



Administered by University of Maine System
Office of Strategic Procurement
Request for Bid (RFB)

Forklift Purchase

RFB #2026-095

Issued Date: April 7, 2026

Response Deadline Date/Time: April 10, 11:59 p.m. EST

Response Submission Information:

Submitted electronically to UMSResponses@maine.edu
Email Subject Line – DH: Forklift - RFB#2026-095

Response Contact Information:

Email: UMSResponses@maine.edu

Table of Contents

1.0	INTRODUCTION	3
1.1	General Information	3
1.2	Tie Bids.....	6
1.3	Negotiations.....	6
1.4	Award Protest.....	7
2.0	Bid Terms	7
2.1	Payment Terms.....	7
2.2	Pricing:.....	7
2.3	Invoices	7
2.4	Contact – Post Award	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.5	Product / Service Delivery.....	8
2.6	Order of Precedence.....	8
	Appendix A – University of Maine System Response Cover Page	9
	Appendix B – Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	11
	Appendix C – Required Cost Evaluation Exhibits	12

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Information

1.1.1 Definitions

The University of Maine System will hereinafter be referred to as the "University." Respondents to the document shall be referred to as "Respondent(s)" or "Respondent".

The Respondent to whom the Agreement is awarded shall be referred to as the "Contractor."

The University of Maine System and other components of the University shall be referred to as "Multi-Institution".

1.1.2 Purpose

The Advanced Structures and Composites Center at the University of Maine is seeking responses to purchase a forklift as defined in this document. This document provides instructions for submitting responses, the procedure and criteria by which the Respondent(s) will be selected, and the contractual terms which will govern the relationship between the University and the awarded Respondent(s).

The Advanced Structures and Composites Center at the University of Maine is seeking to purchase a forklift to be used at their new Green Engineering Materials (GEM) facility.

Respondents should review **1.1.4 Specifications / Scope of Work** of this document to see the full Scope of Services/Products required.

The University is committed to providing increased access and opportunity to diverse businesses include and not limited to: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Business Enterprise (LGBTQ+BE); Minority Business Enterprise (MBE); Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (SDVBE); Small Business Enterprise (SBE); veteran-owned; service-disabled veteran-owned; HUBZone; small disadvantaged business; women-owned; minority-owned; Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE); and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE).

1.1.3 Communication with the University

It is the responsibility of the Respondent to inquire about any requirement of this document that is not understood. Responses to inquiries, if they change or clarify the document in a substantial manner, will be forwarded by addenda to all parties that have received a copy of the document. Addenda will also be posted on our web site, www.maine.edu/strategic/upcoming_bids.php

It is the responsibility of all Respondents to check the web site before submitting a response to ensure that they have all pertinent documents. The University will not be bound by oral responses to inquiries or written responses other than addenda.

Inquiries must be made using the **Response Contact Information** provided on the cover sheet of this document. Refer to table in **Section 1.3.1 Timeline of Key Events** for deadline requirements.

1.1.4 Confidentiality

The University must adhere to the provisions of the Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA), 1 MRSA §401 et seq. As a condition of submitting a response under this section, a respondent must accept that, to the extent required by the Maine FOAA, responses to this solicitation, and any ensuing contractual documents, are considered public records and therefore are subject to freedom of access requests.

The information contained in responses submitted for the University's consideration will be held in confidence until all evaluations are concluded and a Respondent selected (the successful Respondent). At that time the University will issue award notice letters to all participating Respondents and all Respondents' responses may be made available to participating Respondents upon request. Such request must be made by submitting a written request to the individual noted in the Response Contact Information shown on the cover sheet of this document, with a copy of the request provided to the other Respondents. Such requests are public records.

After the protest period has passed and the Agreement is fully executed, responses will be available for public inspection upon request.

Pricing and other information that is an integral part of the offer cannot be considered confidential after an award has been made. The University will honor requests for confidentiality for information that meets the definition of "trade secret" under Maine law. Clearly mark any portion of your submitted materials which are entitled to "trade secret" exemption from disclosure under Maine's Freedom of Access Act. Failure to so identify as trade secret will authorize the University to conclude that no portions are so exempt; and that your entity will defend, indemnify and hold harmless the University in any and all legal actions that seek to compel the University to disclose under Maine's Freedom of Access Act some or all of your submitted materials and/or contract, if any, executed between the University and your entity.

1.1.5 Costs of Preparation

Respondent assumes all costs of preparation of the response and any presentations necessary to the response process.

1.1.6 Authorization

Any Agreement for services that will, or may, result in the expenditure by the University of \$50,000 or more must be approved in writing by the Office of Strategic Procurement, Chief Procurement Officer and it is not approved, valid or effective until such written approval is granted.

Authorization. Any contract or agreement for services that will, or may, result in the expenditure by the University of \$50,000 or more must be approved in writing by the Executive Director of Strategic Procurement & Services and it is not approved, valid or effective until such written approval is granted.

Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration approval is required of any University of Maine System agreement of \$50,000 or more, and it is not approved, valid or effective until such written approval is granted.

Chief Business Officer approval is required of any campus specific agreement of \$50,000 or more, and it is not approved, valid or effective until such written approval is granted.

1.1.7 Multi-Institutional

The University of Maine System, Office of Strategic Procurement reserves the right to authorize other University Institutions to use the Agreement(s) resulting from this document, if it is deemed to be beneficial for the University to do so.

1.1.8 Pricing

All prices provided shall remain firm for the entire term of the agreement.

1.1.9 Cost Response Form Quantities

The quantities shown on the cost response form are approximate only. The Contractor shall cover the actual needs of the University throughout the term of the Agreement regardless of whether they are more or less than the quantities shown.

1.1.10 Employees

The Contractor shall employ only competent and satisfactory personnel and shall provide a sufficient number of employees to perform the required services efficiently and in a manner satisfactory to the University. If the Agreement Administrator or designee, notifies the Contractor in writing that any person employed on this Agreement is incompetent, disorderly, or otherwise unsatisfactory, such person shall not again be employed in the execution of this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Agreement Administrator.

1.1.11 Environment Compliance

In the event that the resulting Agreement involves the generation, transportation, handling, disposal, and/or other operations or activities in relation to toxic, hazardous, radioactive, or otherwise dangerous gases, vapors, fumes, acids, alkali's, chemicals, wastes or contaminants and/or other substance, material or condition, the Contractor agrees to indemnify save harmless and defend the University from and against all liabilities, claims, damages, forfeitures, suits, and the costs and expenses incident thereto (including costs of defense, settlement and reasonable attorney's fees) which the University may hereafter incur as a result of death or bodily injuries or damage to any property, contamination of or adverse effects of the environment or any violation of state or federal regulations or laws (including without limitation the Resources Conservation and Recovery Act, the Hazardous Material Transportation Act or the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act, as the same now exists or may hereafter be amended) or order based on or arising in whole or in part from the Contractor's performance under the Agreement, provided, however the Contractor shall not indemnify the University for any liabilities, claims, damages, (as set forth above) caused by or arising out of the sole negligence of the University, or arising out of any area of responsibility not attributable to Contractor.

1.1.12 Specification Protest Process and Remedies:

If a Respondent feels that the specifications are written in a way that limits competition, a specification protest may be sent to the Office of Strategic

Procurement to the email address provided on the cover page of this document. Specification Protests will be responded to within five (5) business days of receipt. Determination of protest validity is at the sole discretion of the University. The due date of the proposal may be changed if necessary to allow consideration of the protest and issuance of any necessary addenda. Specification protests shall be presented to the University in writing as soon as identified, but no less than five (5) business days prior to the Deadline for Proposal Submission noted in Section 1.3.1. No protest against the award due to the specifications shall be considered after this deadline. Protests shall include the reason for the protest and any proposed changes to the specifications.

1.1.13 Evaluation Criteria

Award will be made to the low respondent provided that all other requirements are satisfactorily met, including receipt of bid as outlined in **Appendix B**.

The University will NOT seek a best and final offer (BAFO) from any Respondent in this procurement process. All Respondents are expected to provide their best value pricing with the submission of their response. Respondents will NOT be given another opportunity to modify pricing once submitted.

1.1.14 Award

The University reserves the right to waive minor irregularities, which may include contacting the Respondent to resolve the irregularity. Scholarships, donations, or gifts to the University, will not be considered in the evaluation of responses. The University reserves the right to reject any or all responses, in whole or in part, and is not necessarily bound to accept the lowest cost response if that response is contrary to the best interests of the University. The University may cancel this request or reject any or all responses in whole or in part. Should the University determine in its sole discretion that only one Respondent is fully qualified, or that one Respondent is clearly more qualified than any other under consideration, an Agreement may be awarded to that Respondent without further action.

1.2 Tie Bids

When two equal bids are received, there shall be a preference for “in-state bidders”. When tie bids are both in-state, or both out-of-state, the award will be made to the bid that arrives first which will be determined by reviewing the electronic submission date and time stamp.

1.3 Negotiations

The University reserves the right to negotiate with the successful Respondent to finalize a contract. Such negotiations may not significantly vary the content, nature or requirements of the proposal or the University’s Request for Proposals to an extent that may affect the price of goods or services requested. The University reserves the right to terminate contract negotiations with a selected respondent who submits a proposed contract significantly different from the response they submitted in response to the advertised RFP. In the event that an acceptable contract cannot be negotiated with the highest ranked Respondent, the University may withdraw its award and negotiate with the next-highest ranked Respondent, and so on, until an acceptable contract has been finalized. Alternatively, the University may cancel the RFP, at its sole discretion.

1.4 Award Protest

Respondents may appeal the award decision by submitting a written protest to the University of Maine System's University of Maine System's Executive Director of Strategic Procurement and Chief Procurement Officer within five (5) business days of the date of the award notice, with a copy of the protest to the successful Respondent. The protest must contain a statement of the basis for the challenge. Further information regarding the appeal process can be found at:

[Administrative Practice Letter VII-A - University of Maine System](#)

If this RFP results in the creation of a pre-qualified or pre-approved list of vendors, then the appeal procedures mentioned above are available upon the original determination of that vendor list, but not during subsequent competitive procedures involving only the pre-qualified or pre-approved list participants.

1.4.1 Bid Submission

A SIGNED copy of this bid document must be submitted to the Office of Strategic Procurement as follows:

1. Completion of **Appendix A. Appendix A** must be SIGNED as part of the submission.
2. Completion of **Appendix B. Appendix B** must be SIGNED as part of the submission.
3. Bid submission will be submitted electronically to the Email provided in the Contact section of the cover page of this document.
4. Electronic submission must be received by the required Response Deadline/Time reflected on the cover page of this document.
5. Respondent may attached company bid to their submission as supporting information. Respondent is still required to complete **Appendix C.**

2.0 Bid Terms

2.1 Payment Terms

Payment shall be made upon submittal of an electronic invoice to the University by the Contractor on a net 30 basis unless discount terms are offered. In the event there is a discrepancy with the invoice, payment terms shall be effective starting on the date the discrepancy is resolved, for only that portion of the invoice that is disputed. Invoices must include a purchase order number.

2.2 Pricing:

All prices quoted shall remain firm for the entire term of the agreement.

2.3 Invoices

Unless otherwise specified in an attachment hereto, invoices and questions regarding invoices will be directed to:

University of Maine System
Accounts Payable
PO BOX 3955
SCRANTON, PA 18505

Phone: [207-581-2695](tel:207-581-2695)
Fax: [207-581-2698](tel:207-581-2698)
Invoice Submission Email: UMAP@maine.edu
Invoice Inquires: UMSCentralAP@maine.edu

2.4 Product / Service Delivery

The following detail the product / service delivery requirements to the awarded respondent. As part of the submission of the bid the awarded respondent is committing to these requirements.

Delivery: Must be received within 5 business days from the bid award.

Other: Vendor is required to deliver all license/maintenance keys and documentation necessary to support the usage and record of the University of Maine System acquisition within the delivery date/time specified above.

2.5 Order of Precedence

In the event of any conflicts among the bid documents the following order of precedence shall apply:

- A. This Request for Bid (RFB).
- B. Appendix A – University of Maine System Bid Vendor Page
- C. Appendix B – Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification
- D. Appendix C - Pricing
- E. Respondent Attachments, as required.

Appendix A – University of Maine System Response Cover Page

RFB #2026-095
Forklift Purchase

Organization Name:	
Chief Executive – Name/Title:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
Email:	
Headquarters Street Address:	
Headquarters City/State/Zip:	
Lead Point of Contact for Quote – Name/Title:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
Email:	
Street Address:	
City/State/Zip:	

1. This pricing structure contained herein will remain firm for a period of 90 days from the date and time of the quote deadline date.
2. No personnel currently employed by the University or any other University agency participated, either directly or indirectly, in any activities relating to the preparation of the Respondent's response.
3. No attempt has been made or will be made by the Respondent to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a response.
4. The undersigned is authorized to enter into contractual obligations on behalf of the above-named organization.
5. By submitting a response to a Request for Proposal, bid or other offer to do business with the University your entity understands and agrees that:
 - a. The Agreement provisions in **Section 1.2.1.2** of this document will not be modified and are thereby incorporated into any agreement entered into between University and your entity; that such terms and condition shall control in the event of any conflict with such agreement; and that your entity will not propose or demand any contrary terms;
 - b. The above Agreement provisions in **Section 1.2.1.2** of this document will govern the interpretation of such agreement notwithstanding the expression of any other term and/or condition to the contrary;
 - c. Your entity agrees that the resulting Agreement will be the entire agreement between the University (including University's employees and other End Users) and Respondent and in the event that the Respondent requires terms of use agreements or other agreements, policies or understanding, whether on an order form, invoice, website, electronic, click-through, verbal or in writing, with University's employees or other End Users, such agreements shall be null, void and without effect, and the terms of the Agreement shall apply.
 - d. Your entity will identify at the time of submission which, if any, portion or your submitted materials are entitled to "trade secret" exemption from disclosure under Maine's Freedom of Access Act; that failure to so identify will authorize UMS to conclude that no portions are so exempt; and that your entity will defend, indemnify and hold harmless UMS in any and all legal actions that seek to compel UMS to disclose under Maine's Freedom of Access Act some or all of your submitted materials and/or contract, if any, executed between UMS and your entity.

To the best of my knowledge all information provided in the enclosed response, both programmatic and financial, is complete and accurate at the time of submission.

Date: _____

Name and Title (Printed)

Authorized Signature

Appendix B – Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification

University of Maine System
DEBARMENT, PERFORMANCE and NON-COLLUSION
CERTIFICATION
RFB #2026-095
Forklift Purchase

By signing this document, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the aforementioned organization, its principals and any subcontractors named in this proposal:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, and declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from bidding or working on contracts issued by any governmental agency.
- b. Have not within three years of submitting the proposal for this contract been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for:
 - i. Fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a federal, state or local government transaction or contract.
 - ii. Violating Federal or State antitrust statutes or committing embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - iii. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or Local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (b) of this certification; and
 - iv. Have not within a three (3) year period preceding this proposal had one or more federal, state or local government transactions terminated for cause or default.
- c. Have not entered into a prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm, or person submitting a response for the same materials, supplies, equipment, or services and this proposal is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. The above mentioned entities understand and agree that collusive bidding is a violation of state and federal law and can result in fines, prison sentences, and civil damage awards.

Failure to provide this certification may result in the disqualification of the Respondent’s proposal, at the University’s discretion.

Date: _____

Name and Title (Printed)

Authorized Signature

Appendix C – Required Cost Evaluation Exhibits

University of Maine System COST EVALUATION

RFB #2026-095
Forklift Purchase

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. The University is seeking quotes for the following models of Reach truck (or equivalent):
Hyster Reach Truck Model # N35-40ZR3
Toyota Reach Truck Model # RF1-BE1X35
Yale Reach Truck Model # NR035DC

The Reach truck must have the following minimum specifications:

- Forks must reach at least 190 inches
 - Tines must be at least 42 inches
 - Must include a side shifter
 - Must include motion alarm for forward and reverse
 - Must include forward facing movement lights
 - Incoming Voltage for battery charger is 480V 3-Phase
2. Include detailed specifications for the forklift you are quoting along with warranty information.
 3. The Respondent must submit a cost response that covers all costs to purchase the forklift.
 4. The Respondent can use the table below or submit a proposal with all the information required in the table below.
 5. The cost response shall include the costs necessary for the Respondent to fully comply with the Agreement terms and conditions and requirements. **Note regarding total cost of ownership:** This “cost” will encompass the entire solution pricing along with all products and services offered as part of the solution.
 6. Failure to provide the requested information and to follow the required cost response format provided in Appendix C may result in the exclusion of the Response from consideration, at the discretion of the University. You can add rows and columns required to insert additional information. If a particular cost table is not required as part of your response simply leave it blank.
 7. No costs related to the preparation of the Response for this document or to the negotiation of the Agreement with the University may be included in the Response. Only costs to be incurred after the Agreement effective date that are specifically related to the implementation or operation of contracted services may be included.
 8. If there are additional options or services that are not included in the offering, they must be identified and itemized as “optional” and include a description of the product or service and the costs of the option. All items identified in the response (including third party items required) will be considered free add-ons to the proposed solution at the prices included in this response unless expressly stated otherwise.
 9. Pricing will be guaranteed by the vendor for the term of the Agreement.

10. The University will NOT seek a best and final offer (BAFO) from any Respondent in this procurement process. All Respondents are expected to provide their best value pricing with the submission of their response. Respondents will NOT be given another opportunity to modify pricing once submitted.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR – Exhibit 1 (Table 1) – Forklift Pricing

The University needs to understand the associated lifecycle costs for your proposed system or service. This pricing table provides a list of equipment needed. The Required Equipment Receive Date is noted in the table to reflect when equipment is needed.

Model Number - Product or service vendor number.

Description – Brief description of the component.

Quantity – Quantity provided by the University.

Unit Price - Price per unit for the forklift.

Discount Price - Discount offered by the Respondents.

Extended Cost – Price per unit minus Respondents per unit discount for the Agreement period, and anticipated future rates.

Subtotal – Subtotal of the Extended Cost figures.

Less Discount – Discount offered off the Subtotal figure.

Total – Subtotal less Discount.

Exhibit 1 (Table 1) – Respondents will use this attachment to record all costs associated with this section. For a copy of the excel version of Exhibit 1 contact the Proposal Contact identified on the cover page of this document.

Respondent's Name:						
#	Manufacturer Number	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Discount Price	Extended Cost
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
					Subtotal	0.00
					Less Discount	0.00
					Total	0.00

	Include additional explanation of costs and list assumptions that could influence the cost of licensing and maintenance pricing.
	List explanations and assumptions here:
	-
	-