153:1-1-02 **Prequalification of professional design firms.**

- (A) Each professional Professional design firm firms seeking to be prequalified to provide services to the state shall maintain a current statement of qualifications on file with the state with which it is interested in a contract, pursuant to section 153.68 of the Revised Code.
- (B) Professional design firms without a current statement of qualifications shall be disqualified from consideration for a contract under this rule.
- (C)(B) If the state implements a prequalification program under section 153.68 of the Revised Code, the The prequalification requirements shall be based on the factors set forth in divisions (D)(1)(a), (D)(2), (D)(3), and (D)(4) of section 153.65 of the Revised Code. The criteria shall include a point system developed to encourage EDGE business participation pursuant to division (B)(6) of section 123.152 of the Revised Code, if applicable.
- (D)(C) For the purpose of awarding contracts to firms from a list of prequalified firms created pursuant to sections 153.68 and 153.691 of the Revised Code, the state shall select the most qualified firm as follows:
 - (1) The state may request technical proposals from not less than three firms, then rank and select the firm determined by the state to be most qualified, provided the firms were evaluated by the state prior to approval by the controlling board; or If the total estimated fees are less than or equal to one hundred thousand dollars and less than the remaining amount approved by the controlling board for each firm, the state may either:
 - (a) Select and negotiate a contract with one firm determined by the state to be the most qualified, provided the firm was interviewed by the state prior to approval by the controlling board; or
 - (b) Request and rank technical proposals from not less than three firms, and select and negotiate a contract with the firm determined by the state to be most qualified, whether or not the firms were interviewed by the state prior to approval by the controlling board.
 - (2) If the total estimated <u>initial</u> fees are more <u>less</u> than <u>or equal to</u> one hundred thousand dollars and less than or equal to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and less than the remaining amount approved by the controlling board for each firm, the state shallmay request a technical and fee proposal from <u>one</u> and rank technical proposals from not less than three firms, and select and negotiate a contract with the firm determined by the state to be most qualified, whether or not the firms were interviewed provided the firms were evaluated by the state prior to approval by the controlling board; or

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(3) If the total estimated <u>initial</u> fees are more than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and less than the remaining amount approved by the controlling board for each firm, the state shall may request technical proposals from and hold interviews with not less than three firms, and rank, select, and negotiate a contract with the firm determined by the state to be most qualified, whether or not the firms were interviewed provided the firms were evaluated by the state prior to approval by the controlling board.

(E)(D) The state shall negotiate a contract with the selected firm in accordance with division (B) of section 153.69 of the Revised Code.

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