

I. OVERVIEW

The Office of the Illinois State Treasurer (“Treasurer”) is issuing this Request for Proposals Investment Managers for Investment Grade Credit and Municipal Bonds (“RFP”) to retain an investment manager(s) to invest up to \$200 million in investment grade credit bonds, pricing tiered in \$50 million increments and up to \$100 million in municipal bonds, pricing tiered in \$50 million increments or a combination thereof, held in a separately managed account in the name of the Treasurer. **Firms that submit responses (“Respondents”) shall submit their responses to this RFP (“Proposals”) by 2:00 p.m. on January 10, 2020.**

This procurement has been designated by the Treasurer’s Chief Procurement Officer (“CPO”) as a small business set-aside for small businesses in Illinois. For purposes of this RFP, a Respondent will qualify as a “small business” if it meets the following criteria: (1) for purposes of investment grade credit bonds, has less than \$96.8 billion in total firm assets under management; (2) for purposes of municipal bond investments, has less than \$18.6 billion in municipal bond assets under management; and (3) has no more than 100 employees. For purposes of computing the number of employees, employees of any parent company and underlying subsidiaries must be included in the calculation. Further, the Respondent must be authorized to do business in the State of Illinois and either have a physical or significant economic presence in the State of Illinois as determined by the Treasurer.

Respondents shall submit responses (“Proposals”) to this RFP by 2:00 pm CT on January 10, 2020. The Treasurer intends to select the Respondent with the most effective yet cost efficient Proposal. The successful Respondent (“Contractor”) shall enter into a contract with the Treasurer (“Agreement”) for a term of 4 years. Upon expiration of this term, the Treasurer may elect to extend the Agreement for a period of time agreed upon by the parties, not to exceed a total of ten (10) years, including the initial four (4) years. The Treasurer may select more than one Respondent to provide the Services.

II. BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Section 22.5 of the Deposit of State Moneys Act, 15 ILCS 520, the Treasurer is authorized to invest or reinvest certain State money in the Treasury in corporations or limited liability companies organized in the United States with assets exceeding \$500,000,000, if the following criteria are met:

- A. The corporation or limited liability company has a significant presence in the State of Illinois;
- B. The obligations are rated at the time of purchase at one of the three (3) highest classifications established by at least two (2) standard rating services;
- C. The obligations mature more than 270 days, but less than ten (10) years, from the date of purchase;