

ROSCOE COLLEGIATE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 579, Roscoe, Texas 79545 325/766-3629 FAX 325/766-3138
www.roscoe.esc14.net

March 17, 2016

Subject: RFP for Veterinarian Services
To: All Interested Parties

The Roscoe Collegiate Independent School District (RCISD) is soliciting proposals from a qualified veterinarian, or veterinarian group, to join in an extraordinary opportunity to own a private practice while participating in the development of a national model for a school-based Educational One Health Partnership. This initiative complements the Land Grant System mission of feeding and clothing 9 billion people on the planet by 2050. To learn more go to: <http://www.roscoe.esc14.net>. This collaborative system effort will serve as a model to address issues related to "College for all Texans" taken from a January 2009 Report to the Texas Legislature conducted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board entitled Projecting the Need for Veterinary Medical Education in Texas. Specifically, this program is designed to provide students from historically under-represented groups, such as Hispanic students and students from rural areas, with the background and foundation level knowledge and skills to enter veterinary and related health professions. This project will serve as a local effort to expedite existing larger efforts throughout the state to promote food and fiber animal practice, particularly in rural areas of Texas (p. 35).

The purpose of this document is to serve as a Request for Proposal (RFP) for your review and consideration.

You may submit your Proposal to Roscoe Collegiate Independent School District, Attention:

Dr. Kim D. Alexander, Superintendent
Roscoe Collegiate Independent School District
P. O. Box 579, 1101 West 7th Street
Roscoe, Texas 79545

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

**Mixed Animal Care & Advanced Genetics STEM Research Center
For Comprehensive Veterinary Services in Collaboration with Educational
Attainment Goals of RCISD and the STEM Educational Research Center**

Date: March 17, 2016

Proposal Submission Deadline: June 17, 2016

Request for Proposal

The Roscoe Collegiate Independent School District ("RCISD") is soliciting proposals from a qualified veterinarian, or veterinarian group, who is interested in owning their practice for performing private veterinary services, while simultaneously performing

animal health education and laboratory practices in a newly constructed and equipped \$3.5 million STEM Educational Research Center in Roscoe, Texas.

SECTION 1: BACKGROUND

Roscoe is a rural West Texas community near the intersection of Interstate 20 and US Highway 84 in Nolan County. Roscoe is a small incorporated city with a population of approximately 1,500 residents, and a school district population of 625 students. There are currently no food animal practitioners in Nolan County and only one with an established practice in neighboring Mitchell County, who provides services for multiple counties in a large service area. He is supportive of this project and its potential to address emerging rural food animal veterinary shortages in Texas. The demographics of the region continue to change. The racial makeup of the county is approximately 58% White, 28% Hispanic or Latino and 14% from other races. Primarily an agricultural farming and ranching area, Nolan County has also established itself as a center for wind power generation. Nolan County currently generates more wind energy than the entire state of California.

SECTION 2: SITUATION

RCISD is in the eighth year of transformation from a traditional comprehensive high school to a P-20 Early College/STEM Academy System that includes multiple higher education and system partnerships. *"The goal of the Roscoe Collegiate P-20 System Model for Student Success is to develop a collaborative, sustainable and replicable model for breaking the generational poverty cycle through higher education (EARLY COLLEGE), while supplying critical agricultural STEM workforce shortage areas that will be critical to meeting the daunting challenge of feeding and clothing 9 billion people on the planet by 2050 (STEM ACADEMY)."* (Roscoe Collegiate STEM Advisory Committee, April 2012)

The Roscoe Collegiate STEM Academy is designed to prepare students with industry recognized certifications that lead to careers in critical STEM workforce shortage areas of engineering and biomedical science. The Engineering Center located on the main campus of RCISD serves as home to Collegiate Edu-Drone, an education/business partnership with Strat Aero International, a global Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Company that is predicting UAV applications to contribute \$85 billion to the U.S. economy by 2025.

With the completion of an equipped \$3.5 million STEM Research Center, RCISD is seeking to house an innovative and collaborative business, Collegiate Edu-Vet, to provide animal health care for the public while providing indirect supervision to students who pursue interests in biomedical careers at the interface of animal, human, and environmental health. This program will enable students in the biomedical science department of the Roscoe Collegiate Agricultural STEM Academy to pursue certifications in the Texas A&M AgriLife Research/Extension developed Veterinary Science Program. The Certified Veterinary Assistant (CVA) Program will include clinical, one-health, laboratory, and business administration pathways, from which biomedical

science students can select. All students, regardless of pathway, will complete a foundation CVA Level 1 certification that requires 300 clinical skill hours under the supervision of a DVM/RVT/LVT/CVT in a mixed animal veterinary practice under direct or indirect supervision of a mixed animal DVM practitioner. Beyond the CVA Level 1 Certification, clinical pathway students will pursue Level 2 (250 clinical skill hours) and Level 3 (250 clinical skill hours) Certifications under direct or indirect supervision of a mixed animal DVM practitioner. One-health and laboratory pathway students will pursue certifications to be developed in advanced genetic reproduction (superovulation, embryo transfer, invitro fertilization, traditional artificial insemination, and related services) and feed efficiency data collection and analysis under the direct supervision of a VT and indirect supervision of a DVM practitioner. Business administration students will pursue certifications to be developed in animal health care administration under the direct supervision of an MHA and indirect supervision of a DVM practitioner.

SECTION 3: SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Qualified veterinarians, or veterinary groups, interested in submitting a proposal must provide a proposal by **5:00 p.m., Friday, June 17, 2016**.

RCISD reserves the right to request additional information concerning any proposal for purposes of clarification, negotiation, or modification, if such would serve the best interests of RCISD as determined by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 4: INQUIRIES

Submit any questions, interpretations or request for clarification, either administrative or technical, from prospective bidders regarding this RFP to Dr. Kim D. Alexander, Superintendent at kda@roscoe.esc14.net

SECTION 5: CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

RCISD is seeking a licensed veterinarian, or group of veterinarians, to provide veterinary services to the public and to enter into a Professional Education Services Agreement with RCISD. The successful Bidder will perform the following services.

5.1 Veterinarian Services – Veterinarian services include those associated with a mixed animal practice, but not limited to, examining, diagnosing and treating sick or injured animals, and providing guidance to staff and clients on follow-up treatment. Additionally, indirect supervision of direct VT oversight of bovine, small ruminant, and game animal advanced genetic reproductive services. Additionally, indirect oversight of feed efficiency research may be required.

5.2 Professional Educational Assistance – The successful Bidder may provide indirect supervision to students enrolled in the RCISD Veterinary Science curriculum through adjunct faculty status with higher education and system partners, while working in concert with the RCISD, Western Texas College, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, Texas A&M AgriLife Research/Extension, and an accomplished local mixed animal veterinarian.

5.3 Sign for Controlled Drugs – The successful Bidder must be licensed to act as signer for the purchase of controlled drugs and euthanasia solution as required by the Drug Enforcement Administration.

5.4 Training of RCISD STEM Research Center Staff – The successful Bidder agrees to provide indirect mentoring in the areas of animal care, handling procedures, animal first aid and disease protocols.

5.5 24-Hour Emergency Service – The successful Bidder must be able to provide emergency care during normal business hours and provide or negotiate emergency veterinary contract services with a local emergency care providers for those hours that are outside the contract veterinarian's normal business hours.

In the event RCISD contracts for said services, the term of such agreement will be for (1) two year with the option to renew for up to a five year term for each additional renewal cycle thereafter. Please note that the extension of the agreement beyond the initial two-year agreement will also be contingent upon the approval by the RCISD Board of Trustees. (However, both the initial and renewable terms will be negotiable for the successful bidder.)

Initial Period: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2018

First Renewal Period (Optional): July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2023

SECTION 6: MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS The information requested in this section describes the qualifications of the Bidder within the past three years to demonstrate competence to perform these services. Information must include:

- 6.1 The successful Bidder must hold, or be able to obtain, a Texas Veterinary License and complete all required continuing education credits.
- 6.2 The successful Bidder must have an approved Certificate of Insurance that includes liability and professional malpractice insurance.
- 6.3 The successful Bidder must provide a letter of recommendation from a professional associate.

SECTION 7: PROPOSAL FORMAT GUIDELINES Interested Bidders are to provide the RCISD with a proposal using the following guidelines (subject to negotiation):

The following proposal sections are to be included in the Bidder's response:

- 7.1 Cover Letter - A transmittal letter should summarize key elements of this proposal signed by an authorized individual.
- 7.2 Implementation - Provide a detailed description of the implementation plan to accomplish the contractual services of this RFP.
- 7.3 Client Satisfaction - Detailed descriptions of efforts the Bidder will undertake to achieve client satisfaction and to satisfy the requirements of the "contractual services" section.
- 7.4 Fee Proposal - The fee information is relevant to determine whether the fees are fair and reasonable in light of the provided services. This section must include the proposed costs to provide the services desired. Proposals must provide a cost

breakdown of monthly and annual operating costs projected over the next year. Include any other cost and price information that would be contained in a potential agreement with RCISD. Earnings by the successful Bidder will be based on a full twelve months of operation. Payments made on operation of less than one month will be pro-rated accordingly.

7.5 Financial Planning – RCISD is receptive to a sound negotiated financial plan that recognizes the operation expense of a growing veterinary service, the capital expenditures of RCISD and the shared supervision time including options for financial management of the veterinary practice such as leasing, profit sharing, pricing structures, shared employees, marketing, sales, and practice management services.

7.6 Letters of Reference and Appendices – Provide a letter of reference from a professional associate and any appendices.

SECTION 8: PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL

For your Proposal:

8.1 Number of Proposals: Submit a proposal in sufficient detail to allow for evaluation and comparative analysis that bears an original signature.

8.2 You may submit your RFP by MAIL, in PERSON, by COURIER.

8.3 Submission of Proposals is due Friday, June 17, 2016 by 5:00 PM. Complete written proposals must be submitted in sealed envelopes and submitted to:

Roscoe Collegiate Independent School District, Attention:

Dr. Kim D. Alexander, Superintendent

Roscoe Collegiate Independent School District

P. O. Box 579

1101 West 7th Street

Roscoe, Texas 79545

8.4 Proposals will not be accepted after June 17, 2016.

8.5 Inquiries: Direct all questions about this RFP via an e-mail to kda@roscoe.esc14.net

8.6 Conditions of Proposal Acceptance: This RFP does not commit the RCISD to award a contract or to pay any costs incurred for any services. RCISD, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals responding to this RFP, to negotiate with any qualified source, or to cancel this RFP in part or in its entirety.

All proposals will become the property of the RCISD. Proprietary information contained in the proposal remains confidential.

There will be no public opening of proposals. Until awarded, all prices and other proposal information will remain confidential. After the award, the executed contract will become a public document.

From the date this RFP is issued until a successful Bidder is selected and the selection is announced, questions may be directed to Dr. Kim D. Alexander, Superintendent, RCISD.

SECTION 9: EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

The RCISD Board of Trustees, through the Superintendent, shall review the proposals to carefully weigh the minimum qualifications plus the following factors:

- a. Depth and breadth of experience and expertise in veterinary services;
- b. Communication skills with students, faculty, administration, business leaders, etc.;
- c. References;
- d. Range and quality of services provided by the individual;
- e. Understanding of the contractual services required;
- f. Degree to which individual remains current through continued professional development and active communication with practitioners in the field;
- g. Responsiveness to the information requested in the RFP;
- h. The individual has no conflicts of interest with regard to any work performed for RCISD and has identified all potential conflicts;
- i. Degree of availability for quick response to inquiries that arise out of day-to-day operating questions or problems; and
- j. Cost of services.

Evaluation will include checking references of the individual. The Superintendent will then rank all proposals for consideration and any subsequent interview(s). The Board of Trustees must then approve the recommendation of the superintendent.

During the evaluation process, the RCISD reserves the right, where it may serve the RCISD's best interest, to request additional information or clarification from proposing individuals and to permit correction of errors or omissions.

SECTION 10: CONTRACT

Award of contract will be to the individual or firm bidder whose proposal best complies with all of the requirements of the RFP documents and which provides the best solution for the needs of the RCISD.

The successful individual or firm will be required to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with the RCISD that will include the requirements of this RFP.

RCISD reserves the right to negotiate the price, terms, and contractual services with the successful candidate prior to entering into an Agreement. The Agreement will contain provisions requiring the selected individual to indemnify the RCISD and stating that there is no employment relationship between RCISD and any person employed or associated with the selected individual or firm serving at the will of the Board of Trustees. Provisions will also be included in the contract that allows the RCISD Board of Trustees to terminate the Agreement for just cause upon the Provision of Notice.