

MASTER SERVICES AGREEMENT

CONTRACT #: VCU-FM-6159

This Master Services Agreement ("MSA") is made and entered into as of the date the last authorized signature is affixed hereto by Ameritech Test & Balance LLC, ("Contractor") and Virginia Commonwealth University, a corporation and an institution of higher education of the Commonwealth of Virginia, ("VCU"). Contractor and VCU are sometimes referred to as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties."

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Contractor provides various skilled trade services;

WHEREAS, VCU desires to use skilled trade services on an as-needed and optional-use basis;

WHEREAS, Contractor is willing to offer skilled trade services to VCU in a manner described herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises set forth herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. **SERVICES.** Contractor shall provide to VCU skilled trade services as set forth in Appendix II, Conditions of Award, and any statements of work or similar document later agreed upon between the Parties.
2. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Master Services Agreement (MSA), Appendix II, Appendix III will serve as the complete contract between Contractor and VCU. The contract between Contractor and VCU may include statements of work (SOW), a data protection addendum (DPA), or other similar documents as necessary. In the event of a conflict among the contract documents, the order of precedence will be: this MSA, Appendix II, if applicable, the DPA, SOW, and then the RFP.
3. **TERM and RENEWAL OF CONTRACT.** The term of this MSA commences on the date of the last affixed signature and ends on December 31, 2025. This MSA will renew under the terms and conditions of the original MSA without intervention, for five (5) additional one (1) year periods until December 31, 2030.
4. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This MSA is binding on the date of the last affixed signature.
5. **FEE.** VCU shall pay Contractor a fee in accordance with Appendix II and Pricing as agreed upon in Appendix III and as agreed between the Parties. VCU may request lump sum pricing on projects on a case by case basis. VCU reserves the right to negotiate pricing for future lump sum projects. Unless set forth otherwise in Appendix II, all invoices shall be paid net 30 days following receipt of a proper invoice, services rendered, or goods delivered, whichever is later pursuant to and in accordance with § 42-45 of the Rules Governing Procurement of Goods, Services, Insurance and Construction by a Public Institution of Higher Education of the Commonwealth.
6. **MISCELLANEOUS.** This MSA may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all such counterparts together shall constitute but one and the same instrument. The relationship between VCU and Contractor created by this MSA is that of

independent contractors. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as constituting any other relationship between VCU and Contractor. Contractor shall not assign this MSA to another party without the written consent of VCU. The conditions and covenants herein contained shall ensure to the benefit of and are binding upon the parties hereto, their personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns. As a registered vendor in eVA and/or RealSource, Contractor is responsible for the security of its portal account, including restricting access to it, maintaining the confidentiality of login information, and taking any other actions necessary to protect the security of the Contractor's account. VCU will not be responsible for a third party's fraudulent collection of VCU payments due to the Contractor's failure to update or protect its account information.

7. DEPOSIT. VCU shall not be required to pay a security deposit.

8. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. GOVERNING LAW AND FORUM. This MSA shall be construed, governed, and interpreted pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia without regard to choice of law principles. Contractor agrees that all disputes arising under this MSA will be brought before a court of competent jurisdiction located in Richmond, Virginia. VCU does not waive its right to jury trial.
- B. ARBITRATION: Neither Party shall be compelled to arbitrate any matter or otherwise be subject to any form of alternative dispute resolution, but may request and/or opt to participate in alternative dispute resolution in its sole discretion.
- C. WAIVER OF CLAIMS: Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, VCU is an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia and as such, pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-514, cannot waive or settle legal claims that VCU may have against another party nor may VCU bestow any right or obligation that is beyond the duly granted authority of the signatory to bestow or incur on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- D. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION: Contractor certifies to the Commonwealth that it will conform to the provisions of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, as well as the Virginia Fair Employment Contracting Act of 1975, as amended, the Virginians With Disabilities Act, the Americans With Disabilities Act and Section 2.2-4311 of the *Virginia Public Procurement Act*. If the award is made to a faith-based organization, the organization shall not discriminate against any recipient of goods, services, or disbursements made pursuant to the Contract on the basis of the recipient's religion, religious belief, refusal to participate in a religious practice, or on the basis of race, age, color, gender or national origin and shall be subject to the same rules as other organizations that Contract with public bodies to account for the use of the funds provided; however, if the faith-based organization segregates public funds into separate accounts, only the accounts and programs funded with public funds shall be subject to audit by the public body. (*Code of Virginia*, § 2.2-4343.1). In every Contract over \$10,000 the provisions in 1. and 2. below apply:

1. During the performance of this Contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

- a. VCU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation or disability. As such, the Contractor will not discriminate against

any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation or disability or any other basis prohibited by state law related to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the Contractor. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

- b. The Contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, will state that such Contractor is an equal opportunity employer.
 - c. Notices, advertisements, and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting these requirements.
- B. The Contractor will include the provisions of a. above in every subcontract or purchase order over \$10,000 so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor who performs work relative to this RFP.
- E. IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986: Contractor certifies that it does not and will not during the performance of this Contract employ illegal alien workers or otherwise violate the provisions of the Federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.
- F. ANTITRUST: By entering into a Contract, Contractor conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the Commonwealth of Virginia all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of the action it may now have or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, relating to the particular goods or services purchased or acquired by the Commonwealth of Virginia under this Contract.
- G. ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT: The Contract shall not be assignable by Contractor in whole or in part without the written consent of the University.
- H. TESTING AND INSPECTION: To the extent applicable, VCU reserves the right to conduct any testing/inspection it may deem advisable to assure goods and services conform to the specifications/Contract.
- I. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT:
 - 1. Either Party may terminate this Contract if the other Party materially breaches this Contract and such breach is not cured within thirty (30) days after written notice to the breaching Party.
 - 2. University reserves the right to terminate this Contract, in part or in whole, without penalty, upon sixty (60) days written notice to the Contractor.
 - 3. Either Party may terminate this Contract after the initial twelve (12) months of this Contract upon sixty (60) days written notice to the other Party.
- J. CHANGES TO THE CONTRACT: Changes may be made to the Contract:

1. The parties may agree to modify the scope of the Contract. An increase or decrease in the price of the Contract resulting from such modification shall be agreed by the parties as a part of their written Contract to modify the scope of the Contract. Contract pricing shall not exceed the contract price(s) of the previous contract period increased/decreased by more than the percentage increase/decrease of the Services category of the CPI-U section of the Consumer Price Index of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the latest twelve months for which statistics are available.
 2. The Purchasing Agency may order changes within the general scope of the Contract at any time by written notice to the Contractor. Changes within the scope of the Contract include, but are not limited to, things such as services to be performed, the method of packing or shipment, and the place of delivery or installation. The Contractor shall comply with the notice upon receipt. The Contractor shall be compensated for any additional costs incurred as the result of such order and shall give the Purchasing Agency a credit for any savings.
 3. Material, substantive modifications, changes, and amendments to the Contract must be in a writing executed by authorized representatives of each party.
- K. TAXES: Contractor acknowledges all sales to the Commonwealth of Virginia are normally exempt from State sales tax. State sales and use tax certificates of exemption, Form ST-12, will be issued upon request. Deliveries against this Contract shall usually be free of Federal excise and transportation taxes. The Commonwealth's excise tax exemption registration number is 54-73-0076K.
- L. FAILURE TO DELIVER GOODS OR SERVICES: In case of failure to deliver goods or services in accordance with the Contract terms and conditions, VCU, after due oral or written notice, may procure them from other sources and hold the Contractor responsible for any resulting additional purchase and administrative costs. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies which VCU may have.
- M. SHIPPING: Contractor shall ship all goods FOB destination at the actual freight rate based upon the actual weight of the goods to be shipped.
- N. INSURANCE: Contractor certifies it will have the following insurance coverages, and any insurance otherwise required by applicable law, throughout the entire term of the Contract, as well as renewal terms. For construction contracts, if any subcontractors are involved, the subcontractor will have workers' compensation insurance in accordance with §§ 2.2-4332 and 65.2-800 et seq. of the *Code of Virginia*. Contractor further certifies all insurance coverage will be provided by insurance companies authorized by the Virginia State Corporation Commission to sell insurance in Virginia. Minimum Insurance Coverages and Limits Required for Most Contracts:
1. Worker's Compensation - Statutory requirements and benefits. Coverage is compulsory for employers of three or more employees, to include the employer.
 2. Employers Liability - \$100,000.
 3. Commercial General Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Commercial General Liability is to include bodily injury and property damage, personal injury and advertising injury, products, and completed operations coverage. The Commonwealth of Virginia must be named as an additional insured and so endorsed on the policy.

4. Automobile Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence. (applicable only if motor vehicle is to be used in performance of this Contract)
 5. Cyber Security Liability - \$5,000,000 (applicable as determined by the University)
- O. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE: During the performance of this Contract, the Contractor agrees to (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the Contractor's employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the Contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor that the Contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) includes the provisions of the foregoing clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor providing services under this Contract. For the purposes of this section, "*drug-free workplace*" means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific contract awarded to a contractor, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the Contract.
- P. NONDISCRIMINATION: As applicable, federal law requires compliance with the following:
1. 41 CFR § 60-1.4 Equal Opportunity Clause prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
 2. 41 CFR 60-741.5(a) and 41 CFR 60-300.5(a). These regulations prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals on the basis of disability (60-741.5(a)) and protected veteran status (41 CFR 60-300.5(a)), and require affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities and qualified protected veterans.
- Q. FERPA: To the extent that University provides to Contractor any identifiable student information, including student address, phone number and email address, the University hereby designates Contractor as a school official with a legitimate educational interest in using such student information, and Contractor agrees to use such information only for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations under this Contract. Contractor further agrees not to disclose any such student information to any individual other than the student except as required by applicable law, rule or regulation or court or governmental order or as authorized in writing by the University or the individual student. Contractor acknowledges that this protection of student information is necessary for the University's compliance with the Code of Virginia section 23.1-405(C) and the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- R. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: "Confidential Information" means all information of a party ("Disclosing party") disclosed or made available to the other party ("Receiving party") that (i) is clearly marked or identified as such at the time of disclosure or within a reasonable time thereafter; or (ii) should be reasonably known by the Receiving party to be confidential due to the nature of the information disclosed and the circumstances surrounding the disclosure. Confidential Information of VCU shall include, but not be limited to information about VCU personnel and students of VCU to the extent such information is not available to the public domain in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and FERPA. Contractor shall use its reasonable efforts to prevent and protect Confidential Information from unauthorized use or disclosure, with at least the same degree of care that Contractor uses to

protect its own confidential and proprietary information, but in no event less than a reasonable degree of care under the circumstances. Each Party will only disclose the other Party's Confidential Information to its employees, consultants, or subcontractors only on a need-to-know basis, provided that such employees or subcontractors are subject to confidentiality obligations no less restrictive than those contained herein. Upon the completion of the services and upon request of VCU, Contractor shall return all Confidential Information received in written format, including copies or reproductions or other media containing Confidential Information within seven (7) days of such request.

- S. VA FOIA: Nothing contained herein is intended to limit VCU's compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act ("VFOIA"). For clarity, contracts and pricing between VCU and its vendors are not considered to be exempt from VFOIA requests.
- T. INDEMNIFICATION: Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless VCU, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and their officers, employees and agents from any claim, damage, liability, injury, expense or loss, including defense costs and attorneys' fees, arising from Contractor's negligence under this Agreement. Accordingly, VCU shall promptly notify Contractor of any claim or action brought against VCU in connection with this Agreement. Upon such notification, and at the request and direction of VCU and/or the Office of the Attorney General, Contractor will immediately defend any such claim or action pursuant to the provisions and requirements of § 2.2-514 of the Code of Virginia (Virginia Code).
- U. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY: Contractor shall be liable for the direct damages caused by the negligence of itself, its officers, employees, and agents in connection with this Contract or any goods, services, actions, or omissions relating to this Contract.
- V. SUBCONTRACTS: No portion of the work shall be subcontracted without prior written consent of the University. In the event that the Contractor desires to subcontract some part of the work specified herein, the Contractor shall furnish the University with the names, qualifications and experience of their proposed subcontractors. The Contractor shall, however, remain fully liable and responsible for the work to be done by its subcontractor(s) and shall assure compliance with all requirements of the Contract.
- W. PRIME CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES: The Contractor shall be responsible for completely supervising and directing the work under this Contract and all subcontractors that Contractor may utilize, using best skill and attention. Subcontractors who perform work under this Contract shall be responsible to the prime Contractor. The Contractor agrees that it is as fully responsible for the acts and omissions of subcontractors and of persons employed by them as Contractor is for the acts and omissions of its own employees.
- X. STATUTORY DAMAGES: VCU is not authorized to waive damages granted or otherwise available by statute.
- Y. SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY: VCU is an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia and is afforded the protection of sovereign immunity under Virginia law. Any claims against VCU or the Commonwealth are subject to the requirements established under Virginia law for bringing such claims against VCU or the Commonwealth, including the Virginia Tort Claims Act (Virginia Code §§ 8.01-195.1 et seq.) and other applicable statutes relating to claims against the Commonwealth or its agencies. Notwithstanding any other provision, nothing in this Contract shall be deemed to be or construed as a waiver of VCU's or the Commonwealth's sovereign immunity, or any other applicable requirements under Virginia law for bringing claims against

VCU or the Commonwealth. The total cumulative liability of the University, its officers, employees, and agents in connection with this contract or in connection with any goods, services, actions or omissions relating to this contract, shall not under any circumstance exceed payment of the maximum purchase price.

- Z. **FORCE MAJEURE:** Neither Party will be responsible for any losses resulting from delay or failure in performance resulting from any cause beyond either Party's reasonable control, including without limitation, war, strikes or labor disputes, civil disturbances, fires, natural disasters, pandemics, including if VCU, in its sole discretion, must close a campus location or take other restrictive actions due to concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic or acts of God. If the delay or failure in the performance of the Party claiming Force Majeure continues for thirty (30) days or more, then the Party not claiming Force Majeure may terminate this Agreement by written notice to the other Party without penalty. Any funds paid will be reimbursed pro rata based on Services not provided
- AA. **AUDIT:** The Contractor shall retain all books, records, and other documents relative to this Contract for five (5) years after final payment, or until audited by the Commonwealth of Virginia, whichever is sooner. The University, its authorized agents, and/or State auditors shall have full access to and the right to examine any of said materials during said period.
- BB. **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS:** It is understood and agreed between the parties herein that VCU shall be bound hereunder only to the extent the funds are appropriated, or otherwise made available, from the Virginia General Assembly or other funding source, or which funds may hereafter be provided for the purpose of this Contract.
- CC. **ADDITIONAL GOODS AND SERVICES:** The University may acquire other goods or services that the supplier provides than those specifically solicited. The University reserves the right, subject to mutual contract, for Contractor to provide additional goods and/or services under the same pricing, terms and conditions and to make modifications or enhancements to the existing goods and services. Such additional goods and services may include other products, components, accessories, subsystems, or related services newly introduced during the term of the Contract.
- DD. **PAYMENT TO SUBCONTRACTORS:**
1. Contractor awarded a contract under this solicitation is hereby obligated to pay the Subcontractor(s) within seven (7) days of the Contractor's receipt of payment from the Commonwealth for the proportionate share of the payment received for work performed by the Subcontractor(s) under the contract; or
 2. To notify the agency and the Subcontractor(s), in writing, of the Contractor's intention to withhold payment and the reason.
 3. The Contractor is obligated to pay the Subcontractor(s) interest at the rate of one percent per month (unless otherwise provided under the terms of the contract) on all amounts owed by the Contractor that remain unpaid seven (7) days following receipt of payment from the Commonwealth, except for amounts withheld as stated in 2. above. The date of mailing of any payment by U.S. Mail is deemed to be payment to the addressee. These provisions apply to each sub sub-tier Contractor performing under the primary contract. A Contractor's obligation to pay an interest charge to a Subcontractor may not be construed to be an obligation of the Commonwealth.

EE. REALSOURCE REGISTRATION: This Contract shall result in a purchase order or purchase orders issued via VCU's source-to-pay platform, RealSource. Contractor shall register in RealSource upon award of contract. For information on registering, visit realsource.vcu.edu. Registration is free, and registered vendors shall have access to purchase order, invoice, and payment information. Contractor is responsible for the security of its RealSource portal account, including restricting access to it, maintaining the confidentiality of login information, and taking any other actions necessary to protect the security of the Contractor's account. VCU will not be responsible for a third party's fraudulent collection of VCU payments due to the Contractor's failure to update or protect its account information. If this is a cooperative procurement, this clause shall apply to orders placed by VCU only.

FF. eVA REGISTRATION AND FEES: Contractor agrees to self-register with the Commonwealth of Virginia's electronic procurement system, eVA (information on eVA can be found at <http://www.eva.virginia.gov>), and agrees to maintain self-registered status for the duration of this Contract. The Commonwealth shall assess eVA transaction fees as specified below for each order resulting from this Contract. The Vendor Transaction Fee is:

1. DSBSD-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$500 per order.
2. Businesses that are not DSBSD-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$1,500 per order.

The specified Vendor Transaction Fee will be invoiced by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of General Services, approximately 30 days after the corresponding purchase order is issued and the invoice is payable 30 days after the invoice date.

Contractor is responsible for the security of its eVA account, including restricting access to it, maintaining the confidentiality of login information, and taking any other actions necessary to protect the security of Contractor's account. VCU will not be responsible for a third party's fraudulent collection of VCU payments due to Contractor's failure to update or protect its account information.

GG. SWAM REPORTING: Contractor will submit a quarterly SWAM business report to the University by the 8th of the month following each calendar quarter, specifically the months of April, July, October, and January. Contractor will submit the quarterly SWAM business reports, based upon the Contractor's proposed commitment to:

VCU SWaM Reporting

E-mail: swamreporting@vcu.edu

The quarterly SWAM business reports will contain the following information:

- a. SWAM firms' name, address and phone number with which Contractor has contracted over the specified quarterly period.
- b. Contact person at the SWAM firm who has knowledge of the specified information.
- c. Type of goods and/or services provided over the specified period of time.
- d. Total amount paid to the SWAM firm as it relates to the University's account.

9. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. ADVERTISING: Contractor shall not state in any of its advertising or product literature that the University, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or any agency or institution of the Commonwealth has purchased or uses its products or services.
- B. TRADEMARKS/LOGOS: The University retains all rights, title and interest to its trademarks, logos and other intellectual property. Contractor shall first submit a request in writing to the VCU Division of University Relations prior to use of any VCU marks, name, or logos.
- C. SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL OR PROMOTIONAL DISCOUNTS: The Contractor shall extend any special educational or promotional sale prices or discounts immediately to University during the term of this Contract. Such notice shall also advise the duration of the specific sale or discount price.
- D. NOTIFICATION OF WORK: While working in a University building, the Contractor shall have no more than two (2) minutes to notify the Operations Center at (804) 828-9364, if Contractor or its sub-contractor set off the alarm and/or hear an active alarm. Failure to notify the Operations Center could result in a fine from City of Richmond Fire Department and OEHS issuing a stop work.

All Contractors working in a University building are required to check in and check out daily with the FMD Operations Center at (804) 828-9444 and provide the following information:

- 1) Responsible person name (the responsible person must remain on-site)
 - 2) Responsible person cell number
 - 3) Company Name
 - 4) Number of people working
 - 5) Location (Building, Floor, Room)
 - 6) Nature of the Work
- E. ASBESTOS: Whenever and wherever during the course of performing any work under this Contract, the Contractor discovers the presence of asbestos or suspects that asbestos is present, Contractor shall stop the work immediately, secure the area, notify the Building Owner and await positive identification of the suspect material. During the downtime in such a case, the Contractor shall not disturb any surrounding surfaces but shall protect the area with suitable dust covers. In the event the Contractor is delayed due to the discovery of asbestos or suspected asbestos, then a mutually agreed extension of time to perform the work shall be allowed the Contractor but without additional compensation due to the time extension.
 - F. RADIATION/CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL HAZARD AREAS: The personnel employed by the Contractor shall be capable employees, trained and qualified to perform specified services. If the Contractor is to perform work in areas posted with hazard signs, prior to the commencement of the Contract, the Contractor shall contact Safety and Risk Management (SRM) at srm@vcu.edu for information regarding chemical, biological, radiological, environmental, and occupational hazards. The Contractor shall be responsible for providing

appropriate personal protective equipment and applicable safety training to its employees based on the hazard information provided by VCU. SRM may provide consultation on complex projects or request information related to the contractor's safety protocols, to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

- G. **CONVENIENCE TO GENERAL PUBLIC AND PROPERTY OWNERS:** All work covered under this Contract shall be done in such a manner as to cause as little inconvenience as possible to the general public and property owners. All equipment and resulting material shall be placed along the route of the work so as not to inconvenience vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The Contractor shall provide adequate means to safely direct traffic past the points that are affected by the work at all times. No closures shall be allowed unless specifically coordinated and approved. Access to property shall be maintained, and any time where there is a loss of access, the contractor shall coordinate with VCU Facilities Management.
- H. **AS-BUILT DRAWINGS:** The Contractor shall provide the Commonwealth a clean set of reproducible "as built" drawings and wiring diagrams, marked to record all changes made during installation or construction. The Contractor shall also provide the Commonwealth with maintenance manuals, and parts lists and a copy of all warranties for all equipment. All "as built" drawings and wiring diagrams, maintenance manuals, parts lists, and warranties shall be delivered to the Commonwealth upon completion of the work and prior to final payment.
- I. **CONTRACTOR'S TITLE TO MATERIALS:** No materials or supplies for the work shall be purchased by the Contractor or by any Subcontractor subject to any chattel mortgage or under a conditional sales or other contract by which an interest is retained by the seller. The Contractor warrants that he has clear title to all materials and supplies for which he invoices for payment.
- J. **FINAL INSPECTION:** At the conclusion of the work, the Contractor shall demonstrate to VCU that the work is fully operational and in compliance with Contract specifications and codes. Any deficiencies shall be promptly and permanently corrected by the Contractor at the Contractor's sole expense prior to final acceptance of the work.
- K. **INSTALLATION:** All items must be assembled and set in place, ready for use. All crating and other debris must be removed from the premises.
- L. **LABELING OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES:** If the items or products included in the Contract or used to perform the requirements of the Contract are "Hazardous Substances" as defined by § 1261 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) or "Pesticides" as defined in § 136 of Title 7 of the United States Code, then the Contractor, by submitting his proposal, certifies and warrants that the items or products to be delivered under this Contract shall be properly labeled as required by the foregoing sections and that by delivering the items or products the Contractor does not violate any of the prohibitions of Title 15 U.S.C. § 1263 or Title 7 U.S.C. § 136.
- M. **MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS:** Material Safety Data Sheets and descriptive literature shall be provided with the proposal for each chemical and/or compound offered to the end user and the Contract Administrator
- N. **MAINTENANCE MANUALS:** The Contractor shall provide with each piece of equipment an operations and maintenance manual with wiring diagrams, parts list, and a copy of all warranties.
- O. **PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE:** The Contractor shall provide necessary preventive maintenance,

required testing and inspection, calibration and/or other work necessary to maintain the equipment in complete operational condition during the warranty period.

- P. **WARRANTY (COMMERCIAL):** The Contractor agrees that the supplies or services furnished under any award resulting from this solicitation shall be covered by the most favorable commercial warranties the Contractor gives any customer for such supplies or services and that the rights and remedies provided therein are in addition to and do not limit those available to the Commonwealth by any other clause of this solicitation.
- Q. **WORK SITE DAMAGES:** Any damage to existing utilities, equipment or finished surfaces resulting from the performance of this Contract shall be repaired to the Commonwealth's satisfaction at the Contractor's expense.
- R. **WORK ESTIMATES and INVOICES (TIME AND MATERIAL CONTRACTS):** If this is a time and material Contract, the Contractor shall furnish VCU with a non-binding written estimate of the total costs to complete the work required. The estimate must include the labor category(ies), the Contractor's hourly rates specified in the Contract, and the total material cost. Material costs shall be billed at the Contractor's actual invoice costs (Contractor shall furnish copies of all invoices for materials) or discount off the list price, whichever is specified in the Contract. If VCU determines that the estimated price is not fair and reasonable, VCU has the right to ask the Contractor to reevaluate the estimate. If the revised estimate is determined to be not fair and reasonable, VCU reserves the right to obtain additional quotes from other vendors. A work order will be issued to the Contractor, as the authority to proceed with the work, which will incorporate the Contractor's estimate and the terms and conditions of the contract. Invoices for Time and Material contracts shall have time sheets attached with labor classification, hourly rate and hours worked as well as subcontractor and/or equipment invoices which shall be billed at cost.
- S. **EXTRA CHARGES NOT ALLOWED:** The Contract price shall reflect all fees to be incurred for the performance of the Contract, including all applicable freight and installation charges. Any additional fees that arise during the performance of the Contract shall only be paid if approved by the University prior to incurring such fees.
- T. **ADDITIONAL USERS OF CONTRACT:** It is the University's intent to allow for cooperative procurement. Accordingly, any public body, public or private health or educational institution, or any University-related foundation (Additional Users) may access this Agreement if authorized by Selected Firm.

To that end and if agreeable with the Contractor, upon written request from Additional Users the Contractor may allow access to the contract. Although the University desires to provide access on such contract to Additional Users, the Contractor is not required to provide such access. A Contractor's willingness to provide this access to Additional Users, will not be a consideration in awarding this contract. Although the Additional Users have access to any resulting contract, Additional Users are not bound to use the contract and any use of the contract is strictly optional.

If the Additional Users choose to access the contract and the Contractor agrees to such access, the terms and conditions of the contract will be in full force and effect as between the Additional Users and the Contractor. VCU will have no responsibility for the resolution of any contractual disputes, or for payment for services rendered which may arise from an Additional User accessing the contract. The Contractor understands and

agrees that it shall not have any recourse against VCU with respect to any claim it may have against another Additional User that accessed this contract.

- U. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION: If Contractor employees and agents will be on the VCU campus, or have access to protected data as defined herein, Contractor must comply with the following: Contractor shall ensure that its employees, full-time or part-time, including newly hired, re-hired, seasonal, and/or temporary, who may have access to VCU confidential or proprietary information, or data about VCU personnel or students, have passed a criminal background check pursuant to the Code of Virginia, § 2.2-1201.1. Criminal background checks shall comply with the standards set forth in VCU's employment policies found at:

[Background Check Policy](#)

Specifically, Contractor shall ensure an investigation is conducted by a third-party vendor utilizing courthouse records and national databases to obtain records within the past seven (7) years. Convictions related to drugs, violence and/or sexual behavior are generally considered job related due to the nature of the VCU environment and the need to provide reasonable levels of protection for students, patients, employees, visitors, and institutional resources.

- V. IDENTIFICATION CARDS: All Contractor employees authorized to work at VCU must obtain a VCU identification card. Information on obtaining a card is available at <http://vcucard.vcu.edu/>. Contractor's employees must wear their VCU identification when they are on VCU property. Contact FMContracts@vcu.edu for information on VCU Affiliate ID Cards upon receipt of a purchase order.
- W. REGULATORY: Firm shall comply with all federal, state, and local regulations, ordinances, rules and codes pertaining to safety, public health, environmental and building codes, including the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health (VOSH) standards, the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Codes (USBC), pertaining to the health, safety and the use and management of hazardous materials and waste applicable to the work under this Agreement
- X. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES: All representations and warranties made by University are made to the best of its knowledge at the time the representation or warranty is made. University will use its best efforts to comply with all conditions and restrictions on its accounts and the services provided hereunder.
- Y. DELIVERY AND STORAGE: It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to make all arrangements for delivery, unloading, receiving and storing materials in the building during installation. VCU will not assume any responsibility for receiving these shipments. Contractor shall check with VCU and make necessary arrangements for security and storage space in the building during installation.

10. NOTICES.

All notices, requests, demands and other communications which are required or permitted to be given under this MSA shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given upon the delivery or receipt thereof, as the case may be, if delivered personally or sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, to the respective Party hereto.

Contractor:

Name of Contractor: Ameritech Test & Balance LLC

Attention: Jody Crone, President
Street Address: 8179 Hamilton Drive
City, State, Zip: Gloucester, VA 23061
Phone: 804-815-1524
Email: jcronebalance@aol.com

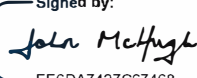
VCU:

Virginia Commonwealth University
Procurement Services
912 W. Grace Street, 5th Fl
Richmond, VA 23284
procurement_services@vcu.edu

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties to this MSA by their duly authorized representatives have executed this MSA the day and year below.

Virginia Commonwealth University

Name: John McHugh

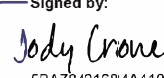
Signed by: 
Signature: EE6DA7427C67468...

Title: Executive Director,
Procurement Services

Date: 5/22/2025

Ameritech Test & Balance LLC

Name: Jody Crone

Signed by: 
Signature: 5BA78491684A410...

Title: President

Date: 5/21/2025

APPENDIX II

OFFEROR RESPONSE FORM

RFP 194396960 – Skilled Trade Services Round 3

1. Contractor Information

- A. Contractor Name: Ameritech Test & Balance LLC
- B. Street Address: 8179 Hamilton Drive
- D. City: Gloucester
- E. State: VA
- F. Zip Code: 23061
- G. Phone Number: 804-815-1524
- H. Email Address: jcronebalance@aol.com
- I. FEIN Number: 33-2399013
- J. Client Reference List: (Provide at least one business reference)

Reference Name: VCU Health System Authority

Contact: Larry Shirts – Senior Director, Facilities Management

Address: 403 North 13th Street, Room 426g, PO Box 980060, Richmond, VA 23298

Phone #: 804-828-5690 (office)

E-mail address: larry.shirts@vcuhealth.org

Description and date(s) and services provided: FROM 2005 to CURRENT: Providing High-Performance Test and Balance support services on various planned multi-year, multi-phase, multi-million-dollar projects, periodic inspections and emergency services. Manages client's HVAC airflow ventilation records as it pertains to pressure-critical spaces (e.g. air changes per hour and space pressure relationships).

- B. List the discipline(s) you are applying for below. You may choose more than one discipline if your firm is properly licensed in providing multiple services. Copies of licensing must accompany proposal.

HVAC Test and Balance, Commissioning, Consultation, Troubleshooting Services.

- C. Experience

Provide a capabilities statement for all disciplines you are applying for. You may attach additional pages.

AMERITECH TEST & BALANCE, in business since March 8th, 2002, has built its reputation on providing a high level of service, specializing in providing customized client services instead of "commodity" (rigidly limited) Commissioning or Testing and Balancing. By approaching an HVAC System as a system, we partner with the owners, their stakeholders and contractors, to enable them to better operate, maintain and retrofit their HVAC equipment. The services we provide have evolved out of the interplay between experienced practitioners. We have found that the combination of dissimilar but complementary domains of practice (and the damping of cognitive biases it affords us) is our key to providing in-depth, consequential audits. All forms of TAB should share the same goals: to produce a building meeting the unique needs of its owners and occupants; to operate as efficiently as possible,

while providing a safe, comfortable work environment that can be operated and maintained by a well-trained staff or service contractor.

D. Brief history of the firm:

Jody Crone founded Ameritech Test & Balance 23 years ago, ascertaining a need for providing much more than just commodity-based and traditional TAB services. He brings decades of experience in the most demanding types of information gathering, analysis, diagnosis and remediation in the commercial, medical and institutional HVAC field. His constant focus is “getting it right for the client”. To this end, he provides a level of documentation and precision that routinely exceeds the requirements of contracts. This focus has led more than one major health system to insist upon using his services exclusively in conducting their audits. His commitment to the proper functioning of systems as a whole (rather than as mere individual units) has led to an expansion of Ameritech’s services beyond Testing, Adjusting and Balancing.

E. Business License, Trades License, or other applicable licensing. Please attach additional pages if necessary. You must be properly licensed and provide copies of your licensing with Appendix II.

☒ Vendor Agrees to maintain required licensing for the discipline applied for.

License Type: 2025 Business License No. 70896 License Number: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

License Type: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) License Number: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

License Type: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) License Number: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

License Type: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) License Number: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

License Type: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) License Number: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

License Type: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) License Number: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

F. Warranty

Provide warranty information.

PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE and WARRANTY for AMERITECH TEST & BALANCE LLC: If the building owner or its agent believes that the Test and Balance for the referenced project (TBD) was not properly performed, a complaint must be submitted, in writing to Ameritech Test & Balance LLC. Upon receipt of the complaint, Ameritech Test & Balance LLC will respond within 15-calendar days and an investigation process will be implemented and a project reference claim number will be assigned. This guarantee may only be invoked by the building owner or its agent. The guarantee is valid for one year from the date of submission (TBD) of the Test and Balance report, and shall be VOID if any other persons, TAB agency or contractor performs any work on said mechanical systems outlined within the Test and Balance report, prior to contacting Ameritech Test & Balance LLC. This guarantee is additionally VOID where it can be shown that a balanced condition was initially unachievable due to equipment malfunction, system modifications, existing building conditions, improper maintenance, unauthorized post-balance adjustments by others, or BAS control limitations. If it is determined upon Investigation of said complaint that an improper Test and Balance methodology or system adjustments were made, then Ameritech Test & Balance LLC shall re-balance at no additional cost to others and shall retain the services of a professional TAB agency at no additional cost to others to perform such work to the satisfaction of said invokers (building owner or its agent). If Ameritech Test & Balance LLC is contacted for what is initiated as a warranty and/or guarantee claim and it is determined that the any failed conditions were indirectly related to the original Test and Balance services performed by Ameritech Test & Balance LLC, then at that point Ameritech Test & Balance LLC shall be fully reimbursed for all lost time as justified on a time and material basis.

2. Conditions of Award

Please check each box below confirming agreement with the conditions of award. Terms that contain a check box must be checked to confirm acceptance.

A. RealSource/eVA Registration

- ☒ The Contractor agrees to maintain or become registered as a vendor within the VCU RealSource Vendor Registration network upon being invited to register **and** Contractor agrees to maintain or become self-registered as a vendor with eVA.

B. Small, Minority & Woman Owned Business (SWaM) Certification / SWaM Plan

- ☒ The Contractor is either currently certified with the [Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity \(DSBSD\)](#) as a Small, Women, and Minority Owned (SWaM) and/or Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Business and/or agrees to commit to the percentage listed below for SWaM Participation. And will provide second tier reporting to VCU on a quarterly basis to swamreporting@vcu.edu.

100 % SWaM Participation will be maintained during contract:

If you are a SWaM Certified vendor fill out the information below:

- 948833: Certification Number
- Small: Certification Type (Small, Women, Minority, Veteran)

C. Detailed Scope of Work, Response Time and Reporting

- ☒ The Contractor will provide a detailed quote at the request of VCU, summarizing specific services, deliverables, delivery dates and cost in accordance with the contract – without additional terms or conditions requiring VCU signature. The contract terms and conditions will govern all quotes.
- ☒ The Contractor will respond to emergency requests no later than 4 hours and non-emergency requests no later than 24 hours.
- ☒ The Contractor will check in with the VCU Operations Center 804-828-9444 upon arrival at Campus and check out when leaving VCU. See Section 9. Special Terms and Conditions, D. Notification of Work.

D. Purchase Orders

- ☒ The Contractor will accept a VCU issued Purchase Order as the commitment to start a project and will not start work on a project until a Purchase Order is received. If a blanket Purchase Order is established, Contractor will not start work without a notice to proceed notification or a work order number.

E. Invoicing

- ☒ The Contractor agrees to invoice in accordance with the procedures outlined in the VCU Purchase Order and instructions provided by VCU.

F. Payment Method (Check the box AND select an option from the dropdown)

VCU is migrating away from processing payments via paper check and strongly encourages the use of our electronic payment options.

- ☒ Paper Check (Net 30). If selecting this option, we encourage offering an EPD.

Please review the payment information regarding payment options here prior to selecting:

<https://procurement.vcu.edu/for-suppliers/vendor-invoicing-payment/>

G. Early Payment Discount (EPD): (Check the box AND select an option from the dropdown)

- ☒ N/A

H. Fees

Pricing must be submitted by completing Appendix III. The fee structure includes rates charged for all personnel classifications or service that may be provided to VCU. Pricing will mainly be time and material or unit pricing, however, lump sum pricing may be requested at VCU's discretion.

Labor rates must be fully burdened and inclusive of travel, overhead, profit and incidentals.

VCU reserves the right to engage in further negotiations.

I. Insurance Requirements

☒ Contractor agrees to maintain minimum insurance requirements as stated in the MSA.

3. Acceptance

This document will be incorporated into the Master Services Agreement (MSA) between Contractor and VCU. The contract between Contractor VCU may include statements of work, a data protection addendum, or other similar documents as necessary. The MSA will have precedence over all other contract documents.

Contractor Name: Ameritech Test & Balance LLC

Authorized Officer/Signatory: Jody L. Crone

Title: President

Authorized Officer/Signatory Email Address: jcronebalance@aol.com

Date: 5/5/2025

☒ **Electronic Signature:** By typing the name of the contractor's authorized representative/signatory into the field above, the contractor certifies that it is providing a binding "Electronic Signature" and further specifically validates that the individual affixing the Electronic Signature below is fully authorized to bind the firm with respect to the goods, services, pricing, terms and conditions listed herein. **No award will be made without a fully executed MSA.**

RFP 194396960TH SKILLED TRADES ROUND 3 APPENDIX III - PRICE SCHEDULE

Time and Materials - Please see Section 9. Special Terms and Conditions, R. Work Estimates and Invoices Time and Material

<i>Job Classification</i>		Regular Hourly Rate (7:30am to 4:00pm)	Overtime Hourly Rate (After 4:00pm / Weekends / Holidays)
1	Ameritech Test & Balance LLC - Rates 05/05/2025		
2	Service Leader	\$ 220.00	\$ 320.00
3	TAB/Cx Eng. Tech.	\$ 206.25	\$ 300.00
4	Sr. TAB Technician	\$ 192.50	\$ 280.00
5	Utility Technician	\$ 178.75	\$ 260.00
6	Project Manager	\$ 165.00	\$ 240.00
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

This price schedule **shall** include fully burdened Labor Rates including, but not be limited to the following: wages, overhead, administrative costs, travel, incidentals, and profit. **Materials are to be provided at cost.**

Unit Pricing

<i>Item or Service</i>		Unit of Measure Included	Cost
1	N/A	---	---
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			