

1. Sealed bids will be received for **“HIDALGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT-LABORATORY SERVICES FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES”** in accordance with the specifications attached as **Exhibit "A"** hereto. Bids should address all specifications set forth. Bidders may suggest substitutions of features which they feel would be in the best interest of Hidalgo County ("County"). Strong rationale must be presented for any deviation from the specifications. Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject the deviation and its effect on the overall bid.

2. **One (1) original and Three (3) copies** of all bids are required with the bidders name and return address clearly typed and or/printed on upper left hand corner and the proper notation clearly typed/printed on the lower left hand corner of the envelope and/or package: **BID NO.: 2017-193A-12-06-SGS “HIDALGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – LABORATORY SERVICES FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES”** and at County's Purchasing Department with a physical address: 2802 S. Business 281 and a mailing address: 2812 S. Business Hwy 281, Administration Building, Edinburg, Texas, **on or before 9:30 A.M, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 06, 2017. NO FACSIMILES, EMAILS OR LATE ARRIVALS WILL BE ACCEPTED. ANY RFB RECEIVED AFTER THAT TIME WILL NOT BE OPENED AND WILL BE RETURNED. OVERNIGHT MAIL MUST ALSO BE PROPERLY LABELED ON THE OUTSIDE OF EXPRESS ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE WITH REFERENCE TO “HIDALGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT-RFB NO.: 2017-193A-12-06-SGS -“LABORATORY SERVICES FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES”.** Hidalgo County reserves the right to refuse and reject any/all bids and to waive any/all formalities or technicalities, or to accept the bids considered the best and most advantageous to Hidalgo County.

Additionally, all forms listed below must be properly executed and included with your bid:

1. Legal Notice (See page 8);
 2. Bid Page – Procurement Form – Areas of Specialization (See **Exhibit “B”**);
 3. Insurance pages with Acknowledgment Forms (See **Exhibit “C”**);
 4. Form CIQ-Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (See **Exhibit “D”**);
 5. Vendor Bidder Application & W-9 forms (See **Exhibit “E”**);
 6. Certification Regarding Debarment (See **Exhibit “F”**); and
 7. SAMS.gov Registration Acknowledgement (See Number 18 below).
3. Hidalgo County reserves the right to: A. separate and accept, or eliminate any item(s) listed under this bid that it deems necessary to accommodate budgetary and/or operational requirements; B. reject any or all bids submitted and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best bid for approval; C. award the bid to one bidder or to multiple bidders if the County determines it is in its best interest to do so; D. award the contract to the responsible bidder who submits the lowest and best bid. "Lowest and best" means a bid or offer providing the best value considering associated direct and indirect costs, including transport, maintenance, reliability, life cycle, warranties, and customer service after a sale.

 4. The Bidder shall not substitute items named in the bid without the express written consent of Hidalgo County. Failure of the delivered item to perform as specified or failure to meet the stated delivery schedule shall release Hidalgo County from all obligations to the contracting party with regard to the item(s) in question. In such event, County may elect to award the contract to the next-lowest responsible bidder, or to reject all bids and re-advertise.