1. Before releasing an RFP, most prospective clients go through discussions with providers to get a general landscape of what is available. What solutions have you explored prior to sending out the RFP? Is there a consultant or partner Alabama Community College System (ACCS) is working with to develop these requirements?

   ACCS did participate in a demonstration of a financial statement software solution. However, we have not engaged any specific consultant or partner to assist in developing these requirements.

2. How did ACCS develop the list of vendors to send out the RFP to?

   ACCS performed its own extensive research to identify potential vendors. We then distributed the RFP to all shortlisted vendors via email and posted it publicly on our website.

3. Does ACCS have a current system or tool they are using for Financial Reporting that will be replaced?

   Yes, currently ACCS is using internally developed Excel financial statement templates for financial reporting, which we intend to replace with a more advanced and automated solution.

4. Companies that are considering a change to their existing system will have vetted out upgrading the existing option before exploring alternatives. Assuming that processes has already taken place, what were the key gaps that make you want to go back to market?

   ACCS has evaluated the option of upgrading our existing system but found that it lacked the automation and efficiency required to streamline the manual process of preparing financial reports and related disclosures. Hence, we are seeking an alternative solution through this RFP.

5. What systems would an ideal tool be pulling data in from or be connected to?

   ACCS and its institutions utilize the Ellucian Banner ERP in a shared technology environment. While we do not anticipate immediate integration with other systems, the proposed financial reporting software should have the capability to import data from Excel or CSV files.

6. Does ACCS have a list of important dates for this evaluation?

   ACCS aims to expedite the response review process and may request further meetings or demonstrations with selected companies that align with our requirements.

7. What systems / data sources will the proposed financial reporting software integrate with?

   ACCS and its institutions utilize the Ellucian Banner ERP in a shared technology environment. While we do not anticipate immediate integration with other systems, the proposed financial reporting software should have the capability to import data from Excel or CSV files.

8. Do the required integrated systems / data sources for each of the in-scope institutions differ? If so, please expand.

   As of now, all in-scope institutions utilize the Ellucian Banner ERP in a shared technology environment. Therefore, the integrated systems/data sources are consistent across institutions.
9. Please confirm the mailing address that the RFP response should be mailed to, as two mailing addresses are included in the RFP. Should the response be mailed to:

   a. 135 South Union Street, Suite 451 Montgomery, AL 36104

   OR

   b. P.O. Box 4504 Montgomery, AL 36130-4504

   Please send all RFP responses via a major shipping carrier (UPS, FedEx, etc.) to the following address:
   135 South Union Street, Suite 451, Montgomery, AL 36104.

   Please note that there is an error in the RFP, and the correct P.O. Box address is:
   P.O. Box 302130, Montgomery, AL 36130-2130. Any responses sent via the U.S. Postal Services should be addressed to this P.O. Box.

10. What tool(s) / solution(s) do you currently leverage for GASB 87 Lessor accounting and reporting?

    ACCS currently utilizes DebtBook as its lease accounting solution for GASB 87 Lessor accounting and reporting.

11. Whether companies from Outside USA can apply for this? (like, from India or Canada)

    Yes, companies from outside the USA, including India or Canada, are welcome to apply for this opportunity.

12. Whether we need to come over there for meetings?

    Due to the nature of the current situation, ACCS does not expect in-person meetings to be necessary, and we prefer virtual meetings or video conferences.

13. Can we perform the tasks (related to RFP) outside USA? (like, from India or Canada)

    Yes, companies outside the USA, including India or Canada, can perform the tasks related to the RFP. However, ACCS will require the selected company to ensure appropriate levels of timely support despite potential geographical differences and data security.

14. Can we submit the proposals via email?

    The RFP responses must be received in paper format. Please note that electronic submissions will not be considered.