Healthcare specifications for bids and Questions & Evaluation Criteria for Proposals Guidance.

Bids and Proposals differ in many ways, but both can bring a better value to a procurement with the use of sustainability values. We are providing easy to answer questions for bids and open ended questions with evaluation criteria for proposals. This document is being shared as a Microsoft Word document so that it is easy for downloading and modifying. It is best proactive to evaluate specifications and questions that have been successful in the past, but do market research to ensure the most relevant criteria is included in a sourcing activity.

Yes or No Questions:

Storage and Packaging

Waste Generation and Reduction: waste reduction is the preferred approach to waste management because waste that never gets created doesn't have waste management costs. By producing less waste, we both reduce the cost to the County and minimize negative impacts on the environment. Trash can come from how a product is made, how it is packaged, and its intended use. You can reduce waste by choosing to purchase items that are made to last using natural or plant-based materials and are easy to reuse, recycle, or compost. One example of waste reduction is buying items in bulk or with minimal packaging, as well as avoiding items that are battery operated. Please mark all of the packaging options you can provide for us for a positive impact on waste reduction.

We are seeking suppliers who use packaging that is recyclable, biodegradable, and or reusable. Answer yes or no that you can provide for this type of packaging in the goods you purchase for your business operations or in your service delivery.

There shall be no styrofoam/polystyrene made from plastic in the packaging of the products in shipping or for storage

Toxic Reduction in Products

Health and Safety: the County Healthy Purchasing Initiative encourages selecting products that do not have an adverse impact on the environment or human health. Request chemical ingredient hazard disclosures for goods and materials purchased. This is especially important for branded items that are intended for events or giveaway. We do not want to purchase items present a health hazard to the people we serve. Seeking out items that are free of BPA, heavy metals, and other hazardous substances to protect the health of our community is our duty as County employees. Do you provide products that are BPA free?

Multiple Choice Questions Select all that apply: If supplier selects all they receive the maximum 10%.

| Alkylphenols |  |
| --- | --- |
| Bisphenol A (BPA) and Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) |  |
| Cadmium |  |
| Chlorinated polyethylene and chlorosulfonated polyethlene (CSPE) |  |
| Chloroprene, Neoprene, and Chlorobenzene |  |
| Chromium |  |
| Formaldehyde |  |
| Mercury (HIGHLY TOXIC) |  |
| Perfluorinated compounds (used in water resistant textiles) |  |
| Phthalates |  |
| Polyvinyl chloride and Polyvinylidene chloride (common in water bottles, stuffed animals, and dolls) |  |
| Wood treatments containing creosote, arsenic or pentachlorophenol |  |
| Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) |  |
| Flame Retardants |  |
| Lead (HIGHLY TOXIC) |  |

Substances to AVOID: High Priority of Chemicals of Concern We want to ensure their products or product packaging do not contain any of the following substances. These are known to be harmful to human health as well as our environment. This is not an exhaustive list, but is intended to give you an idea of what to look out for when purchasing items that have not already been vetted by County Purchasing staff. Check all that you can ensure these chemicals be at safe levels in the products we purchase.

Multiple Choice Questions Select all that apply: If supplier selects all they receive the maximum 10%.

| Alkylphenols |  |
| --- | --- |
| Bisphenol A (BPA) and Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) |  |
| Cadmium |  |
| Chlorinated polyethylene and chlorosulfonated polyethlene (CSPE) |  |
| Chloroprene, Neoprene, and Chlorobenzene |  |
| Chromium |  |
| Formaldehyde |  |
| Mercury (HIGHLY TOXIC) |  |
| Perfluorinated compounds (used in water resistant textiles) |  |
| Phthalates |  |
| Polyvinyl chloride and Polyvinylidene chloride (common in water bottles, stuffed animals, and dolls) |  |
| Wood treatments containing creosote, arsenic or pentachlorophenol |  |
| Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) |  |
| Flame Retardants |  |
| Lead (HIGHLY TOXIC) |  |

Third Party Certifications

| Many different third-party certifications are available to consumers for use in purchasing decisions. Check all certifications that you can negotiate using for the purchase of products for our organization. These certifications may be focused on a product or an organization. |
| --- |

Please Select All Certifications your organization uses in your business operations and service delivery.

ACT Label

Cradle to Cradle

Skin Deep

Veriflora

EPA Safer Choice

Multiple Choice Storage and Packaging Questions

| Waste Generation and Reduction: waste reduction is the preferred approach to waste management because waste that never gets created doesn't have waste management costs. By producing less waste, we both reduce the cost to the County and minimize negative impacts on the environment. Trash can come from how a product is made, how it is packaged, and its intended use. You can reduce waste by choosing to purchase items that are made to last using natural or plant-based materials and are easy to reuse, recycle, or compost. One example of waste reduction is buying items in bulk or with minimal packaging, as well as avoiding items that are battery operated. Please mark all of the packaging options you can provide for us for a positive impact on waste reduction. |
| --- |

No styrofoam/polystyrene in packaging for products we are purchasing.

Packaging that is recyclable, biodegradable, and or reusable.

Minimal packing that still provides a safe way to transport product.

Minimal packaging that can be returned included in final price.