



Procurement & Contract Services Request for Information No. 27I0013MH

Graduate Medical Education Program Development, Accreditation, and Implementation Consulting Services

<u>DELIVERY OF INFORMATION</u> UA Procurement & Contract Services Via the BONFIRE Portal Per instructions on Page 6 https://ua.bonfirehub.com/portal/?tab=openOpportunities	<u>SUBMITTAL DEADLINE</u> Documentation <u>must</u> be received no later than: October 7, 2026 5:00 PM Alaska Daylight Time (AKDT)
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF QUESTIONS: September 25, 2026 5:00 PM Alaska Daylight Time (AKDT)	<u>RFI ISSUE DATE:</u> September 16, 2026

NOTE: Faxed submittals, or those submitted by any means other than described herein, **will not be accepted**, and will be rejected as non-responsive.

NOTICE TO OFFERORS

POINT OF CONTACT FOR RFI INQUIRIES:

Mike Houlihan
UA Senior Contracting Officer
Email: mhouliha@alaska.edu

The person listed above is the only point of contact for any inquiries regarding any aspect of this RFI or its requirements.

The University of Alaska does not intend to pay for the information solicited. Pursuant to State of Alaska Statute AS36.30 and University of Alaska Regulations, the University may issue a Request for Proposals on the basis of responses to this document.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Mike Houlihan
UA Senior Contracting Officer

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RFI SCHEDULE

Issue Date of RFI	September 16, 2026
Deadline for Submission of Questions	September 25, 2026
Information Submittal Deadline	October 7, 2026

A. RFI Goals

The University of Alaska (UA) is conducting this Request for Information (RFI) to explore the competitive landscape of professional services in support of the development, accreditation, and implementation of Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs under an Academic Medical Center (AMC) model at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) College of Health (COH).

This RFI is not a solicitation for GME consulting services. Its purpose is to educate university administration about the benefits offered by various providers and to identify consulting institutions interested and capable of providing such services. Responses to this RFI may, at UA's sole discretion, inform any subsequent competitive solicitation.

Following review of the RFI responses, UA may:

- Issue a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) for GME program development, accreditation, and implementation consulting services; OR
- Determine that engaging with a consulting firm for these services is not currently in the University's best interest.

B. Background

The College of Health (COH) at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) is Alaska's flagship center for health education, training professionals to support communities across the state.

COH Mission and Overview

- **Mission:** Improve the health and well-being of people and communities.
- **Programs:** Offers over 45 degree and certificate options, ranging from frontline patient care to administration and research.
- **Partnerships:** Collaborates heavily with regional groups like the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) to offer local clinical rotations and strengthen the tribal healthcare workforce.

COH Key Schools and Departments

- **School of Nursing:** A major backbone for the state's healthcare workforce, educating hundreds of students across associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral practice tracks with a hybrid distance-and-local delivery model.
- **School of Allied Health:** Trains technicians and specialists for hands-on clinical and diagnostic roles.
- **Division of Population Health Sciences:** Focuses on public health, disease prevention, and health systems, including a flexible Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with pre-clinical and promotion tracks.
- **School of Justice and Human Services:** Combines legal, public safety, and human services training within the broader health and community framework.

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- **WWAMI School of Medical Education:** Offers both the Doctor of Medicine program in partnership with the University of Washington, as well as a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Pre-Medical Studies to prepare students for medical school.
- **School of Preventive and Therapeutic Sciences:** Home to training programs and facilities for a wide range of therapy and dental programs.
- **School of Social Work:** Is dedicated to advancing social work practice in Alaska through baccalaureate and master's education, research, and service.

Program Environment and Focus

- **Environment:** Alaska faces a persistent and well-documented physician workforce shortage, compounded by geographic isolation, a dispersed rural population, and limited in-state training infrastructure. Establishing accredited residency and fellowship programs in Alaska is a strategic priority for the UAA COH and for the long-term health of the state.
- **Focus:** Establishment of operational, accredited GME programs supported by a financially sustainable partnership structure between UAA and its clinical partners.

Capabilities of Interest

- **Alaska-specific approach:** The consulting project must be grounded in Alaska-specific realities, including the state's unique geography, rural healthcare environment, workforce constraints, and regulatory landscape.
- **Services: Ability** to provide expert guidance, tangible work products, and hands-on implementation support across all phases of this initiative.
- **Project Term and Transfer of Responsibilities:** The consulting project is expected to span approximately five to six years, with contractor effort concentrated most heavily in the planning, design, and early implementation phases. Responsibilities would transfer progressively to UAA and its clinical partners as programs become operational and institutional capacity grows.

C. Request for Information Response Format

Respondents are requested to answer all questions in this RFI and provide any additional information they deem necessary to assist the University of Alaska (UA) in making informed decisions regarding the GME consulting services as requested. UA may contact respondents for clarification or further discussion of submitted information. Responses are for informational purposes only and do not obligate UA in any way.

All information provided in this RFI shall remain confidential indefinitely. At the respondent's request, materials may be returned or destroyed after UA's review is complete.

Responses should consist of a detailed narrative addressing each question or scenario in the following section. Each narrative must clearly identify the question it addresses. While standard brochures or sales materials may supplement the narrative, each response must be thorough and complete in itself. If multiple alternatives are available, please describe them in the narrative response.

1. Company Overview and Experience:

Describe your company's experience providing GME program development, accreditation, and implementation consulting services, including the size and types of institutions you currently serve. Do you offer these services in-house or through a third-party partner? Describe the relative continuity and turnover of the professional staff assigned to these services.

2. Project Objectives:

How can your services support the following College of Health objectives for this project?

- Establishment or approval of UAA as an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Sponsoring Institution
- Submission and approval of multiple ACGME-accredited residency and/or fellowship programs
- Execution of agreements with one or more clinical partners to support GME training programs
- Recruitment of key GME leadership, including a Designated Institutional Official (DIO), Program Directors, and core faculty
- Enrollment of the first cohort of residents and/or fellows
- Development and validation of a documented, implementable plan for long-term financial sustainability
- Specific strategies you would recommend to address Alaska's geographic, rural, and workforce challenges in creating sustainable GME programs

3. Pricing and Estimated Level of Effort:

Describe your fee structure. Please be specific about how these are calculated and applied. Based on the information contained in this RFI, please provide:

- A high-level estimated level of effort by project phase;
- Typical project staffing composition;
- A rough order-of-magnitude cost range for a project of this scope; and
- Key assumptions that would affect pricing.

4. Alignment with University Priorities:

How can your services support university priorities, such as specific initiatives (please provide examples relevant to higher education) and community engagement?

[University of Alaska's Mission Statement](#)

5. Operational Philosophy and Support:

Describe your operational philosophy for a project of this size. How are consultants assigned, and what are your service level agreements (SLAs) or typical response times to inquiries?

6. Recommendations for the University:

Based on your understanding of our needs (as described in the RFI), what recommendations do you have to help the University achieve its goals for a GME consulting services engagement? Identify any significant risks, challenges, or critical success factors that UAA should consider before proceeding with a GME development initiative.

7. Additional Information:

Please provide any other information that you believe would be beneficial to the University in evaluating GME program development, accreditation, and implementation consulting services.

D. Required Submittal Instructions

The University of Alaska uses Bonfire portal for accepting bids, proposals, and information. Upload your submission using the following link:

<https://ua.bonfirehub.com/portal/?tab=openOpportunities>.

Your submission must be uploaded, submitted, and finalized prior to the Closing Time of **Wednesday, October 7, 2026 at 5:00 PM AKDT**. We strongly recommend that you give yourself sufficient time and **at least ONE (1) day** before Closing Time to begin the uploading process and to finalize your submission.

Note the type and number of files allowed. The maximum upload file size is 1000 MB. Do not embed any documents within your uploaded files, as they will not be accessible.

Each item of Requested Information will only be visible after the Closing Time. Uploading large documents may take significant time, depending on the size of the file(s) and your Internet connection speed.

You will receive an email confirmation receipt with a unique confirmation number once you finalize your submission.

Minimum system requirements: Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, or Mozilla Firefox. Javascript must be enabled. Browser cookies must be enabled.

Please contact Bonfire at Support@GoBonfire.com for technical questions related to your submission. You can also visit their help forum at <https://bonfirehub.zendesk.com/hc>