

Teaneck Community Charter School
Business Office
563 Chestnut Ave
Teaneck NJ, New Jersey 07666

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
(RFP)

School Board Attorney / Legal Services

RFP

Term of Contract: 2024-2025

Submission Date: May 23, 2024

1:00 p.m.

**Teaneck Community Charter School
Request for Proposals
Legal Services**

RFP Responses Due: May 23, 2024 - 1:00 P.M.

A. Purpose

In accordance with N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.4 et seq., the Teaneck Community Charter School is requesting proposals (RFP) from Legal firms in the State of New Jersey that wish to provide general counsel and legal services to the Teaneck Community Charter School as directed by the Board for the 2024-2025 school year.

Under Title 18a-18a-5 (1) professional services are not required to be bid or advertised and the Board is not required to award on the basis of lowest price and will award based on criteria as outlined in this request for proposals. The requests are being made to ensure the District receives the highest quality service at a fair and competitive price.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any informality in the process if it is in the best interests of the Board. No proposal may be deemed accepted until the adoption of a formal resolution by the Board.

B. Scope of Service

The successful firm must have a minimum of five years experience in representing boards of education in contractual matter; personnel matters; public contracts; intergovernmental contracts; federal and state agreements; risk management and workers compensation matters; OPRA, HIPAA; special education law, and general litigation.

The successful firm shall provide the Teaneck Community Charter District with legal guidance relating to but not necessarily limited to legal research and/or advisory opinions if needed and represent the Teaneck Community Charter School Board in all matters in Federal and State courts as well as administrative tribunals and forums; advise the Teaneck Community Charter School of changes in State and Federal law and regulations, as well as Court decisions, which will impact the Board; and any matters as directed by the Teaneck Community Charter School.

C. Minimum Requirements

- A. Full name and business address.
- B. Dates of licensure in the State of New Jersey, and any other state, as to the professional discipline requested to serve the needs of the School.
- C. The number of licensed professionals employed (if a professional firm) and/or affiliated with the professional entity seeking to provide services to the School.
- D. Name of the individual (s) to be assigned to perform the tasks.

- E. Professional experience and education of the individual(s) to be assigned including a listing of experience with the Teaneck Community Charter School and/or experience with other New Jersey Boards of Education. The District is requesting a minimum of 5 years of professional experience with New Jersey Boards of Education.
- F. A description of the support staff available to the individual(s) to be assigned.
- G. A listing of all Board of Education entities served by the applicant/proposer licensed professional.
- H. The hourly rate of individuals who will perform the services or activities. The Board of Education shall not reimburse tolls and mileage charges and these reimbursements shall be included in the proposed hourly rate.
- I. A statement concerning the ability of the firm/individual to perform tasks assigned by the Teaneck Community Charter School in a timely fashion.
- J. Sample Contract – Applicant shall provide a sample copy of the applicant's contract (Engagement Letter). Sample contract must include all terms and conditions of this RFP. Contract shall be in a form acceptable to the Board of Education.
- K. Insurance – The applicant/proposer, as a member of a profession which is subject to suit for professional malpractice, shall provide documentation of insurance for professional liability/malpractice coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more.
- L. Law Against Discrimination and Affirmative Action – The applicant/ proposer as a “professional” shall file a statement as to compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:5-21 et. Seq. and N.J.A.C 17:27 et. Seq
- M. New Jersey Business Registration Certificate
- N. A list of two professional references with addresses and telephone contact numbers. Both must have direct knowledge relating to your experience in the requested service.

D. Basis for Award of Award/Agreement for Professional Services

The Teaneck Community Charter Board shall award all professional service contracts or agreements based on qualification, merit, and cost competitiveness. Selection criteria will include.

1. Qualifications of the individual who will perform the service or activity and overall knowledge and familiarity with the operations of the school.
2. Qualifications and experience of the other member of the professional’s firm and experience of the firm in providing similar services to other public bodies, with special emphasis on experience in New Jersey.
3. Ability to perform the service or activity in a timely fashion including staffing and staff’s familiarity of the service or activity.
4. The hourly rates proposed. The proposal shall identify whether clerical and other overhead costs will be billed separately or included in the hourly labor rate for the professional.
5. This award will include, but not be limited to, all of the above listed requirement.

E. Additional Documents to be submitted with the proposal

- Affirmative Action Questionnaire;
- Stockholders Disclosure Statement;
- Vendor Questionnaire/Certification;
- New Jersey Business Registration Certificate;
- Chapter 271 Political Contribution Disclosure Form; and
- Non-Collusion Affidavit.

Any questions regarding this Request for Proposal should be directed to Thomas Jazwinski, Business Administrator of the Teaneck Community Charter School at tjazwinski@tccsnj.org

SUBMISSION OF RFP PACKAGE –

All RFP Proposal Packages including the Letter of Transmittal and the Presentation Package are to be addressed to:

Thomas Jazwinski, Business Administrator,
Business Administrator
Teaneck Community Charter School
563 Chestnut Ave
Teaneck, NJ 17666

F. Upon notification of award of contract by the Teaneck Community Charter School, the successful respondent shall sign and execute a formal contract agreement with the Teaneck Community Charter School.

EXHIBIT A
MANDATORY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LANGUAGE
N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., N.J.A.C. 17:27
GOODS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND GENERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, the contractor will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will send to each labor union or representative or workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer advising the labor union or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this act and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The contractor or subcontractor where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to **N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq.** as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to make good faith efforts to afford equal employment opportunities to minority and women workers consistent with Good faith efforts to meet targeted county employment goals established in accordance with **N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2**, or Good faith efforts to meet targeted county employment goals determined by the Division, pursuant to **N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2**.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personal testing conforms with the principles of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

In conforming with the targeted employment goals, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The contractor shall submit to the public agency, after notification of award but prior to execution of a goods and services contract, one of the following three documents:

Letter of Federal Affirmative Action Plan Approval
Certificate of Employee Information Report
Employee Information Report Form AA302

The contractor and its subcontractor shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance as may be requested by the Division from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to **Subchapter 10 of the Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 17:27**.

To be completed and signed below.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION QUESTIONNAIRE

This form is to be completed and returned with the bid. However, the Board will accept in lieu of this Questionnaire, Affirmative Action Evidence stapled to this page.

1. Our company has a federal Affirmative Action Plan approval. Yes No

If yes, please attach a copy of the plan to this questionnaire.

2. Our company has a N.J. State Certificate of Employee Information Report Yes No

If yes, please attach a copy of the certificate to this questionnaire.

3. If you answered **“NO”** to both questions No. 1 and 2, you must apply for an affirmative action Employee Information Report – Form AA302.

Please visit the New Jersey Department of Treasury website for the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance: www.state.nj.us/treasury/contract/compliance/

- Click on “Employee Information Report
- Complete and submit the form with the appropriate payment to:

Department of Treasury
Division of Public Contracts/EEO Compliance
P.O. Box 209
Trenton, NJ 08625-0002

All fees for this application are to be paid directly to the State of New Jersey. A copy shall be submitted to the Board within seven (7) days of the notice of the intent to award the contract or the signing of the contract.

I certify that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Name: _____

Signature _____

Title _____ Date _____

Name of Company _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

To be completed, signed and submitted with the quotation proposal form.

To be completed and returned with the proposal form.

Vendor Questionnaire/Certification
School Board Attorney / Legal Services
RFP

Name of Company _____

Street Address _____ PO Box _____

City, State, Zip _____

Business Phone Number (____) _____ Ext. _____

Emergency Phone Number (____) _____

FAX No. (____) _____ E-Mail _____

Years in Business _____ Number of Employees _____

References – Work previously done for School Systems in New Jersey

<u>Name of District</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Contact Person/Title</u>	<u>Phone</u>
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____

Vendor Certification

Direct/Indirect Interests

I declare and certify that no member of the Teaneck Community Charter Board, nor any officer or employee or person whose salary is payable in whole or in part by said Board or their immediate family members are directly or indirectly interested in this bid or in the supplies, materials, equipment, work or services to which it relates, or in any portion of profits thereof. If a situation so exists where a Board member, employee, officer of the board has an interest in the bid, etc., then please attach a letter of explanation to this document, duly signed by the president of the firm or company.

Gifts; Gratuities; Compensation

I declare and certify that no person from my firm, business, corporation, association or partnership offered or paid any fee, commission or compensation, or offered any gift, gratuity or other thing of value to any school official, board member or employee of Teaneck Community Charter School

Vendor Contributions

I declare and certify that I fully understand N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.3(a)(1-4) concerning vendor contributions to school board members.

I certify that I am not an official or employee of the Teaneck Community Charter School Board.

I further certify that I understand that it is a crime in the second degree in New Jersey to knowingly make a material representation that is false in connection with the negotiation, award or performance of a government contract.

President or Authorized Agent

SIGNATURE

NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT

School Board Attorney / Legal Services

Re: Proposal for Teaneck Community Charter School.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY)

Date:

COUNTY OF) :ss:

I, _____ of the City of _____
in the County of _____ and the State of _____

of full age, being duly sworn according to law on my oath depose and say that:

I am _____ of
Position in Company
the firm of _____ and the bidder making
the Proposal for the above names contract, and that I executed the said Proposal with full authority
so to do; that I have not, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any
collusion, discussed any or all parts of this proposal with any potential bidders, or otherwise taken
any action in restraint of free, competitive bidding in connection with the above named bid, and that
all statements contained in said Proposal and in this affidavit are true and correct, and made with
full knowledge that the Teaneck Community Charter Board relies upon the truth of the statements
contained in said Proposal and in the statements contained in this affidavit in awarding the contract
for the said bid.

I further warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or
secure such contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage
or contingent fee, except bona fide employees of bona fide established commercial or selling agencies
maintained by

(Print Name of Contractor/Vendor)

Subscribed and sworn to: _____
(SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR/VENDOR)

before me this _____ day of _____, _____.
Month Year

NOTARY PUBLIC SIGNATURE

Print Name of Notary Public

My commission expires _____, _____ - Seal -
Month Day Year

STOCKHOLDER/PARTNERSHIP DISCLOSURE AND STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

School Board Attorney / Legal Services

Re: Proposal for the Teaneck Community Charter School

Please check one type of Ownership, complete the form, and execute where provided.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Corporation--</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Limited Partnership--</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Partnership--</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Limited Liability Corp.--</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Sole Proprietorship--</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Limited Liability Partnership--</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Sub Chapter S Corp.--</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other-_____

No corporation "or partnership" shall be awarded any contract nor shall any agreement be entered into for the performance of any work or the furnishing of any material or supplies, the cost of which is to be paid with or out of any public funds, by the State or any county, municipality or school district, or any subsidiary or agency of the State, or by an authority, board or commission which exercises governmental functions, unless prior to the receipt of the bid or accompanying the bid of said corporation or said partnership, there is submitted a statement setting forth the names and all individual partners in the partnership who own a 10% or greater interest therein, as the case may be." If one or more such stockholder "or partner" is itself a corporation "or partnership", the stockholder holding 10% or more of that corporation "or partnership" the individual partners owning 10% or greater interest in that partnership, as the case may be, shall also be listed. The disclosure shall be, continued until names and addresses of every non-corporate stockholder, and individual partner, exceeding the 10% ownership criteria established in this act, has been listed.

IT IS MANDATORY THAT THIS FORM BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED WITH BID. In the event that there are no persons who own ten percent or more of the stock or ownership of the bidder, then such fact should be certified below as part of this disclosure.

Name of Company _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

List of Owners with Ten Percent (10%) or More Interest

<u>Owner's Name</u>	<u>Home Address</u>	<u>Title/Office Held</u>	<u>Percent (%) of Partnership Shares Owned</u>

NOTE: If you need more space than that provided above, please use an extra sheet for furnishing the above required information for any remaining persons or entities.

Signature

Date

(form continued next page)

To be completed and signed below.

STOCKHOLDER/PARTNERSHIP DISCLOSURE AND STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP (cont.)

If your firm is not a corporation and/or partnership, please explain below how your firm is organized and include a list of the various principals.

Our firm, _____, is organized

Names of Principals

Title

Use additional paper if needed. Check here if additional sheets are attached.

Name of Company _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Authorized Agent _____ **Title** _____

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED AGENT

P.L. 2005, c.271

(Unofficial version, Assembly Committee Substitute to A-3013, First Reprint*)

AN ACT authorizing units of local government to impose limits on political contributions by contractors and supplementing Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes and Title 19 of the Revised Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

40A:11-51 1. a. A county, municipality, independent authority, board of education, or fire district is hereby authorized to establish by ordinance, resolution or regulation, as may be appropriate, measures limiting the awarding of public contracts therefrom to business entities that have made a contribution pursuant to P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) and limiting the contributions that the holders of a contract can make during the term of a contract, notwithstanding the provisions and parameters of sections 1 through 12 of P.L.2004, c.19 (C. 19:44A-20.2 et al.) and section 22 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-22).

b. The provisions of P.L.2004, c.19 shall not be construed to supersede or preempt any ordinance, resolution or regulation of a unit of local government that limits political contributions by business entities performing or seeking to perform government contracts. Any ordinance, resolution or regulation in effect on the effective date of P.L.2004, c.19 shall remain in effect and those adopted after that effective date shall be valid and enforceable.

c. An ordinance, resolution or regulation adopted or promulgated as provided in this section shall be filed with the Secretary of State.

52:34-25 2. a. Not later than 10 days prior to entering into any contract having an anticipated value in excess of \$17,500, except for a contract that is required by law to be publicly advertised for bids, a State agency, county, municipality, independent authority, board of education, or fire district shall require any business entity bidding thereon or negotiating therefor, to submit along with its bid or price quote, a list of political contributions as set forth in this subsection that are reportable by the recipient pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) and that were made by the business entity during the preceding 12 month period, along with the date and amount of each contribution and the name of the recipient of each contribution. A business entity contracting with a State agency shall disclose contributions to any State, county, or municipal committee of a political party, legislative leadership committee, candidate committee of a candidate for, or holder of, a State elective office, or any continuing political committee. A business entity contracting with a county, municipality, independent authority, other than an independent authority that is a State agency, board of education, or fire district shall disclose contributions to: any State, county, or municipal committee of a political party; any legislative leadership committee; or any candidate committee of a candidate for, or holder of, an elective office of that public entity, of that county in which that public entity is located, of another public entity within that county, or of a legislative district in which that public entity is located or, when the public entity is a county, of any legislative district which includes all or part of the county, or any continuing political committee.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to a contract when a public emergency requires the immediate delivery of goods or services.

b. When a business entity is a natural person, a contribution by that person's spouse or child, residing therewith, shall be deemed to be a contribution by the business entity. When a business entity is other than a natural person, a contribution by any person or other business entity having an interest therein shall be deemed to be a contribution by the business entity. When a business entity is other than a natural person, a contribution by: all principals, partners, officers, or directors of the business entity or their spouses; any subsidiaries directly or indirectly controlled by the business entity; or any political organization organized under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code that is directly or indirectly controlled by the business entity, other than a candidate committee, election fund, or political party committee, shall be deemed to be a contribution by the business entity.

c. As used in this section:

"business entity" means a natural or legal person, business corporation, professional services corporation, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, business trust, association or any other legal commercial entity organized under the laws of this State or of any other state or foreign jurisdiction;

"interest" means the ownership or control of more than 10% of the profits or assets of a business entity or 10% of the stock in the case of a business entity that is a corporation for profit, as appropriate; and

"State agency" means any of the principal departments in the Executive Branch of the State Government, and any division, board, bureau, office, commission or other instrumentality within or created by such department, the Legislature of the State and any office, board, bureau or commission within or created by the Legislative Branch, and any independent State authority, commission, instrumentality or agency.

d. Any business entity that fails to comply with the provisions of this section shall be subject to a fine imposed by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission in an amount to be determined by the commission which may be based upon the amount that the business entity failed to report.

19:44A-20.13 3. a. Any business entity making a contribution of money or any other thing of value, including an in-kind contribution, or pledge to make a contribution of any kind to a candidate for or the holder of any public office having ultimate responsibility for the awarding of public contracts, or to a political party committee, legislative leadership committee, political committee or continuing political committee, which has received in any calendar year \$50,000 or more in the aggregate through agreements or contracts with a public entity, shall file an annual disclosure statement with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission, established pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-5), setting forth all such contributions made by the business entity during the 12 months prior to the reporting deadline.

b. The commission shall prescribe forms and procedures for the reporting required in subsection a. of this section which shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) the name and mailing address of the business entity making the contribution, and the amount contributed during the 12 months prior to the reporting deadline;

(2) the name of the candidate for or the holder of any public office having ultimate responsibility for the awarding of public contracts, candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political party committee, legislative leadership committee, political committee or continuing political committee receiving the contribution; and

(3) the amount of money the business entity received from the public entity through contract or agreement, the dates, and information identifying each contract or agreement and describing the goods, services or equipment provided or property sold.

c. The commission shall maintain a list of such reports for public inspection both at its office and through its Internet site.

d. When a business entity is a natural person, a contribution by that person's spouse or child, residing therewith, shall be deemed to be a contribution by the business entity. When a business entity is other than a natural person, a contribution by any person or other business entity having an interest therein shall be deemed to be a contribution by the business entity. When a business entity is other than a natural person, a contribution by: all principals, partners, officers, or directors of the business entity, or their spouses; any subsidiaries directly or indirectly controlled by the business entity; or any political organization organized under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code that is directly or indirectly controlled by the business entity, other than a candidate committee, election fund, or political party committee, shall be deemed to be a contribution by the business entity.

As used in this section:

"business entity" means a natural or legal person, business corporation, professional services corporation, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, business trust, association or any other legal commercial entity organized under the laws of this State or of any other state or foreign jurisdiction; and

"interest" means the ownership or control of more than 10% of the profits or assets of a business entity or 10% of the stock in the case of a business entity that is a corporation for profit, as appropriate.

e. Any business entity that fails to comply with the provisions of this section shall be subject to a fine imposed by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission in an amount to be determined by the commission which may be based upon the amount that the business entity failed to report.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

* Note: Bold italicized statutory references of new sections are anticipated and not final as of the time this document was prepared. Statutory compilations of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-51 is anticipated to show a reference to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-51 and to N.J.S.A. 52:34-25.