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## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

### THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI FORREST COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

#### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

#### USM POLYMER INSTITUTE ADDITION

Sealed bids will be received by the University of Southern Mississippi Physical Plant Division, located at West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401, until 2:00 p.m. local time, on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 for supplying all labor, equipment, and materials (as specified) necessary for the construction of the above referenced project. All bids so received will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The work shall consist essentially of the following items:

A 600 sq. ft. addition to The Accelerator building for the MS Polymer Institute. This space will be used to increase lab space and the production of new materials. Contractors will build to the specifications of the Architect.

The above general outline of features of the work does not in any way limit the responsibility of the contractor to perform all work and furnish all plant, labor, equipment and materials required by the specifications and the drawings referred to therein.

A pre-bid conference will be held Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 1:30 p.m., in the Henderson Physical Plant Department Conference Room at The University of Southern Mississippi, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. All interested Contractors and Subcontractors are highly encouraged to attend.

Digital bid documents are made available by EGH Architects, ATTN: Scott Eddy [seddy@egh.ms](mailto:seddy@egh.ms). For questions regarding the project specifics, contact Scott Eddy at [seddy@egh.ms](mailto:seddy@egh.ms).

The University of Southern Mississippi hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged and women's business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Certified Check on a solvent bank or a Bidder's Bond issued by a Surety Company licensed to operate in the State of Mississippi, in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid price, payable to the University of Southern Mississippi as bid security. Bidders shall also submit a current financial statement, if requested by the University. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance and payment bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount. Both bonds shall be signed or countersigned by a Mississippi Resident Agent.

The proposal and contract documents in its entirety shall be submitted in a sealed envelope and deposited with the Physical Plant, Hattiesburg, Mississippi prior to the hour and date above designated. All bid envelopes should contain the bidder's name and mailing address on the face of the envelope and also specify the name of the bid item. Bidder's certificate of responsibility number or a statement that the bid inside is less than \$50,000.00 shall appear on the outside or exterior of the envelope or container of such bids, failing which, said

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bid shall not be opened or considered.

If anyone prefers to submit their bid electronically, please follow the instructions below using the following website: [https://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract\\_bid\\_search/Home/Sell](https://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Home/Sell). If you are not already registered in this system, potential bidders will first need to click on “Supplier Registration” and follow the steps outlined (a one-time process). Once registered, return to the original website and click on “Procurement Opportunities” where you can either search by keyword for the bid you desire to respond to or leave the search box blank and click “Search” for a listing of all current bids and proposals for the various State of Mississippi offices.

When submitting an electronic bid, the bid must be submitted in “pdf” format and shall contain the same information and forms as required for the paper bids. Electronic bids must be secured with a bid bond. When submitting a bid electronically, the authorized signature shall be an electronic signature or handwritten in blue-ink signature. In the event that an electronically submitted bid has a corrupted attachment, the bid will be considered null and void. When bids are submitted electronically, the requirement for including a certificate of responsibility, or a statement that the bid enclosed does not exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), on the exterior of the bid envelope shall be deemed in compliance by including the same information as an attachment with the electronic bid submittal.

The University of Southern Mississippi reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive technicalities or irregularities, or to advertise for new proposals, and the decision of the University to reject any bid or proposal shall not be cause for any liability or damages against the University of Southern Mississippi, any officers or employees.

The bidder must agree to commence work on or before a date to be specified in a written "Notice to Proceed" of the Owner and to fully complete the project within the Contract Time. The bidder must also agree to pay as liquidated damages the sum specified in the Standard Specifications per day for each calendar day of overrun in Contract Time that work is not completed.

BY: Mr. Steve Ballew  
TITLE: Director of Procurement and Contracts  
The University of Southern Mississippi

**Dates of Publication:**

**June 11, 2023**

**June 18, 2023**