



## **Request for Qualifications – Architects STRUCTURES LABORATORY**

The University of Arkansas Fayetteville, in accordance with the policies of the Board of Trustees, is soliciting responses from qualified architects for a *Structures Laboratory* at Arkansas Research and Technology Park (ARTP).

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Structures Laboratory will provide the capability to evaluate full-scale structural elements, such as beams and girders for buildings, bridges, etc. as well as soils, asphalt, and concrete. As envisioned, the facility will allow tractor-trailers carrying test specimens to drive easily into and out of the lab. The research laboratory will feature a structural testing floor and reaction wall, associated materials preparation and testing areas, and office and research spaces for lab personnel. The lab will support both graduate and undergraduate civil engineering students (250 students per year) and graduate research (25 students per year), as well as faculty in civil engineering, structural engineering, mechanical engineering, biological and agricultural engineering, and the nano-institute. The lab will also provide teaching opportunities for the school of architecture. The building is estimated at approximately 25,000sf with high bay space and an adjacent two-story space.

The placement, layout and design of the building will be developed in concert with the university's master plan for ARTP<sup>1</sup>. The project will follow university standards for sustainable design and construction practices, and will be fully commissioned and constructed to the equivalent of LEED Silver or Green Globes Two Globes. The total project cost is approximately \$13-15 million, which includes \$5 million in equipment. **Phase I, delivered spring 2014, will include programming and schematic design as necessary to support fundraising efforts. The project will continue when all funds are available.**

Architects and consultants will work with a university building committee, a general contractor/construction manager, an independent third-party commissioning agent, and Facilities Management to advance overall site and master planning principles for the park, as well as sustainability initiatives. For general campus planning and standards information, visit <http://planning.uark.edu>.

### **SUBMISSION**

**The deadline for responses is 1:00 PM CDT on Tuesday, July 16, 2013.**

All respondents will be notified of the results by EMAIL, so please provide accurate contact information.

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<sup>1</sup> This plan is available at [http://planning.uark.edu/campus\\_planning/master\\_plan\\_documents.html](http://planning.uark.edu/campus_planning/master_plan_documents.html)

**Address ten (10) copies of responses to:** Jill Anthes, campus planner  
University of Arkansas  
Facilities Management Planning Group  
521 S. Razorback Road, FAMA C-100  
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Statements of Qualification will be reviewed by a selection committee using a standardized *Design Services Shortlist Evaluation* form. This form is available for download at <http://planning.uark.edu/rfq>.

Written responses should include:

1. Proof of licensure or eligibility:  
*Architects:* All firms shall be licensed, or eligible for licensure, in the State of Arkansas. Eligible firms not currently licensed must send a letter to the Arkansas State Board of Architects (501-682-3171/501-682-3172 fax) stating their intent to respond to an RFQ issued by the University of Arkansas. Please include project name, submittal date, and proof of valid NCARB certification in the letter. Consulting and joint venture firms are also required to be licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Architects. Notification to the State Board must be made **PRIOR** to responding to this solicitation, and **A COPY OF EITHER A VALID ARKANSAS LICENSE OR THE QUALIFYING LETTER FOR ALL TEAM MEMBER FIRMS MUST BE INCLUDED WITH ALL SUBMITTALS**. The final selected firm(s) will have 30 days to make application for corporate licensure after they are awarded the contract.
2. Proof of current professional liability insurance coverage (\$1,000,000 minimum required)
3. Specific project experience (within the past five years) with high bay laboratories, structural testing floors, and reaction walls or related facilities
4. Current office size, personnel description, and workload
5. Organizational chart for design team and all consultants
6. Prior experience constructing projects under LEED and/or Green Globes ratings systems
7. Prior experience with fully commissioned projects
8. Projects currently under contract with state agencies or educational facilities
9. Statement of diversity in the workforce, if applicable
10. Certificate of women-owned or minority-owned business, if applicable

Professional Services Required:

PROGRAMMING, FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENTS, COST ESTIMATING, SCHEMATIC DESIGN, GRAPHIC PRESENTATION, DESIGN DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS, BIDDING, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION, AND PROJECT CLOSEOUT.

## LOCATION

The lab building will be located at Arkansas Research and Technology Park (ARTP), immediately north of the Hazardous Material Storage Building and west of the Engineering Research Center (ENRC). The civil engineering department has additional soils testing, asphalt, and concrete laboratory space on site, which will be relocated to this building. Vacated ENRC space will be repurposed for other engineering research needs.

