



RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE CORPORATION
Request for Proposal

For: Ongoing Research and Database Services for Websites

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (the Corporation) is soliciting Request for Proposal from an individual, firm or firms qualified to support the Corporation's need for on-going Research and Database Service for existing websites.

CORPORATION'S INTENT:

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation, in partnership with the Providence Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Foundation of Rhode Island Inc., are seeking services to continue development of websites at <http://www.greaterri.com> and <http://www.commercetri.com> for the purposes of delivering relevant and comprehensive data for companies seeking to make investment and siting decisions. The Vendor shall deliver services on a continuing monthly basis, and to update the data standards set forth by the International Economic Development Council for Rhode Island Commerce Corporation data that is recent and accurate as possible. This Vendor will also continue to explore and add other relevant economic data points that build a case for Rhode Island as a desirable place to invest and site businesses. The datasets to be examined and maintained include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The International Economic Development Council
- United States Bureau of Labor Statistics
- United States Census Bureau
- United States Bureau of Economic Analysis
- United States International Trade Administration Data
- Bureau of Justice Statistics
- Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED)
- The Federation of Tax Administrators
- New England Public Policy Center
- The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System
- The Rhode Island Department of Education
- The Rhode Island Department of Health
- The Rhode Island Division of Taxation
- The Rhode Island Geographic Information System
- The Rhode Island LMI Data Center
- The Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission
- Other Federal and Rhode Island Agencies that May Maintain Usable Statistics or Data



The Vendor will also update infographics and maps as required or requested by the Corporation for the websites. The Vendor will perform comparative analyses of the established Rhode Island baseline data with other states in the Northeast Region, to include Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania – as shown on the greaterri.com website. This comparative analysis will examine Rhode Island’s strengths as compared to other jurisdictions in the region and search for direct comparisons, per capita comparisons, and statistical correlations that highlight the potential economic advantages of investing and/or siting companies in Rhode Island. The comparative analysis shall be done on an ongoing basis, incorporating new reports and data as they become available.

Finally, the Vendor will continue to coordinate with the partners, and the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation to perform ongoing research and data collection and analysis as needed. This coordination is also intended to provide figures, data, and fact-checking for more in-depth tables, figures, and/or databases useful for analysis of economic development issues in Rhode Island. The Corporation may choose to expand the scope of the engagement for additional services, such as general statistical analysis, and industry data collection as requested.

Additionally, the results of this work may, in part, be utilized in the Corporation’s decision making. It is imperative that conflicts of interest, whether real or perceived, be avoided. A Conflict of Interest affidavit, in a format prepared by the Corporation, will be a condition of engagement.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS:

In order to be considered responsive, proposals shall, at a minimum, contain the following:

Technical Proposal Elements

1. Description of services provided by the respondent
2. Person who will be primary point of contact with the Corporation
3. Qualifications of the respondent to provide the requested services
4. A listing of the staff to be assigned to this engagement and their respective qualifications, past experience on engagements of this scope, and their role in those past engagements.

Cost Proposal Elements

1. Hourly Fee expectation
2. Rates for additional services offered by the firm

Administrative Proposal Elements

1. Certification of availability of individuals proposed.
2. Acknowledgement of the Conflict of Interest Affidavit requirements.
3. Certification that a Certificate of Good Standing from the Rhode Island Division of Taxation will be delivered to the Corporation upon award.
4. A listing of all current and ongoing contracts.
5. A disclosure of all outstanding financial obligations with the State of Rhode Island.



EVALUATION CRITERIA:

	Percentage
Past Experience	60%
Budget	40%

LOGISTICS:

No phone calls will be accepted. The Corporation will address any and all questions until May 14, 2014 by emailing John Riendeau at jriendeau@commerceri.com. Responses to all questions will be posted on the Corporation's website by close of business on May 15, 2014.

This Request for Proposal is being issued on **Thursday, May 8, 2014** and responses are due no later than 3:00 p.m., local time, on **Friday, May 23, 2014**. Any responses received after this time will not be considered.

1 original and 2 copies of the submittal shall be delivered to:

Rhode Island Commerce Corporation
315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101
Providence, RI 02908
Attn: Ongoing Research and Database Services for Websites

The Corporation reserves the right to select the proposal which it believes, in its sole and absolute discretion, will provide the greatest value to the Corporation.

Further, the Corporation reserves the right to terminate this solicitation prior to entering into any agreement with any qualified firm pursuant to this Request for Proposal, and by responding hereto, no firms are vested with any rights in any way whatsoever.