterprise Information Security Policies and Standards published by the Executive Office for Technology, Services and Security (EOTSS), or stricter standards prescribed by the Department. Notwithstanding any contractual provision to the contrary, in connection with the Contractor's performance under this Contract, for all Departments, including all offices, boards, commissions, agencies, departments, divisions, councils, bureaus, and offices, now existing and hereafter established, the Contractor shall: (1) obtain a copy, review, and comply with any pertinent security guidelines, standards, and policies; (2) comply with the Enterprise Information Security Policies and Standards published by the Executive Office for Technology, Services and Security (EOTSS), or a comparable set of policies and standards ("Information Security Policy") as prescribed by the Department; (3) communicate and enforce such security guidelines, standards, policies and the applicable Information Security Policy among all employees (whether such employees are direct or contracted) and subcontractors; (4) implement and maintain any other reasonable appropriate security procedures and practices necessary to protect personal information and data to which the Contractor is given access by the contracting Department from the unauthorized access, destruction, use, modification, disclosure or loss; (5) be responsible for the full or partial breach of any of these terms by its employees (whether such employees are direct or contracted) or subcontractors during or after the term of this Contract, and any breach of these terms may be regarded as a material breach of this Contract; (6) in the event of any unauthorized access, destruction, use, modification, disclosure or loss of the personal information or personal data (collectively referred to as the "unauthorized use"): (a) immediately notify the contracting Department if the Contractor becomes aware of the unauthorized use; (b) provide full cooperation and access to information necessary for the contracting Department to determine the scope of the unauthorized use; and (c)

provide full cooperation and access to information necessary for the contracting Department and the Contractor to fulfill any notification requirements. Breach of these terms may be regarded as a material breach of this Contract, such that the Commonwealth may exercise any and all contractual rights and remedies, including, without limitation, indemnification, withholding of payments, Contract suspension, or termination, pursuant to the [Commonwealth's Terms and Conditions](#), the Commonwealth IT Terms and Conditions, or the Commonwealth Terms and Conditions for Human and Social Services. In addition, the Contractor may be subject to applicable statutory or regulatory penalties, including, and without limitation, those imposed pursuant to [M.G.L. c. 93H](#) and under [M.G.L. c. 214, § 3B](#) for violations under [M.G.L. c. 66A](#).

Corporate and Business Filings and Reports. The Contractor certifies compliance with all certification, filing, reporting and service of process requirements of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the Office of the Attorney General or other Departments related to its conduct of business in the Commonwealth, and with relevant requirements of its incorporating state (or foreign entity).

Employer Requirements. Contractors that are employers certify compliance with applicable state and federal employment laws and regulations, including but not limited to prevailing wage laws at M.G.L. c. 149, §§ 26-27D (public construction work); M.G.L. c. 149, § 27F (use of trucks, vehicles and other equipment to perform public works functions); [M.G.L. c. 149, § 27G](#) (moving office furniture and fixtures); [M.G.L. c. 149, § 27H](#) (cleaning state office buildings or buildings leased by the state); [M.G.L. c. 6C, § 44](#) (MassDOT relocation of utilities or utility facility); [M.G.L. c. 7, § 22](#) (contracts for meat products and clothing and apparel); [M.G.L. c. 71, § 7A](#) (transportation of students to public schools); Chapter 195 of the Acts of 2014 (MA Convention Center Authority security guard services); minimum wage and overtime law and regulations ([M.G.L. c. 151](#) and 454 CMR 27.00); child labor laws (M.G.L. c. 149, §§ 56-105); all payment of wages, payroll and timekeeping records, earned sick time, meal breaks, domestic violence leave, temporary worker rights, domestic worker rights and anti-retaliation laws at M.G.L. c. 149 (Labor and Industries); [M.G.L. c. 151A](#) (unemployment insurance and contributions); [M.G.L. c. 152](#) (workers compensation and insurance); [M.G.L. c. 150A](#) (Labor Relations); [M.G.L. c. 153](#) (liability for injuries); 29 U.S.C. c. 8 (Federal Fair Labor Standards); 29 U.S.C. c. 28 (Federal Family and Medical Leave Act); M.G.L. c. 6, § 171A (applicant criminal record information); M.G.L. c. 149, § 105A (MA Equal Pay Act); and M.G.L. c. 175M (Paid Family Medical Leave Act).

Federal And State Laws And Regulations Prohibiting Discrimination. Contractors certify compliance with applicable state and federal anti-discrimination laws, including but not limited to the Federal Equal Employment (EEO) Laws; the Americans with Disabilities Act; 42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq., the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. § 794; 29 U.S.C. § 701; 29 U.S.C. § 623; 42 U.S.C. c. 45; (Federal Fair Housing Act); [M.G. L. c. 151B](#) (Unlawful Discrimination); [M.G.L. c. 151E](#) (Business Discrimination); the Public Accommodations Law [M.G.L. c. 272, § 92A](#); [M.G.L. c. 272, §§ 98](#) and [98A](#), [Massachusetts Constitution Article CXIV](#) and [M.G.L. c. 93, § 103](#); 47 USC § 255 (Telecommunication Act); [M.G.L. c. 149, § 105D](#), [M.G.L. c. 151C](#), M.G.L. c. 272, §§ 92A, [98](#) and [98A](#), and [M.G.L. c. 111, § 199A](#), and Massachusetts Disability-Based Non-Discrimination Standards For Executive Branch Entities, and related Standards and Guidance, authorized under Massachusetts Executive Order or any disability-based protection arising from state or federal law or precedent. See also MCAD and MCAD links and resources.



STANDARD CONTRACT FORM INSTRUCTIONS CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATIONS COMMONWEALTH TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Small Business Purchasing Program (SBPP). A Contractor may be eligible to participate in the SBPP, created pursuant to [Executive Order 523](#), if qualified through the SBPP COMMBUYS subscription process at: www.commbuys.com and with acceptance of the terms of the SBPP participation agreement.

Limitation of Liability. Contracts may not use the following limitation of liability language unless approved by legal staff at the Office of the Comptroller (CTR) or Operational Services Division (OSD), and it may not be used if a Department is utilizing the Commonwealth IT Terms and Conditions. The term “other damages” in Section 11 of the Commonwealth Terms and Conditions, “Indemnification,” shall include, but shall not be limited to, the reasonable costs the Commonwealth incurs to repair, return, replace or seek cover (purchase comparable substitute commodities and services) under a Contract. “Other damages” shall not include damages to the Commonwealth as a result of third party claims, provided, that this in no way limits the Commonwealth’s right of recovery for personal injury or property damages or patent and copyright infringement under Section 11 or the Commonwealth’s ability to join the contractor as a third party defendant. Further, the term “other damages” shall not include, and in no event shall the contractor be liable for, damages for the Commonwealth’s use of contractor provided products or services, loss of Commonwealth records, or data (or other intangible property), loss of use of equipment, lost revenue, lost savings or lost profits of the Commonwealth. In no event shall “other damages” exceed the greater of \$100,000, or two times the value of the product or service (as defined in the Contract scope of work) that is the subject of the claim. Section 11 sets forth the Contractor’s entire liability under a Contract. Nothing in this section shall limit the Commonwealth’s ability to negotiate higher limitations of liability in a particular Contract, provided that any such limitation must specifically reference Section 11 of the Commonwealth Terms and Conditions. In the event the limitation of liability conflicts with accounting standards which mandate that there can be no cap of damages, the limitation shall be considered waived for that audit engagement. The terms in this Clarification may not be modified.

Northern Ireland Certification. Pursuant to [M.G.L. c. 7, § 22C](#), for state agencies, state authorities, the state House of Representatives or the state Senate, by signing this Contract the Contractor certifies that it does not employ ten or more employees in an office or other facility in Northern Ireland or if the Contractor employs ten or more employees in an office or other facility located in Northern Ireland the Contractor certifies that it does not discriminate in employment, compensation, or the terms, conditions and privileges of employment on account of religious or political belief, and certifies that it promotes religious tolerance within the work place, and the eradication of any manifestations of religious and other illegal discrimination; and the Contractor is not engaged in the manufacture, distribution or sale of firearms, munitions, including rubber or plastic bullets, tear gas, armored vehicles or military aircraft for use or deployment in any activity in Northern Ireland.

Pandemic, Disaster or Emergency Performance. In the event of a serious emergency, pandemic or disaster outside the control of the Department, the Department may negotiate emergency performance from the Contractor to address the immediate needs of the Commonwealth even if not contemplated under the original Contract or procurement. Payments are subject to appropriation and other payment terms.

Attorneys. Attorneys or firms providing legal services or representing Commonwealth Departments may be subject to [M.G.L. c. 30, § 65](#), and if providing litigation services must be approved by the Office of the Attorney General to appear on behalf of a Department, and shall have a continuing obligation to notify the Commonwealth of any conflicts of interest arising under

the Contract.

Subcontractor Performance. The Contractor certifies full responsibility for Contract performance, including subcontractors, and that comparable Contract terms will be included in subcontracts, and that the Department will not be required to directly or indirectly manage subcontractors or have any payment obligations to subcontractors.

EXECUTIVE ORDERS

For covered Executive Departments, the Contractor certifies compliance with applicable Massachusetts Executive Orders including, but not limited to, the specific orders listed below. A breach during the period of a Contract may be considered a material breach and subject Contractor to appropriate monetary or Contract sanctions.

Executive Order 481. Prohibiting the Use of Undocumented Workers on State Contracts. For all state agencies in the Executive Branch, including all executive offices, boards, commissions, agencies, Departments, divisions, councils, bureaus, and offices, now existing and hereafter established, by signing this Contract the Contractor certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury that they shall not knowingly use undocumented workers in connection with the performance of this Contract; that, pursuant to federal requirements, they shall verify the immigration status of workers assigned to a Contract without engaging in unlawful discrimination; and shall not knowingly or recklessly alter, falsify, or accept altered or falsified documents from any such worker.

Executive Order 130. Anti-Boycott. The Contractor warrants, represents and agrees that during the time this Contract is in effect, neither it nor any affiliated company, as hereafter defined, participates in or cooperates with an international boycott (See IRC § 999(b)(3)-(4), and IRS Audit Guidelines Boycotts) or engages in conduct declared to be unlawful by [M.G.L. c. 151E, § 2](#). If there is a breach in the warranty, representation, and agreement contained in this paragraph, without limiting such other rights as it may have, the Commonwealth may rescind this Contract. As used herein, an affiliated company shall be a business entity of which at least 51% of the ownership interests are directly or indirectly owned by the Contractor or by a person or persons or business entity or entities directly or indirectly owning at least 51% of the ownership interests of the Contractor, or which directly or indirectly owns at least 51% of the ownership interests of the Contractor.

Executive Order 346. Hiring of State Employees By State Contractors. Contractor certifies compliance with both the conflict of interest law, including [M.G.L. c. 268A, § 5\(f\)](#) and this Order, which includes limitations regarding the hiring of state employees by private companies contracting with the Commonwealth. A privatization contract shall be deemed to include a specific prohibition against the hiring at any time during the term of Contract, and for any position in the Contractor’s company, of a state management employee who is, was, or will be involved in the preparation of the RFP, the negotiations leading to the awarding of the Contract, the decision to award the Contract, and/or the supervision or oversight of performance under the Contract.

Executive Order 444. Disclosure of Family Relationships With Other State Employees. Each person applying for employment (including Contract work) within the Executive Branch under the Governor must disclose in writing the names of all immediate family as well as persons related to immediate family by marriage who serve as employees or elected officials of the Commonwealth. All disclosures made by applicants hired by the Executive Branch under the Governor shall be made available for public inspection to the extent permissible by law by the official with whom such disclosure has been filed.



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Executive Orders 523, 526 and 565, Executive Order 523 (Establishing the Massachusetts Small Business Purchasing Program). [Executive Order 526](#) (Order Regarding Non-Discrimination, Diversity, Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action which supersedes Executive Order 478). [Executive Order 565](#) (Reaffirming and Expanding the Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Program). All programs, activities, and services provided, performed, licensed, chartered, funded, regulated, or contracted for by the state shall be conducted without unlawful discrimination based on race, color, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, disability, veteran's status (including Vietnam-era veterans), or background. The Contractor and any subcontractors may not engage in discriminatory employment practices. The Contractor certifies compliance with applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations governing fair labor and employment practices. The Contractor also commits to purchase supplies and services from certified minority, women, veteran, service-disabled veteran, LGBT or disability-owned businesses, small businesses, or businesses owned by socially or economically disadvantaged persons; and Contractor commits to comply with any Applicable Department contractual requirements pertaining to the employment of persons with disabilities pursuant to [M.G.L. c. 7 § 61\(s\)](#). These provisions shall be enforced through the contracting Department, OSD, and/or the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination. Any breach shall be regarded as a material breach of the contract that may subject the contractor to appropriate sanctions.

NO COMPLETE UNTIL INSTRUCTED



COMMONWEALTH TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTS

This Commonwealth Terms and Conditions for Information Technology Contracts (“IT Terms and Conditions”) form is jointly issued by the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS), the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (ANF), the Office of the Comptroller (CTR) and the Operational Services Division (OSD) for use by all Commonwealth of Massachusetts (“State”) Departments and Contractors to govern Contracts subject to the object codes for information technology, as defined by the Office of the Comptroller’s [Expenditure Classification Handbook](#), or other Contracts as expressly approved in writing by EOTSS, ANF, OSD, and CTR. Any changes or electronic alterations by either the Department or the Contractor to the official version of this form shall be void. Upon execution of the Standard Contract Form and filing as prescribed by the Office of the Comptroller, these IT Terms and Conditions will be incorporated by reference into any Contract for IT commodities or services executed by the Contractor and any State Department, in the absence of a superseding law or regulation requiring a different Contract form. Performance shall include services rendered, obligations due, costs incurred, commodities and deliverables provided and accepted by the Department, programs provided or other commitments authorized under a Contract. A deliverable shall include any tangible product to be delivered as an element of performance under a Contract. The Commonwealth is entitled to ownership and possession of all deliverables purchased or developed with State funds. The Commonwealth’s possession, installation, or use of proprietary IT commodities or services, developed by Contractor for the open market without the use of State funds, shall not transfer title or ownership thereof to the Commonwealth. A “Contract” shall mean, in the following order of priority: (i) these IT Terms and Conditions; (ii) the Standard Contract Form issued jointly by ANF, CTR and OSD, and the Standard Contract Form Instructions and Contractor Certifications; (iii) the Request for Response (RFR) or applicable solicitation document, as it may be amended by the Department; (iv) the Contractor’s response to the RFR or applicable solicitation document, as it may be amended by the Department and Contractor, including any negotiated terms and conditions allowable pursuant to law or regulation; (v) a solicitation created by the Department for a particular engagement such as a Request for Quote (RFQ), as it may be amended by the Department; (vi) any negotiated terms and conditions governing a particular engagement, as expressly agreed to in writing between the Department and the Contractor; and (vii) the Contractor’s response to the Department’s solicitation.

1. Contract Effective Start Date. Notwithstanding verbal or other representations by the parties, the effective start date of performance under a Contract shall be the later of the date the Contract was executed by an authorized signatory of the Contractor, the date the Contract was executed by an authorized signatory of the Department, the date specified in the Contract, or the date of any approvals required by law or regulation.

2. Payments And Compensation. The Contractor shall only be compensated for performance delivered and accepted by the Department in accordance with the specific terms and conditions of a Contract. The Department may, in its sole discretion, agree to pre-payment for subscription-based IT commodities or services for a term length as specified in the Contract. All Contract payments are subject to appropriation pursuant to M.G.L. c. 29, § 26, or the availability of sufficient non-appropriated funds for the purposes of a Contract, and shall be subject to intercept pursuant to M.G.L. c. 7A, § 3 and 815 CMR 9.00. Overpayments shall be reimbursed by the Contractor or may be offset by the Department from future payments in accordance with state finance law. Acceptance by the Contractor of any payment or partial payment, without any written objection by the Contractor, shall in each instance operate as a release and discharge of the State from all claims, liabilities or other obligations relating to the performance of a Contract.

3. Contractor Payment Mechanism. All Contractors will be paid using the Comptroller’s payment system unless a different payment mechanism is required. The Contractor shall timely submit invoices and supporting documentation as prescribed in a Contract. The Department shall review and return rejected invoices within fifteen (15) days of receipt with a written explanation for rejection. Payments shall be made in accordance with the bill paying policy issued by the Office of the Comptroller and 815 CMR 4.00, provided that payment periods listed in a Contract of less than forty-five (45) days from the date of receipt of an invoice shall be effective only to enable a Department to take advantage of early payment incentives and shall not subject any payment made within the forty-five (45) day period to a penalty. The Contractor Payroll System shall be used only for Individual Contractors who have been determined to be Contract Employees as a result of the Department’s completion of an Internal Revenue Service SS-8 form in accordance with the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1990, and shall automatically process all state and federal mandated payroll, tax and retirement deductions.

4. Contract Termination Or Suspension. A Contract shall terminate on the date specified in a Contract, unless this date is properly amended in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations prior to this date, or unless terminated or suspended under this Section upon prior written notice to the Contractor. The Department may, without penalty, terminate or suspend a Contract: (i) without cause; (ii) if the Contractor breaches any material term or condition or fails to perform or fulfill any material obligation required by a Contract; (iii) in the event of an elimination of an appropriation or availability of sufficient funds for the purposes of a Contract; or (iv) in the event of an unforeseen public emergency mandating immediate Department action. Upon immediate notification to the other party, neither the Department nor the Contractor shall be deemed to be in breach for failure or delay in performance due to Acts of God or other causes factually beyond their control and without their fault or negligence. Subcontractor failure to perform or price



COMMONWEALTH TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTS

increases due to market fluctuations or product availability will not be deemed factually beyond the Contractor's control.

5. Written Notice. Any notice shall be deemed delivered and received when submitted in writing in person or when delivered by any other appropriate method evidencing actual receipt by the Department or the Contractor. Any written notice of termination or suspension delivered to the Contractor shall state the effective date and period of the notice, the reasons for the termination or suspension, if applicable, any alleged breach or failure to perform, a reasonable period to cure any alleged breach or failure to perform, if applicable, and any instructions or restrictions concerning allowable activities, costs or expenditures by the Contractor during the notice period.

6. Confidentiality, Privacy and Protection of Data. The Contractor shall comply with M.G.L. c. 66A if the Contractor becomes a "holder" of "personal data" and shall comply with M.G.L. c. 93H if the Contractor accesses "personal information." The Contractor shall also protect the physical security and restrict any access to personal or other Department data in the Contractor's possession, or used by the Contractor in the performance of a Contract, which shall include, but is not limited to, the Department's public records, documents, files, software, equipment or systems. See also the Commonwealth's Standard Contract Form and the Enterprise Security Policies and Standards: <https://www.mass.gov/handbook/enterprise-information-security-policies-and-standards>.

7. Record-keeping And Retention, Inspection Of Records. The Contractor shall maintain records, books, files and other data as specified in a Contract and in such detail as shall properly substantiate claims for payment under a Contract, for a minimum retention period of six (6) years beginning on the first day after the final payment under a Contract, or such longer period as is necessary for the resolution of any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit or other inquiry involving a Contract. The Department shall have access, as well as any parties identified under Executive Order 195, during the Contractor's regular business hours and upon reasonable prior notice, to such records, including on-site reviews and reproduction of such records at a reasonable expense.

8. Assignment. The Contractor may not assign or delegate, in whole or in part, or otherwise transfer any liability, responsibility, obligation, duty or interest under a Contract, with the exception that the Contractor shall be authorized to assign present and prospective claims for money due to the Contractor pursuant to a Contract in accordance with M.G.L. c. 106, § 9-318. The Contractor must provide sufficient notice of assignment and supporting documentation to enable the Department to verify and implement the assignment. Payments to third party assignees will be processed as if such payments were being made directly to the Contractor and these payments will be subject to intercept, offset, counter claims or any other Department rights which are available to the Department or the State against the Contractor. Upon prompt written notice to the Contractor, the Department may assign or delegate, in whole or

in part, or transfer any liability, responsibility, obligation, duty or interest under a Contract, to another Department, provided that the assignee has agreed to take full responsibility of such Contract, liability, responsibility, obligation, duty or interest.

9. Subcontracting By Contractor. Any subcontract entered into by the Contractor for the purposes of fulfilling the obligations under a Contract must be in writing, authorized in advance by the Department and shall be consistent with and subject to the provisions of these IT Terms and Conditions and a Contract. Subcontracts will not relieve or discharge the Contractor from any duty, obligation, responsibility or liability arising under a Contract. The Contractor shall be responsible for the acts and omissions of its subcontractors. The Department is entitled to copies of all subcontracts and shall not be bound by any provisions contained in a subcontract to which it is not a party.

10. Affirmative Action, Non-Discrimination In Hiring And Employment. The Contractor shall comply with all federal and state laws, rules and regulations promoting fair employment practices or prohibiting employment discrimination and unfair labor practices and shall not discriminate in the hiring of any applicant for employment nor shall any qualified employee be demoted, discharged or otherwise subject to discrimination in the tenure, position, promotional opportunities, wages, benefits or terms and conditions of their employment because of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, religion, disability, handicap, sexual orientation or for exercising any rights afforded by law. The Contractor commits to purchasing supplies and services from certified minority or women-owned businesses, small businesses or businesses owned by socially or economically disadvantaged persons or persons with disabilities.

11. Liability. Unless otherwise exempted by law, and subject to Section 13, the Contractor shall be liable for any and all claims, liabilities, and costs which arise out of the Contractor's performance of a Contract.

12. Indemnification. The Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State, including the Department, its agents, officers and employees, against any and all claims, liabilities, and costs for personal injury, property damage, or infringement of intellectual property rights, (each an "Unlimited Claim"), and all claims, liabilities, and costs, in connection with a security or data breach, or unauthorized disclosure of data, (each, a "Data Breach"), and other claims, liabilities, and costs, which arise out of Contractor's performance of a Contract. After prompt notification by the State, the Contractor shall have an opportunity to participate in the defense of claims and any negotiated settlement agreement or judgment. The State shall not be liable for any costs incurred by the Contractor arising under this Section 12. The Contractor (including its agents, officers, employees or subcontractors) shall at no time be considered an agent or representative of the Department or the State. Any indemnification of the Contractor shall be subject to appropriation and applicable law.

13. Limitation of Liability. Absent a higher limitation of liability expressly agreed to in a particular Contract between the Department and the Contractor, the limitation of liability in this



COMMONWEALTH TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTS

Section 13 shall apply. This Section 13 shall not limit the State's right of recovery for the Contractor's indemnification obligations for an Unlimited Claim under Section 12, nor the State's ability to join the Contractor as a third-party defendant in connection with an Unlimited Claim or Data Breach. The Contractor's liability for any Data Breach shall not exceed the greater of: (i) \$250,000; (ii) the amount mandated by applicable State or Federal law; (iii) five times the total value of the Contract (or in the case of subscription-based Contracts, five times the total value of the Contract during the committed subscription term); or (iv) the total coverage provided by Contractor's insurance provider(s) for such Data Breach. The Contractor's liability for any other claim shall not exceed the greater of: (i) \$100,000; or (ii) two times the total value of the Contract (or in the case of subscription-based Contracts, two times the total value of the Contract during the committed subscription term). Except for the Contractor's indemnification obligations for an Unlimited Claim or Data Breach under Section 12, the Contractor shall not be liable for incidental or consequential damages, including without limitation, loss of use of equipment, lost revenue, lost savings or lost profits of the State.

14. Waivers. Forbearance or indulgence in any form or manner by a party shall not be construed as a waiver, nor in any way limit the legal or equitable remedies available to that party. No waiver by either party of any default or breach shall constitute a waiver of any subsequent default or breach.

15. Risk Of Loss. The Contractor shall bear the risk of loss for any Contractor materials used for a Contract and for all deliverables, Department personal or other data which is in the possession of the Contractor or used by the Contractor in the performance of a Contract until possession, ownership and full legal title to the deliverables are transferred to and accepted by the Department.

16. Forum, Choice of Law And Mediation. Any actions arising out of a Contract shall be governed by the laws of Massachusetts, and shall be brought and maintained in State court in Massachusetts, unless a federal court in Massachusetts has

exclusive jurisdiction thereof. The Department, with the approval of the Office of the Attorney General (AGO), may: (i) consent to the jurisdiction of federal courts outside of Massachusetts; or (ii) agree to voluntary mediation through the Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution (MODR) of any Contract dispute and will share the costs of such mediation with the Contractor. No legal or equitable rights of the parties shall be limited by this section.

17. Contract Boilerplate Interpretation, Severability, Conflicts With Law, Integration. Any amendment or attachment to any Contract which contains conflicting language or has the effect of deleting, replacing or modifying any printed language of these IT Terms and Conditions, as officially published by EOTSS, ANF, CTR and OSD, or any printed language of the Standard Contract Form shall be interpreted as superseded by the official printed language. If any provision of a Contract is found to be superseded by state or federal law or regulation, in whole or in part, then both parties shall be relieved of all obligations under that provision only to the extent necessary to comply with the superseding law, provided however, that the remaining provisions of the Contract, or portions thereof, shall be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law. All amendments must be executed by the parties in accordance with Section 1 of these IT Terms and Conditions and filed with the original record copy of a Contract as prescribed by CTR. The printed language of the Standard Contract Form, as officially published by ANF, CTR and OSD, which incorporates by reference these IT Terms and Conditions, shall supersede any conflicting verbal or written agreements relating to the performance of a Contract, or attached thereto, including contract forms, purchase orders or invoices of the Contractor.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Contractor certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury that it shall comply with these IT Terms and Conditions for any applicable Contract executed with the Commonwealth as certified by their authorized signatory signing the Standard Contract Form.

Commonwealth IT Terms and Conditions

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the goal of the IT Terms and Conditions?

A: The goal is to more closely align with current industry standards for IT contracting. We expect that the issuance of these new documents will:

- Encourage more IT companies of all sizes to submit responses to IT Requests for Response (RFRs) because of the more favorable limitation of liability provisions;
- Facilitate more streamlined negotiations; and
- Improve the pricing that the Commonwealth receives for some IT contracts since bidders may no longer increase costs to cover their current limitation of liability.

Q: How are the IT Terms and Conditions different from the Commonwealth Terms and Conditions?

A: A number of changes have been made to the Commonwealth Terms and Conditions to address unique issues with information technology contracts. The IT Terms and Conditions differ from the default Commonwealth Standard Terms and Conditions in the following ways:

First Unnumbered Paragraph

The current statement that the Commonwealth is entitled to ownership and possession of all deliverables purchased or developed with State funds is clarified. In addition, the definition of a “Contract” is expanded and moved to this paragraph.

Section 1. Contract Effective Date

The definition of the effective date and the signature process of the Department is clarified.

Section 4. Contract Termination Or Suspension.

The Department’s right to terminate or suspend without cause is clarified.

Section 6. Confidentiality, Privacy, and Protection of Data.

The reference to the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security Enterprise Information Security Policies and Standards from the Standard Contract Form Instructions’ section on “Protection of Commonwealth Data, Personal Data and Information” is mirrored here to make the two documents consistent. A reference to M.G.L. c. 93H is added.

Section 8. Assignment.

The Department’s ability to assign or delegate a Contract is specified.

Section 9. Subcontracting By Contractor.

The Contractor’s responsibilities regarding subcontractors are clarified.

Section 11. Liability.

A new Section 11 is added to address the Contractor’s liability under the Contract.

Section 12. Indemnification

A new Section 12 is added to address the Contractor’s obligation to indemnify the Department for three categories of claims: (i) Unlimited Claims, which consist of claims for personal injury, property

damage, or infringement of property rights; (ii) Data Breach, which consists of claims in connection with a security or data breach or unauthorized disclosure of data; and (iii) other claims. Subcategory (ii) has been added, as Data Breach is a major potential risk of IT Contracts.

Section 13. Limitation of Liability.

A new Section 13 is added to address limitations on the Contractor's liability. The Contractor's liability for Unlimited Claims remains uncapped, liability for Data Breach is capped at a higher amount, and liability for other claims is capped at a lower amount. The uncapped liability on Unlimited Claims and high cap on Data Breach provides robust protections to the Department. The stated caps on Data Breach and other claims provides visibility to the Contractor.

In addition, the Contractor's liability for incidental or consequential damages is removed. This change more closely aligns the IT Commonwealth Terms and Conditions with IT contracting structures used by Contractors.

Section 16. Forum, Choice of Law, and Mediation.

The Department's ability to approve of venue in a Federal Court outside of Massachusetts with the Attorney General's approval is clarified.

Q: How do I use the new IT Terms and Conditions?

The IT Terms and Conditions should be provided to bidders and prospective vendors during the solicitation process. The IT Terms and Conditions should be used in connection with the Commonwealth Standard Contract Form. Please check off "IT Terms and Conditions" on the corresponding Standard Contract Form prior to execution.

Q: When should a Department use the IT Terms and Conditions?

The IT Terms and Conditions should be used to govern Contracts subject to the object codes for information technology as defined by the Office of the Comptroller's [Expenditure Classification Handbook](#) or other contracts as expressly approved in writing by the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security, the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (ANF), the Operational Services Division (OSD), or the Office of the Comptroller (CTR).

Q: Whom can I contact for further information?

For further assistance, please contact EOTSS, CTR, or OSD.

For EOTSS: Contract Management (itcontracts@mass.gov)

For CTR: CTR Solution Desk (comptroller.info@mass.gov)

For OSD: OSD Legal Bureau (OSDLegal@osd.state.ma.us)