No.	Question	<u>Response</u>
1	In section 9.2 of the above referenced bid, it states, "Any comments, questions, or exceptions not raised in writing on or before the last day of the question period are waived." Questions are due October 16, 2017. However, in section 9.3.4, it states, "This form must be completed and submitted as part of the response for the proposal to be considered validAny exceptions your company may have to the Terms and Conditions outlined in the RFP and/or any of the RFP attachments." This portion is due on November 28th, 2017. Section 9.2 referring what exceptions? If the exceptions to the Terms and Conditions are turned in on November 28th, instead of October 16th, will XXXXXXXX be disqualified from this opportunity.	of the RFP itself. While Section 9.3.4 refers specifically to Terms and Conditions. No, although the State will consider exceptions to the Terms and Conditions, please reference to Part 9 of the Bidder's Response Form
2	On page 65-66, Section 11.4 of the RFP, it is stated that "mandatory requirements" are pass/fail. However, we are not clear as to which mandatory requirements the RFP is referring. Can you please state the page and section number where we can find the "pass/fail" mandatory requirements.	Assuming the question is referring to "Adherence to Mandatory Bidding Requirements", it is the bidder's responsibility to review the RFP and comply with all requirements concerning submission of a response.
	The RFP states on page 1 that Questions are due October 16. Also, on page 60, Section 9.2, the RFP provides instructions as to where questions will be posted, but we are unable to locate a date as to when the State will respond to our questions. Will the State provide answers on an "as received" basis, or is there a specific date as to when all answers will be posted on the web site? If so, what is the date they will be posted?	Answers to all inquiries will be posted before or on November 13, 2017.
4	Whether companies from Outside USA can apply for this? (like, from India or Canada)	Prospective bidders must determine for themselves whether they can meet the requirements of this solicitation.
5	Whether we need to come over there for meetings?	The State expects a heavy contractor presence on-site but some meetings may be conducted remotely.
	Can we perform the tasks (related to RFP) outside USA? (like, from India or Canada) Can we submit the proposals via email?	Please reference response to Question #4. No, Reference Addendum #2 - Item 9.
	ePro RFP / 1. RFP Overview, Page 4. Can Vermont confirm that the eProcurement solution has to be a SaaS solution (that has multiple tenants that share the same infrastructure) instead of an On-Premise solution (hosted in laaS or locally)?	As stated in RFP Section 1.0 the eProcurement Solution shall be a hosted Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) license model.
9	ePro RFP / 1. RFP Overview, Page 4. Since Vermont has Peoplesoft for the backoffice ERP, does Vermont	The State is not requiring the Solution to be multiple tenant. The State of Vermont is system agnostic for the solution.
10	prefer Oracle or Peoplesoft product for eProcurement over some other products? ePro RFP / 4.3 PROCUREMENT METRICS, Page 9. What is the anticipated value of the goods and services that are going to be procured through the eProcurement system on a annual basis? This information may be used for SaaS license pricing.	Detail at this level is not currently available. The State is looking for the eProcurement Solution to provide more insight at this level of detail. Bidders should reference the Transaction Metrics provided in this Section as additional information that may help in assessing potential licensing.
11	ePro RFP / 4.3 PROCUREMENT METRICS, Page 9. What is the estimated number of users for Supplier Management, for Sourcing, for Contact Management, and for Procurement? This information may be used for SaaS license pricing.	Reference Addendum #2 - Items 3 & 16
12	ePro RFP / 5.3 REUSABLE/SHARE-ABLE ASSETS, Page 13. There is a requirement "When considering State applications and components for reuse within the proposed solution, costs for integration and licenses need to be accounted for in the price proposal." Since we don't have visibility to current license costs and user-base for Vermont to acquire these applications, it is not practical for the bidders to come up with a reliable cost proposal for some or all of these systems. We suggest Vermont to remove this requirement. The bidder can provide the a of reusable items required for eProcurement to Vermont, so to allow Vermont to determine the future license needs and potential costs associated with these licenses.	Licensing referenced in RFP Section 5.3 are specifically associated with any integration necessary to support a proposed eProcurement solution. Bidders must obtain licenses separate from the States' current licenses and include the costs for any licenses required in the price proposal.
13	ePro RFP / 6. SCOPE OF WORK, Page 14. Please confirm that integration with only one ERP system (Peoplesoft Financials VISION system) is required for eProcurement. Please also confirm that there is only one instance of VISION Production system.	Confirmed.
14	ePro RFP / 6.3.10.2 Help Desk, Page 39. Does Vermont already have a Tier-1 Help Desk to support other ERP systems? If so, we propose Vermont to leverage the existing Help Desk for Tier-1 support. It will not only help reduce significantly the cost of eProcurement Help Desk support, but also improve user experience and service quality by providing a consolidated Vermont tier-1 help desk service across many different domains.	As stated in RFP Section 6.3.10.2 the State does not intend to consider use of the existing State ERP Tier-1 Help Desk resource during the Project Implementation period plus 6 months after the implementation end date. However as noted under Optional Pricing Scenarios, the 4th bullet, the State is interested in obtaining pricing where the State would provide a contact center for Tier 1 and Tier 2 help desk services for State and Non-State Entity users.

No.	<u>Question</u>	Response
	ePro RFP / 6.3.10.2 Help Desk, Page 39. Is it required for eProcurement Help Desk to have its own ITSM system for incident ticket management, or can we assume Vermont's existing ITSM system will be used for incident management? It will be more cost effective for Vermont to use the existing ITSM.	Bidders may propose to use the State's current system or their own. Also, reference Addendum #2 - Item 7.
	Financial Proposal. 1. Uniform Cost Schedule. C. Annual Licensing Costs including Maintenance SaaS licensing is not fixed, and is based on the actual consumption, and may very periodically. The Annual Licensing Costs schedule table provided in Financial Proposal appears to be based on an on-premise software license costing. We would like to request Vermont to add additional schedule or change the current schedule to allow variable licensing based on parameters such as number of users, number of transactions, and value of expenditure that is processed through the eProcurement system.	Table C in the Cost and Financial Proposal Workbook on the Uniform Cost Schedule is not based on an on-premise software license costing. As stated on the Instructions tab of the Workbook, Bidders may add rows to this Table to be able to communicate additional cost details.
	ePro RFP, NA. It is more advantageous for Vermont to sign a separate agreement with the software vendor in order to obtain the best license terms and services from the respective software vendor. Once the award happens, two agreements can be reached based on the T&C's of submitted proposal, one for software component with the application vendor, the other for implementation component with the implementation service provider. Will Vermont be open to this arrangement?	Reference Addendum #2 - Item 10.
18	ePro RFP, NA. For a SaaS software, there will be Terms and Conditions that all tenants/users need to be comply with before SaaS services can be provisioned to the respective clients. Should we include these terms and conditions as part of the RFP proposal submission for review by Vermont?	Yes, see Section 12.3.2 of the RFP.
	ePro RFP, NA. For a SaaS software, SLAs are established for all tenants/users, instead of at individual tenant/user level. Some of the SLAs Vermont requested are higher than the standard SLAs a SaaS software vendor offers, and appears to apply more to an On-Prem solution than to an SaaS solution. For instance: "The Maximum System response time during Real-Time Transaction Response Times (RTRT) will be 5 seconds or less for search and lookup queries", and "The Maximum System response time for user interaction with the Application, which does NOT include RTRT (above), reporting-related, analytics, and ad-hoc transactions will be 1 second or less response time during normal business hours of 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM local time." Can we assume these SLAs are NOT mandatory requirements, but rather should be considered guidelines to follow? We can highlight in our response those SLAs that can not be guaranteed or achieved for Vermont to review.	Reference Addendum #2 - Item 8.
	ePro RFP / 4.3 PROCUREMENT METRICS, Page 9. We understand Vermont is looking for a phased enablement of the new system. Can you please provide the list of 8 state agencies and various departments in scope of this engagement with a brief description of the functional roles played by these agencies?	As indicated in Section 1 RFP Overview, this RFP is not limited to only Agencies and Departments of the State. A list of all agencies and departments of the State as well as a description of the functional roles played by these agencies can be found on-line at http://www.vermont.gov/portal/government/atoz.php.
	ePro RFP / 6.2.9.1 VISION Financial System Integration, Page 24. Vendor Account Data Integration: We understand that new eProcurement system will be the Source of Truth for Vendor management and onboarding and maintenance of vendors will only be done here. Other systems like VISION and STARS would be spoke systems consuming creation/update of vendor information. Can Vermont confirm that Vendor records will be managed in eProcurement system in the future, then synchronized into these peripheral Financial systems via interfaces?	Confirmed, see Section 6.2.9 of the RFP.
	ePro RFP / 6.2.9.1 VISION Financial System Integration, Page 24. Transaction Integration Processing – Vermont foresees encumbrance checks to be done real-time from VISION. Is it because there will be purchases done from both the new eProcurement system and also VISION? Is it ok to propose a solution leveraging Encumbrance management in new eProcurement system?	Purchases will occur in the eProcurement Solution, however VISION is the system of control for all appropriated monies, so encumbrances need to be checked in VISION.
23	ePro RFP / 6.2.9.1 VISION Financial System Integration, Page 24. Transaction Integration Processing – Does the scope of new eProcurement System also includes procurement of depreciable assets? Will Asset Management continue to be done in Asset Management module in VISION?	Yes, and Yes.
24	ePro RFP / 6.2.9.3 VISION Data Warehouse Integration, Page 26. The RFP talks about ability to integrate the eProcurement system with VISION Data warehouse and BI reporting components. We are assuming the development of cross functional reports within the DW will be out of the scope of this RFP. Please confirm.	While RFP Section 6.2.9.3 requires the data integration to provide the capability to create consolidated reporting with data from both the Solution and VISION there are required reports identified within Exhibit E, Data Analytics & Reporting tab, that may be examples of cross functional reports. Examples include, but are not limited to: EP-DAR-70 through EP-DAR-71.
	ePro RFP / 6.2.10 Existing Systems Replacement and Data Conversions, Page 26. The section mentions data conversion needs while replacing the mentioned applications (AASHTOWare, Bidx, EBB, CTS, Vision Contracts, BGS Bid Posting Site). We are assuming the extraction and cleansing of data will be taken care by current application support team and the data will be made available to the implementation partner in an agreed format. Please confirm.	Confirmed.

No.	Question	Response
	ePro RFP, NA. Since State of Vermont is using paper based procurement processes, we see data collection and cleansing a major challenge for Conversion. All data that should be loaded to the eProcurement system (like suppliers, requisitions, POs, Contracts etc. should be provided by Vermont in an agreed excel format. Please confirm if the assumption is valid.	
	ePro RFP / 6.3.9 Training, Page 38. Can you please clarify the scope of the training user base? We generally adopt a Train the Trainer approach in such engagements where the super-users are trained who in turn train the end users. Please confirm if there is a need of end user training as well? If yes, what is the expected user base?	Training plans must be addressed as required in Section 6.3.9. of the RFP. RFP Section 4.3 identifies that an estimated 450 users may comprise the initial set of users of the eProcurement Solution.
	ePro RFP / 6.3.10.2 Help Desk, Page 40. Optional Pricing scenarios: Extract from the RFP – "Contractor- only Help Desk Support: Contractor would continue providing the same Help Desk support as described above for the entire Contract term." Does the contract term refer to the duration of 5 years from the project kickoff?	Reference Addendum #2 - Items 6 & 17.
29	Exhibit E, NA. Need to Pay: Will Vermont be using the eProcurement system for procurement of only expense items or is there a use of items that are costed as well i.e. show up as inventory valuation?	As described in RFP Section 6.1.1 The State intends to purchase all types of items using the Procurement system including items that are costed.
	Exhibit E, NA. Is the current and future state HRMS system PeopleSoft? If users and employees are going to be directly maintained outside eProcurement application, an interface needs to be built to synchronize the information over. Please confirm.	Reference Addendum #2 - Item 4.
31	Exhibit E, NA. General: Is there any Single Sign On (SSO) application being used at Vermont which needs to be considered for eProcurement solution as well?	Please reference response to Question #30.
	Exhibit E, NA. EP-PRD-23: Extract from RFP: "Provide the capability to establish sub-line items to support Purchase Order kitting, bundling and configured product situations." a. What is meant by Purchase Order Kitting and Bundling?	Referencing Exhibit E, Need to Pay tab, requirement EP-PRD-23 kitting and bundling reflect situations such as ordering a product that is made up of multiple items which need to be called out or identified individually. An example would be a pre-packaged HVAC unit that includes multiple components.
	b. Also please provide a use case of Configured Product situation.	Referencing Exhibit E, Need to Pay tab, requirement EP-PRD-23 configured product reflects situations where a product has multiple options available but the State has established a standard selection of the optional components. Examples include a vehicle and desktop computers.
	Exhibit E, NA. EP-VDR-39: Requirement mentions approvals of vendors must be integrated with VISION and status updates be sent to eProcurement solution. Can you please specify what the business use case for this integration is?	Exhibit E, requirement EP-VDR-39 reference to integration with VISION is to support financial approval of vendor accounts and because all accounts payable accruals, payments and payment financial reporting will occur in VISION.
34	Exhibit E, NA. EP-VDR-47: Provide the ability to support the import of Vendor data such as financial health & risk information from external third party sources. – Which external third parties are being considered?	Exhibit E, requirement EP-VDR-47 reference to external third parties would be sources such as Dunn & Bradstreet.
	Exhibit E, NA. EP-VDR-52: Interface with the State of Vermont Professional licensing system to provide current licensing data to the Sourcing and Contract modules of the Solution Can you please explain what is the business requirement with respect to usage of licensing information in Sourcing and Contract processes?	Exhibit E, requirement EP-VDR-52 reference to use of interfaced Professional licensing information would support situations such as validating that a vendor has the appropriate licensing as part of Awarding a Solicitation or renewing a Contract.
	3eRFP / 6.3.12 Documentation, Page 58. Requirement states that "Contractor shall provide the State with all documentation, including all information, data, descriptive materials, software source code annotations and documentation in accordance with such programming and coding documentation standards" For a SaaS software, the software vendor does not provide source code or allow customers to modify the source code with the exception of certain allowable customatizations. Instead, SaaS allows significant configurability of the system through the user interface. We assume that Vermont is expecting documentations for configurations and customizations done specifically for Vermont's eProcurement implementation, rather than documentation of all the SaaS source code. Please confirm.	documentations for configurations and customizations done specifically for Vermont's eProcurement implementation, rather than documentation of
37	eRFP / EXHIBIT D, Page 80. Clause 7 Termination for Convenience, is in conflict with Terms and Conditions set on page 104 27. Termination, which only list Non-Appropriation, Termination for Cause, and Termination Assistance. Is Termination for Convenience a mandatory clause? If so, it may impair our ability to bid since SaaS software vendor won't accept this Termination for Convenience. Please reconcile or remove accordingly.	The State declines to respond at this time. Reference Sections 9.3.4 and 12.3 of the RFP.
38	Bidder Response Form / 4.5 Data Compliance, Page 14. There is a check box next to "Personal Health Information (PHI)". For eProcurement, we don't anticipate any Personal Health Information (PHI) in SaaS. Please confirm, and if so, remove this requirement.	Bidder Response Form inclusion of Personal Health Information (PHI) is included because of the potential for Requisition and Purchase Order line item descriptions to include patient details when ordering medical services for situations such as citizen clients of the Department of Health or inmates in the facilities of the Department of Corrections.

No.	Question	Response
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39	Referring to the section 3. SOLUTION VISION AND KEY FEATURES, page 7 – Please provide more detail around the desired ability to purchase from consumer shopping services (e.g. Amazon, Google, etc.) Additionally, how does the State of Vermont currently use Google and/or Amazon for its procurement needs?	As described in RFP Section 3, the State requires the Solution to provide access to consumer shopping services for requisitioning through ordering to give the State the capability to manage, analyze, and report on these procurements.
		Currently some State users have individual accounts on consumer shopping services and make purchases using a State issued PCard.
40	Referring to section 3. SOLUTION VISION AND KEY FEATURES, page 7 - Please confirm that the State of	References to invoicing capabilities such as those found in RFP Section 3
.0	Vermont envisions giving end users the option in the eProcurement solution of either sending an invoice document to VISION for processing OR approving a 3-way matched document in the eProcurement system and sending the approved voucher to VISION, rather than having a standard process for invoice approval. Are there any business rules that would determine which option would be chosen or does the State of Vermont envision this being based on a user's sole discretion on the invoice document in the eProcurement system's user interface?	reflect the States' interest in learning the potential capabilities and options
41	Referring to section 6.2.10 Existing Systems Replacement and Data Conversions, page 26 - Are more specifics available on the capabilities currently provided by AASHTOWare and Bidx?	Reference the websites for additional information. http://www.aashtoware.org/Pages/Standards-and-Guidelines.aspx https://www.bidx.com/
42	Referring to section 8. DEPENDENCIES AND CONSTRAINTS, page 59 – we understand that the State of Vermont intends to upgrade PeopleSoft (VISION) in December, 2018 with project completion anticipated to be September, 2019. The State of Vermont further indicates that the selected eProcurement vendor should plan to integrate their solutions into PeopleSoft 9.2 sometime after December 2018, and we assume, prior to the completion date of the eProcurement software. Will PeopleSoft technical and business SMEs will be available to support the design/build/test effort during that 8-9 month period?	Bidders should reference RFP Section 6.3.6 for specific details on what they should identify in their response in regards to anticipated State project support needs for this and any other work.
43	Referring to section 15. ACCESS TO STATE DATA:, page 114-115 - Can the State of Vermont identify more specifically what data will be imported and exported and provide some examples or use cases of what the State would consider to be "a format usable without the Service"?	RFP Section 15 references to import or export State Materials is specifically discussing situations such as the state owned data reference in the Table in RFP Section 6.2.3, Application Data. Examples of "a format usable without the Service" would include, but not
44	Referring to the diagram under "Dispatch" section 6.1.1 Need to Pay Workstream, page 16 - please confirm whether the State anticipates needing to dispatch orders via Fax as indicated. If so, does Vermont	be limited to, cXML, CSV, Excel and other industry standard data exchange formats. As stated in RFP Section 6.1.1 and RTM requirement EP-PO-33 the State does expect the Solution to provide order dispatch by Fax through the
	have an existing Fax dispatch system that the solution would need to send PO files to, or is there a need for a solution with a fax capability?	Solution. Bidders are not to assume that they will use any existing State fax capabilities.
	Referring to the "New Requirements Traceability Matrix", 2. General tab, EP-GEN-15, Establish security at the data field level - Please provide more information on what is envisioned by this requirement. Is there a specific use case?	RTM requirement EP-GEN-15 intends that the Solution provide the capability for the State to limit or restrict user access to data fields based on security settings such as user roles and privileges.
46	Referring to the "New Requirements Traceability Matrix", 2. General tab, EP-GEN-38, All supporting documents (unlimited file size, all file type) can be uploaded and attached to a procurement document in the eProcurement solution. The State can determine whether documents will be included in integration with VISION. For Purchase Orders and Contracts, once fully approved, supporting documents would be	The RTM requirement referenced, EP-GEN-38, is not the correct requirements for the question. RTM requirement EP-GEN-41 is the correct reference.
	included when transmitted to the Vendor - Please explain the use case or reason for sending over attachments as the eProcurement system typically is the keeper of such files.	The reference to providing the capability to include attached documents in the integration with VISION is to support situations such as authorizing documentation for financial actions to be taken in the VISION system. Another example would be situations where the eProcurement transaction is being used to capture and transmit documentation required by the VISION system for efficiency.
47	Referring to the "New Requirements Traceability Matrix", 8. Services Procurement tab, EP-SVP-161, Ability to provide committed against contracted (summing all order amounts related to a given procurement contract in VISION). Please clarify what will be summed up in VISION, since it is our understanding that the eProcurement system should handle and track committed against contract orders.	Commitment control of all monies is through VISION.
	Referring to the "New Requirements Traceability Matrix, multiple tabs, If available, please provide additional information regarding the data/format needed by VISION, integration methods supported by VISION, envisioned integration maps, and / or business rules for when these data elements are needed.	Bidders should reference RFP Section 6.2.5 for additional technical details on VISION integration methods. Details on integration maps and business rules will be determined during the Project Initiation period as described in RFP Section 6.3.2.
	a. EP-CNT-89 - Integrate with and leverage all Contract documents within VISION. Is it the state's vision to have the contract documents reside in the eProcurement system?	As stated in RTM requirements EP-CNT-108, the State does intend to store contract documents in the eProcurement system. As stated in RTM requirement EP-CNT-89, the State is interested in having the capability to integrate contract documents to VISION as well.

No.	<u>Question</u>	<u>Response</u>
	b. EP-SVP-161 - Ability to provide committed against contracted (summing all order amounts related to a given procurement contract in VISION). Is it the state's vision to have the contract documents reside in the eProcurement system?	Please reference response to Question #47.
-	c. EP-DAR-11 – Ability to integrate invoice reporting with SOV role-based dashboards.	Please reference response to Question #48.
ŀ	d. EP-DAR-12 - Ability to integrate invoice reporting with SOV role-based dashboards.	Please reference response to Question #46.
ŀ	e. EP-DAR-13 - Ability to integrate payment (VISION) reporting with SOV role-based dashboards.	Please reference response to Question #48.
40	Referring to the "New Requirements Traceability Matrix", 3. Need to Pay tab, please provide more	As noted in RFP Section 6.2.9.1, Asset Management data will be integrated
	information on these systems/desired integrations if available:	To VISION. As noted in RFP Section 5.1, VISION is based on Oracle PeopleSoft Financials.
	a. EP-RCV-12 - Have the capability to capture additional data for fixed assets (i.e serial number on a microscope) and provide that data to the State of Vermont fixed assets system through either an interface or integration. What systems does the state use for fixed assets:	
	b. EP-WRK-53 - Allows integration of Vendor performance data with other system-captured data for	RTM requirement EP-WRK-53 is describing the need to have Vendor
	reporting purposes (i.e. spend volumes, bidding history, etc.). Please provide more detail.	performance data and other Solution data relevant to a vendor available for analysis and reporting within the Solution. Also, reference Addendum #2 - Item #13.
50	Referring to the "New Requirements Traceability Matrix", 2. General tab, EP-GEN-49 - Provide an Archive	Record retention policies are set by the State. The Solution record
	and Purge process that is in accordance with the relevant State of Vermont document retention schedules. Please provide document retention schedules, if available.	retention functionality must have rules capability to enforce the various policies. Also reference Addendum #2 - Item 15.
51	Referring to section 4.3 Procurement Metrics – Potential State Users, page 9, Can the State provide contract management user counts? How many full access contract users (creating and editing contracts)? How many read only contract users (approving and viewing access)?	Reference response to Question #11.
52	Will a no-direct-cost funding model be deemed responsive and scored accordingly?	Bidders are not precluded from proposing a "no-direct-cost funding mode in their response to the Cost and Financing Proposal Workbook. In this circumstance, Bidders must provide specific details on how Solution costs will be recovered/collected. Also note that instruction statement #9 on t Instructions Tab of the Cost Workbook specifically stipulates that Bidders must not propose any per transaction fee or administrative fee to be paid by the State or the Vendors selling goods or services to the State.
53	Will the State of Vermont be holding Pre-bid Conference?	No.
54	Is VTRANS a finance system or an ERP? Please provide platform details and version for VTRANS.	Referencing RFP Section 6.2.9.2, the STARS system used by VTRANS is a type of ERP platform. The following are the platform details:
		Mainframe application - IBM z/OS environment
		ADABAS (Software AG's enterprise database management system)
		NATURAL and COBOL w/ADAPREP
55	What is required by the State of Vermont in working with 3rd party consulting firms?	Assuming the question is pertaining to the use of subcontractors, referen Attachment A Sections 4.1.6 and 5.4, and Attachment C, Section 19 within RFP Exhibit D.
56	What is the budget range for this project?	The State declines to respond to this question.
	Has the budget been allocated for the start of the project?	Please reference response to Question #56.
	Is it the states intent to utilize one vendor for all of the proposed requirements?	Please reference response to Question #17.
	Attach. D - Section 4.2 – Would the state authorize the collection and use of aggregate, anonymized data for the Contractor's own internal business purposes?	Please reference response to Question #37.
60	Attach. D - Sections 6.1 and 6.4 - Would the state accept compliance with ISO 9001 and ISO 27000, and SSAE 16/ISAE 3402 SOC1 Type 2 standards in place of the NIST 800-53, FIPSP 200, and SSAE 18 SOC 2 Type	Please reference response to Question #37.
	2 standards currently listed in the RFP?	
61	Attach. D – Section 7.2(i) – How does the state define "Deliverables" in this RFP?	The term "Deliverables" as referenced in this RFP address Solution functionality implemented and Project Management methods and tools a described in RFP Section 6.3.3, third paragraph, are considered project deliverables. Reference the table in RFP Section 4.1.1 for examples of these project deliverables.
62	Attach. D – Section 17 – Does the NIST-approved destruction method requirement apply to multi-tenant Software-as-a-Service solutions?	Yes.
63	What is the yearly budget for annual SaaS subscription fees?	Please reference response to Question #56.
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_	What is the one-time budget for Implementation and Training services?	Please reference response to Question #56.
	Would the state consider additional pricing for higher SLA targets?	Please reference response to Question #19.
da	If an alternative SLA structure with lower targets is offered, how is that section scored?	Please reference response to Question #19. Please reference response to Question #8.
. !	Does the state have a preference as between Software-as-a-Service and on-premises software?	

No.	Question	Response
68	Instruction #3 -The RFP instructs us to exclude "Optional Implementation costs associated with services procurement", how should those costs be represented?	Costs associated with the services procurement functionality should be recorded on the Optional Costs tab of the Cost and Financing Proposal Workbook under the "Specialized Services Procurement" section.
69	Can you please provide a breakdown of your spend by category such as IT spend, Services Spend, Temp labor, etc.?	Please reference response to Question #103.
70	Does the initial user count of 450 include optional services procurement users? If the answer is no, What is the initial user count for optional services procurement?	As an optional component to this RFP, Services Procurement decisions will be determined once the Solution functionality is known. At this point the State anticipates that, depending on the functionality available, the number of users aside from purchase requestors could be up to 50 individuals.
71	How many years do you think it will take the number of users to go beyond 450?	The 450 users is based on the current functionality. Depending on the nature of the Solution functionality, the number of users may increase in the first term of the contract. Also, as the State intends to have broad adoption across the State and extend access to non-State entities as well.
72	Page 1, Section 1, 3rd paragraph. Would the "governmental entities" in this question include a state	Referring to RFP Page 4, Section 1 RFP Overview, 3rd paragraph, first
73	transportation entity (a la VTRANS) and/or a state health services entity (a la AHS)? Page 1, Section 1, 3rd paragraph. Do the requirements in this RFP invalidate the PeopleSoft SRM (Supplier Relationship Mgt) application suite as a potential solution; eSupplier Connection, Strategic Sourcing, Supplier Contract Management, eProcurement, and eSettlement? All of the aforementioned applications are sold via the license model and would be deployed using the PeopleSoft Finance architecture (on-premise, not SaaS).	sentence, Yes. Assuming this question is referring to RFP Page 4, Section 1 RFP Overview, 3rd paragraph, first sentence. Please reference response to Question #8.
74	Page 10, Section 5. Does the State have available a Master Data Model?	No.
75	Page 1, Section 1, 3rd paragraph. Does this line invalidate customizing the SaaS application? Are integrations and interfacing considered customizations?	Referring to RFP Page 4, Section 1 RFP Overview, 3rd paragraph, solution modifications or additions necessary to enable the Solution to operate according to all technical and functional requirements are acceptable. Thi includes customizations to a SaaS application. Integrations and interfaces required to meet State requirements are part of the potential modifications or additions referenced in RFP Section 1.
76	Page 1, Section 1. What is the amount appropriated and budgeted by the legislature for the ePro Solution and Implementation services?	Please reference response to Question #56.
77	Page 1, Section 1. Has the State been working with any vendors, consultants, or other third-parties in development of this RFP and/or ePro solutioning?	Yes.
78	Page 9, Section 4.3, "State Agencies/Depts." line. Which State Agencies and Departments are currently using Vision? Which agencies do not?	All State agencies and departments use VISION.
79	See question. Do the required integrations on bullet 1, page 7 fall under the requirement of page 5, section 2, line "vii" requiring all VISION interfaces to be real time?	Refer to RFP Section 6.2.9.1 for the specific requirements for integration with the States' VISION finance system.
80	Page 5, Section 1, line "v". Does the State plan on running all payables through this solution (or will it continue to pay agency payables via PeopleSoft / VISION)?	VISION will continue as the payment system for the State.
81	If this "cloud" solution was to provide fund accounting control, would it replace VISION as the fund accounting authoritative source or would it need to be integrated with VISION mid-transaction to get commitment control (fund accounting) ledger details?	VISION is the system of control for all appropriated monies.
82	Page 5, Section 2, line "vii"What is the State's vision for which application (VISION / the cloud) will be the authoritative source of procurement transaction/document linkage?	To the maximum extent possible, the State anticipates that the eProcurement Solution will be the authoritative source for procurement transactions and documents.
83	For example, if the State wanted to see the request, order, sourcing event, contract, and invoices for a given payment, which application would be required to provide that?"	Please reference response to Question #82.
84	Page 6, Section 4, line "i". Spend is found in VISION. Queries for Maverick spend will require the involvement of VISION payables (as will other functions, application being perform in the cloud within this RFP). If the implementer needs code written in other applications owned by the State, how will, who will perform these activities?	Programming work needed within applications owned by the State is anticipated to be performed by State resources. Bidders should refer to RFP Section 6.3.6 for specific details on what they should identify in their response in regards to anticipated State project support needs for this an any other work.
85	Page 25, Section 6.2.9.2. Is it a requirement to integrate with STARs (i.e. to determine the distribution line fund sources for VTRANS construction payments)?	Reference Addendum #2 - Item 5

No.	Question	Response
	Page 25, Section 6.2.9.2. Is it a requirement that the cloud product integrate with the pre-qualification tool?	Please reference response to Question #85.
87	Page 25, Section 6.2.9.2. Is it a requirement that the cloud product sourcing function require pre-qual status for "consultant" team structures (VTRANS)?	RFP Section 6.2.9.2 does not specifically address requirements for consultant team structures. Any details regarding this will be identified during the Project Initiation period as described in RFP Section 6.3.2.
88	Page 25, Section 6.2.9.2. Is it a requirement that the cloud product payment function support sub- consultant payments (VTRANS)?	RFP Section 6.2.9.2 does not specifically address requirements for sub- consultant payment. Any details regarding this will be identified during the Project Initiation period as described in RFP Section 6.3.2.
89	Page 25, Section 6.2.9.2. Is it a requirement that the cloud product payment function support sub- consultant payment confirmation (VTRANS)?	RFP Section 6.2.9.2 does not specifically address requirements for sub- consultant payment confirmation. Any details regarding this will be identified during the Project Initiation period as described in RFP Section 6.3.2.
90	Page 9, 4.2 Procurement Practices. Will the State continue to use this decentralized approach?	The State is looking to leverage this project to identify and implement best practices across all aspects of the States' procurement practices/processes including considerations regarding the current centralization and decentralization practices.
91	Page 29, Section 6.3.2. Has the State conducted any Business Process Re-engineering to prepare for ePro?	Yes.
92	Page 37, Section 6.3.8. As part of the requirements gathering and refinement for ePro, has the State conducted a 'Change Readiness Assessment' that is available to bidders?	No. An eProcurement Change Readiness Assessment has not been conducted.
	Coversheet. The timeline to select, procure, and review the project seems aggressive when considering State Independent Reviews (as required by statute) take 8 weeks or more after selection. Is this timeline still correct?	The timeline is correct.
	Page 6 & 7, also section 6.3.1. Looking at the State's resource availability (centralized and key players at the agency level) for each of the functions listed on pages 6 and 7 and understanding that there will be two concurrent efforts, is the State planning on adding additional State resources for this project?	Please reference response to Question #42.
95	Will federal funding be used to finance any portions of this project? General	No.
	The State does not appear to express a preference on invoice processing (e.g. 3-way match and exception handling) occurring in the eProcurement tool as compared to VISION. How should respondents address this scope in the response? Section 3 Solution Vision & Key Features, pg. 7	Please reference response to Question #40.
97	Are procurement processes and procedures standard across each agency? If not, to what degree are they not standardized (low = standardized, medium = some standardization, high = non-standardized)? Section 4.2 Procurement Practices, pg. 8	As per Bulletin 3.5, the standards are set forth with specific thresholds and templates that all Agencies and Departments must adhere to. Agencies and Departments may have additional business processes that are pertinent.
98	Does the state have available current sourcing and contract templates that vary by commodity and/or agency? Section 4.2 Procurement Practices, pg. 8	Yes.
	Does the State have an estimated number of current state reports by functional scope area Section 4.2 Procurement Practices, pg. 8	The following list reflects some of the Purchasing reports currently available: Requisitions: 3 delivered reports, 1 custom report, Procurement Contracts: 8 delivered reports, 4 custom reports Purchase Orders: 11 delivered reports, 5 custom reports Receipts: 14 delivered reports Procurement Cards: 10 delivered reports Queries: about 30 queries However, the current reports are not reflective of what the State expects
- 1	The State's current and future anticipated number of catalogs is not provided. How many catalogs does the State currently have? What is the projected catalog forecast growth year-over-year? How many	with the eProcurement Solution. The State does not currently have catalog system functionality. The State has approximately 3,159 active contracts as stated Section 4.3 of the RFP
- 1	hosted versus vendor managed catalogs does the State have? Section 4.3 Procurement Metrics, pg. 9	which could potentially result in associated catalogs in the eProcurement Solution. Additionally, the State anticipates the initial number of catalogs to be loaded in the Solution will be determined during the Project Initiation period as described in RFP Section 6.3.2.
101	Can the State please provide the names and locations of the eight (8) State agencies and 60 Departments and spend by agency/department? Section 4.3 Procurement Metrics, pg. 9	Please reference response to Question #20.
- 1	Please provide an approximate number of third parties (including active vendors and potential bidding organizations) that are currently registered with the State. Section 4.3 Procurement Metrics, pg. 9	As stated in RFP Section 4.3 there are approximately 39,661 approved Vendors in VISION.

No.	Question	Response
103	Of the State's annual budget of \$5.8B, how much is considered spend on indirect goods / services? Section	
	4.3 Procurement Metrics, pg. 9	
	Does the state require all 39,661 currently approved vendors in VISION to be migrated? Section 4.3 Procurement Metrics, pg. 10	Referencing RFP Section 4.3, the identified currently approved Vendors in VISION may not all need to exist as Vendors in the Solution. The State will make a determination regarding which existing VISION vendors needs and whether they are to be migrated or required to re-register during the Project Initiation period as described in RFP Section 6.3.2. As such, the State expects that any work will be optional time and materials based on the Hourly Rate Card negotiated with this Contract.
	The conceptual drawings on these two pages do not indicate any direct interactions between the business work streams and the boxes labeled "Other Systems" (p. 15) and "Interfaces/Integrations to VTRANS/Stars & Other Systems" (p. 16). Does this indicate the presence of some form of middleware solution (maintained by the State) that manages the exchange of data to and from "Other Systems"? Or existing interfaces between VISION and these "Other Systems"? Section 6.1 Functional Requirements, pgs.15-16	The diagrams in the RFP Section 6.2.9.1, VISIONS are not intended to be comprehensive illustrations and are provided as a general representation of the envisioned Solution. In the diagram the arrows labeled "Integration general reflect the potential interfaces/integrations with all systems displayed at the bottom of the diagram. These arrows reflect the discussion in RFP Sections 6.2.9.4 and 6.2.9.5 where the State anticipates that there may be other systems that will require either interfaces or integrations with the Solution. RFP Section 5.3 identifies all existing State Enterprise applications and components that Bidders may consider for use with the Solution. Bidders should not assume that a middleware solution will be provided by the Stat for integration or interfaces with the Solution.
106	Will there be a central landing page for external users visiting the application page that then requires a second click to select the application URL? Section 6.2.1 User Experience, pg. 19	Referencing RFP Section 6.2.1, Bidders can assume that the State will provide and maintain a public procurement website which will be the entr point to the Solution. Bidder responses should provide details regarding access to the Solution from this website.
	We assume the list of supported browsers will be baselined at design and will support N-2 version of those browsers. Please confirm. Section 6.2.2 Solution Access and Supported Browsers, pg. 19	As described in RFP Section 6.2.2, the State is not planning to limit access to the Solution to a specific list of browsers or browser versions.
108	We assume disaster recovery refers to technical disaster recovery and does not include business continuity. Please confirm. Section 6.2.3 Technical Requirements, pg. 20	Confirmed. However, the State would be pleased to review COOP plans authored/sponsored by the Bidder.
109	What are the specific application data retention requirements? Section 6.2.3 Technical Requirements, pg. 2	Please reference response to Question #50.
	Are there any minimum application SLA requirements or should we propose these? 6.2.3 Technical Requirements, pg. 20	Please reference response to Question #19.
111	What are the expected hours of support? Section 6.2.3 Technical Requirements, Hosting, pg. 20	As stated in RFP Section 6.3.11.6 Maintenance and Operations, services w be delivered and managed remotely by the Service Provider, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
112	Will the State require an entity-relationship diagram as part of the deliverable or source DDL? Section 6.2.3 Technical Requirements, Application Solution, pg. 21	Yes, if applicable to the design of the database.
	Will the state conduct independent reviews of security audit/monitoring done by the selected bidder? If so how often? Section 6.2.3 Technical Requirements, pg. 21	At the discretion of the State.
	Can a bidder propose more than the 4 solution environments enumerated? Section 6.2.6 Solution Environments, pg. 23	Yes.
115	Do any user accounts need to be migrated for initial setup? Section 6.2.7 User Accounts and Administration, pg. 23	Referencing RFP Section 6.2.7, there are no specific requirements for migration of user accounts into the Solution.
	Does the State currently maintain an account creation infrastructure (both internal and external)? If so, can that be shared with bidders? Will the State require the solution to integrate to an existing Statemanaged single sign-on capability? Section 6.2.7, User Accounts and Administration, pg. 23	Please reference response to Question #30.
	Does the State have a specific list of which interfaces need to be real time or should we assume all are required to be real time? Section 6.2.9 Interface and Integration, pg. 24	As stated in Section 6.2.9 the Proposed Solutions must support both interface and real-time integration abilities. The State will make a determination of real-time or batch integration during the Project Initiatic period as described in RFP Section 6.3.2.
118	What is the master system for Vendor IDs? Section 6.2.9.1 VISION Financial System Integration, pg. 24	Reference EP-VDR-26 on the Vendor Enablement worksheet in the RTM.
	What is the business reason requiring transactions to be integrated in real time instead of through batch integration? Section 6.2.9.1 VISION Financial System Integration, pg. 24	Reference Section 6.2.9.1 of the RFP.
	Is the STARS system interface real time? Section 6.2.9.2 STARS Financial System Interface, pg. 25	Please reference response to Question #85.
	Is the VISION Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence Reporting component a real time interface? Section 6.2.9.3 VISION Data Warehouse Integration, pg. 26	Please reference response to Question #117.
	At what point in the project cycle will these additional interfaces and integrations be identified as it will influence the technical design? Sections 6.2.9.4 Other State Systems Interfaces/Integrations & 6.2.9.5 Non-	As described in RFP Section 6.3.2, 2nd bullet, identification of additional

No.	Question	Response
	Please confirm that retirement of the legacy system and provisioning for read access to legacy data is out	Confirmed.
124	of scope. Section 6.2.10 Existing Systems Replacement and Data Conversions, pgs. 26-27 What level of disaster recovery is required by the State? Would this include the provision of hot sites, remote locations, or hardened capability? Section 6.2.14 Disaster Recovery Plan, pgs. 27-28	The State would like Bidder's Disaster Recovery Plans for review.
125	Is the April 2019 date tied to a commercial event or constraint for the State? Section 6.3.1 Project	The State does not have any constraints. It is a projected timeline.
126	Implementation Schedule, pg. 29 Is the State open to utilization of the bidder's own project management principles? Section 6.3.3 Project Management, pg. 30	Yes, the State of Vermont Enterprise Project Management Office (EPMO) will review alternative principles prior to contracting.
127	What are the State's expectations regarding criteria for entry into and exit out of any phase of testing? Section 6.3.7 Testing, pgs. 36-37	As stated in RFP Section 6.3.7 "Test conditions and test scenarios to be included in the Solution Testing will be mutually agreed upon by the Contractor and the State. These scenarios will be based on an analysis of the requirements, changes, and modifications that are approved for implementation."
		Testing entry and exit criteria must include the following at a minimum.
		Entry Criteria:
		◆ Requirements are at least XX% complete and approved. ◆ Technical Design has been finalized and approved. ◆ Environment setup is completed and is stable. ◆ Code development for the module is complete.
		Exit Criteria:
		◆ Code has version control in place. ◆ No known major or critical defects are pending. ◆ A testing transition meeting has be held and the developers signed off. ◆ Project Manager approval has been received.
128	How many State staff resources will be provided to support the Organizational Change Management and Training workstreams? Section 6.3.8 Organizational Change Management and Section 6.3.9 Training, pg. 37-38	Please reference response to Question #42.
129	Is there any expectation to provide communication and/or training materials in a language other than English? Section 6.3.9 Training, pg. 39	No.
130	Can you please provide some more information about the other initiatives with which the OCM team will have to coordinate/partner with? (Reference: "In addition to this project, there are other State projects that will require cross-project OCM coordination with other OCM and Contractor project teams.") Section 6.3.8 Organizational Change Management, pg. 37-38	In reference to RFP Section 6.3.8, the only State project at this time which will require cross-project OCM coordination is the VISION upgrade to PeopleSoft version 9.2.
131	Please provide the approximate number and locations of the listed audiences. Section 6.3.9 Training, pg. 38-39	Assuming "listed audiences" relates to number of users, please reference response to Question #27.
132	What Learning Management System (LMS) is in place? Will this be the preferred system for web-based training deployment/tracking? If one does not exist, how does the State envision any web-based trainings to be administered? Section 6.3.9 Training, pg. 38-39	The current LMS is Cornerstone On Demand. The state does not have a preferred system for training deployment/tracking. See requirements in the RFP, Section 6.2.6, pg. 23 and Section 6.3.9 pg. 38, 39.
133	Who would be considered responsible for mapping system roles to end users? Section 6.3.9 Training, pg.	As stated in Section 6.3.9, the State expects Bidders' proposals to provide
	38-39	recommended approach as part of their proposed Training Plan. Also, a determination may occur through negotiations or in the Project Initiation period as described in RFP Section 6.3.2.
134	Does the State already have a ticketing system (e.g. Remedy, ServiceNow), or does the State expect the bidder to provide the system for the duration of help desk support? Section 6.3.10.2 Help Desk, pg. 39	determination may occur through negotiations or in the Project Initiation

No.	<u>Question</u>	<u>Response</u>
- 1	How many solution releases will this include per year? Section 6.3.10.4 Solution Optimization and Future Releases, pg. 43	As stated in the Section 6.3.10.4 Solution Optimization and Future Release: the State expects the underlying technology associated with the Solution to be kept current during the full term of the Contract. As required within the Bidders Response Form in Part 2, item #4, Bidders are to provide details on their standard release schedule. The State is not stipulating a specific number of solutions releases per year.
	This section indicates support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. How does this reconcile with the service level metric specified in On-line Availability of Service, Section 6.3.11.4, pg. 48, which appears to indicate 9.25 per day, 5 days per week (7:45AM -5:00PM Eastern Time during State business hours)? Section 6.3.11.6 Maintenance and Operations, pg. 49	On-line availability of Solution end-user support refers only to availability of service during business hours. For services (Maintenance & Operation), please reference response to Question #111.
139	Can the State please confirm that Section 12.8 Quality is applicable to this RFP? Section 12.8, pg. 73 Will inability to comply with NIST Special Publication 800-53 (version 4 or higher) and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 200 serve as a disqualifier? Attachment D, Section 6.1, pg. 110	Confirmed. Please reference response to Question #37.
	Can the state please confirm that Attachment F, Agency of Human Services' Customary Contract Grant Permissions, is applicable to this RFP? Attachment F, pg. 122	Reference Addendum #2 - Item 12
141	Does the line item 'Existing Systems Replacement Conversion' include the cost of integration with systems other than VISION? Exhibit 2, Cost and Financing Proposal Workbook Tab 1. Uniform Cost Schedule	Referencing the Cost and Financial Proposal Workbook, Tab 1, Uniform Cost Schedule, the entry for "Existing Systems Replacement/Conversion" is intended only for any anticipated costs associated with RFP Section 6.2.10. As stated in Section 6.2.9.4 and 6.2.9.5, costs associated with any interfaces or integrations to the Solution would be managed as a Task Order based on the Rate Card established within the State Contract.
	In the Requirements Traceability Matrix, there is a requirement to accept and / or integrate to accept payment as part of the vendor registration process. Is the State collecting payment for all vendor registrations today? Requirements Traceability Matrix, Tab 5, Vendor Enablement and Management, Row EP-VDR-35	Reference Addendum #2 - Item 14.
143	Section 6.3.12: Documentation, pg. 58: Will the state require disclosure of source code?	No. Disclosure of source code is required for Configurations and custom code.
	Attachment D, Section 6.1, pg. 110: Security Standards: Will inability to comply with NIST Special Publication 800-53 (version 4 or higher) and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 200 serve as a disqualifier?	Please reference response to Question #37.
	The State of VT wishes to "reduce manual, paper-based processes and process cycle times" (page 4). What processes (efficient/inefficient) have been documented in preparation for a migration to an eProcurement solution? If none, does the State plan to complete this step during pre-implementation?	Please reference response to Question #91.
	Page 5, Section 2. The desired solution must be "fully integrated". Does the State of VT prefer a single platform or will a proposal with multiple, and established, integrated solutions be allowed?	Reference RFP Section 2, the State is not requiring that the Solution be provided as a single platform solution.
	What current solutions in the State of VT have a real-time integration with Vision? Page 6, 4. Compliance, iv. What are the State's desired diversity goals? If there are any, are they	None. The State does not have a legislative mandate for diversity.
149	legislatively mandated? Is it expected that reporting and dashboards have drill down capability for optimum visibility or are static reports acceptable?	Reference RFP Section 6.1.6 and RTM Tab "9. Data Analytics & Reporting" which identify both static and drill down reporting requirements.
150	How does the State of VT currently manage/utilize rebates associated with pCards? Does the State of VT envision an increase in pCard usage to boost rebates?	Rebates associated with the PCARDS currently go to the general fund. The State does anticipate an increase in PCARD use. Also reference RFP Section 4.3 and 6.1.1 for PCARD related details.
151	What cooperative contracts does the State of VT utilize? Can you provide a breakdown of how many by cooperative and total spend on cooperative contracts as a whole?	A current list of contracts which include cooperatives can be found on the State website at http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing-contracting/contractinfo.
	The State appears to be implementing some purchasing modules from PeopleSoft in its latest upgrade. Page 10, Current Technical Environment. Did the State of VT choose not to implement ePro or the complete PeopleSoft purchasing solution? If so, why?	Please reference response to Question #9.
	Page 29, 6.3.1. What assessments have been conducted that led to an 18-month time line from Project Workplan to Project End Date?	The State has not conducted any specific procurement assessments in regards to this project. The anticipated 18-month implementation schedule, as described in RFP Section 6.3.1, was established based on research of other State, Local Government and Higher Education eProcurement implementations.
	Page 47, 6.3.11.4. Will responders be requested to historically prove ability to meet the "Availability of Service"?	Yes, it needs to be disclosed, please reference response to Question #19.
155	What eProcurement solutions have been demonstrated to any employee of the State of VT in the past 12	The State declines to respond to this question.

No.	Question	<u>Response</u>
156	Has any employees of the State of VT visited another State's eProcurement implementation? If so, who?	The State declines to respond to this question.