NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP DOCUMENT A

RFP NO. NC- 2018-03
STUDENT MEAL SERVICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that FCSS requests proposals from interested respondents, in accordance with this Notice of Requests for Proposals and other documents that are part of this RFP ("RFP Packet"), for the following: furnish, in accordance with the Contract, student meals that comply with the nutrition standards established by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the National School Lunch Program/School Breakfast Program, meeting all state and federal nutrition and meal pattern requirements to qualify for FCSS reimbursement, at site(s) to be designated by FCSS. The vendor will prepare meals off-site in a facility that maintains the appropriate state and local health certifications, and will package and deliver these meals in accordance with the food safety guidelines of the applicable governing health departments. The particular requirements are in the RFP Packet and the Contract. Minority businesses, women’s business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are encouraged to submit proposals. Before the award of the Contract, FCSS reserves the right to cancel this Request for Proposals ("RFP"), change any dates stated below, or modify any provisions of the RFP Packet, including the Contract.

1. RFP PACKET. The RFP Packet, including the Agreement, is available starting on the Publication Start Date stated below and may be obtained by contacting the Contact Person listed above or from FCSS’ website at http://www.fcoe.org.

2. PRE-SUBMITTAL CONFERENCE. An optional pre-submittal conference to acquaint prospective respondents with this RFP, the RFP Packet, and applicable requirements will be held at 3:00 p.m. on 9/10/2018 at 4939 E. Yale, Fresno, CA 93727. Whether or not a respondent attends the conference, which may include dissemination of additional information, the respondent shall be deemed to have notice of all information disseminated at the conference.

3. FOOD TASTE TEST. A mandatory food taste test will be held for all respondents who submit a response to the RFP. Respondents will be required to provide meals for FCSS taste testing at a specific date and time that will be scheduled with each respondent following submittal. All respondents must participate in the taste test to be considered.

4. QUESTIONS. Questions regarding this RFP, the RFP Packet, and/or applicable requirements shall be submitted in writing to, and received by, the Contact Person at the above email before 3:00 p.m. on 9/12/2018.

5. SUBMITTAL AND CONSIDERATION. All responses to this RFP shall be submitted before 3:00 p.m., based on the clock designated by FCSS, on 9/14/2018 (“Submittal Deadline”) at Front Desk at the address listed above. Responses that are timely received will be considered by FCSS and written notice of FCSS’ decision regarding the award of the Contract will be issued to respondents who timely submitted responses. FCSS reserves the right to request additional information and conduct one or more interviews of those respondents selected by FCSS.

5. CONTRACT AWARD. The Contract will be paid, in part or in whole, with federal funds and is subject to applicable federal and state laws, regulations, and requirements. The Contract will be awarded based on the Method of Contract Award in the Proposal Evaluation Sheet. FCSS anticipates awarding the Contract before 9/21/2018. The term of the Contract will commence on 9/28/2018 and continue until and including 6/30/2019.

Publicize Start Date: 9/3/2018