December 4, 2014

RE: Request for Proposals, Internal Controls

Dear Auditor,

Tennessee Technology Development Corporation, d/b/a Launch Tennessee (Launch TN) was awarded a Grant Contract with the State of Tennessee on July 1, 2012 in the amount of $10,375,000. The grant funds are state funds from the Department of Economic and Community Development to increase economic development in the state of Tennessee. On October 1, 2011, Launch TN was awarded a Grant Contract with the State of Tennessee in the amount of $29,596,073. These federal funds are passed through the Department of Economic and Community Development from the United States Treasury Department of Treasury, as a part of the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). Both grants are administered by Launch TN, THE GRANTEE.

You are invited to submit a proposal for furnishing a comprehensive internal control and compliance review and assessment for Launch TN according to the enclosed SCHEDULE OF WORK. Tests for internal control and compliance must be made in accordance with:


3) AICPA's Audits of State and Local Governmental Units.


Proposals must be submitted in duplicate and must include the SCHEDULE OF WORK (enclosed) and the technical proposal. The technical proposal should provide the following:

1) Information on the firm's background and experience auditing Economic and Community Development and SSBCI programs.
2) Information on the firm's background and experience in reviewing internal controls and compliance of programs financed by a federal, state, or local government.

3) Information on the size and organizational structure of your firm.

4) Resumes indicating the qualifications of the staff members to be assigned to this review and assessment, indicating at a minimum, their position in the firm, total years with the firm, and experience. Please also include a description of the review team makeup and the planned supervision.

5) A statement of your understanding of the work to be performed, including time and cost estimates to perform each step in the review and assessment.

A final selection will be made by February 2, 2015 based on the afore-mentioned responses and proposed fee.

Proposals are due by no later than 4:30 p.m., CST January 12, 2015. Snail mail or e-mail to:

Tennessee Technology Development Corporation
d/b/a Launch Tennessee
211 Seventh Avenue North, Suite 205
Nashville, TN 37219
Attn: Dr. Patricia Beavers, Director of Finance and Accounting
patricia@launchtn.org

Proposals sent by snail mail must be postmarked no later than midnight January 12, 2015.

If you have any questions concerning this request for proposal, or about the Economic and Community Development or SSBCI grant contracts, please contact Dr. Patricia Beavers at 615-866-1026, or at patricia@launchtn.org. When submitting your proposal, be sure to include the name, phone number, and e-mail address of the contact at your firm.

This letter is not to be construed as a contract or commitment of any kind.

Sincerely,

Dr. Patricia Beavers

Enclosure
Schedule of Work

I General

Tennessee Technology Development Corporation, d/b/a Launch Tennessee (Launch TN) was awarded a Grant Contract with the State of Tennessee on July 1, 2012 in the amount of $10,375,000. The grant funds are state funds from the Department of Economic and Community Development to increase economic development in the state of Tennessee. On October 1, 2011, Launch TN was awarded a Grant Contract with the State of Tennessee in the amount of $29,596,073. These federal funds are passed through the Department of Economic and Community Development from the United States Treasury Department of Treasury, as a part of the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). Both grants are administered by Launch TN, THE GRANTEE.

II Scope of Review and Assessment Services

The review and assessment is a single review and will cover the periods July 1, 2013 to December 31, 2014. All agency written procedures and policies will be reviewed, to include, but not limited to: internal controls, risk management, human resources, and accounting practices. In addition, the agency will be reviewed for contract compliance (program and fiscal) with state contracts. The Firm will conduct interviews of staff members to evaluate practices. Upon completion of the review and assessment, the Firm will be required to submit a written assessment of the review outcomes identifying deficiencies, and providing recommendations for improvement. The agency records are maintained at 211 Seventh Avenue North, Suite 205, Nashville, TN 37219.

III Contract Performance by Public Accounting Firms

The firm shall audit the accounts and records in strict accordance with the standards and guidelines identified in the cover letter.

IV Fee Schedule

Please include this fee schedule in your proposal. The rates will cover all costs and expenses.

1) Partner: $_____/hr.: Est. Person Hours _________ $__________
2) Manager: $_____/hr.: Est. Person Hours _________ $__________
3) Senior: $_____/hr.: Est. Person Hours _________ $__________
4) Staff: $_____/hr.: Est. Person Hours _________ $__________
5) Staff: $_____/hr.: Est. Person Hours _________ $__________
6) Clerical: $_____/hr.: Est. Person Hours _________ $__________

Total $__________
V Payment

Invoices must be submitted by no later than 30 days after completion of the on-site review (progress billing). Final invoices must be submitted by no later than 30 days after the written assessment has been submitted to Launch TN’s management. Separate invoices must be submitted for review work related to the SSBCI Program. Invoices must list the dates of service, scope of service, duration, and rate. Payments will be made by no later the 30 calendar days after receipt of invoice(s). Management reserves the right to dispute any charges it deems questionable or excessive.

VI Time of Performance

The services of the Firm are to commence as soon as possible after February 16, 2015 in order to be completed no later than March 9, 2015.

VII Termination

Launch TN reserves the right to terminate the services of the Firm by giving at least three (3) days written notice of the fact and time of such termination. In such event all finished or unfinished work prepared by the Firm shall become the property of Launch TN and the Firm shall be entitled to compensation for satisfactory work under this agreement.

VIII Other

The Firm shall provide 2 bounded copies of the review and assessment report by no later than March 9, 2015.