

# Bid Submittal Guidelines and Checklist

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In effort to eliminate confusion and to standardize the bid submission process the Contracts Unit of the Division of Highways has created the following standard guidelines and checklist for submitting bids at all IDOT lettings.

This information has been compiled from questions received from contractors and from inconsistencies noted on bids received at the bid openings. If you have additional questions please refer to the contact information listed below.

## Questions: pre-letting up to execution of the contract

Contractor/Subcontractor pre-qualification	217-782-3413
Small Business, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)	217-785-4611
Contracts, Bids, Letting process or Internet downloads	217-785-0230
Estimates Unit	217-785-3483

## Questions: following contract execution

Including Subcontractor documentation, payments	217-782-3413
Railroad Insurance	217-785-0275

## Standard Guidelines for Submitting Bids

- All pages should be single sided.
- Use the Cover Page that is provided in the Bid Proposal (posted on the IDOT Web Site) as the first page of your submitted bid. This page has the Item number in the upper left-hand corner and lines provided for your company name and address in the upper right-hand corner.
- Do not use report covers, presentation folders or special bindings and do not staple multiple times on left side like a book. Use only 1 staple in the upper left hand corner. Make sure all elements of your bid are stapled together including the bid bond or guaranty check (if required).
- Do not include any certificates of eligibility, your authorization to bid, Addendum Letters or affidavit of availability.
- Do not include the Subcontractor Documentation with your bid (pages i – iii and pages a – g). This documentation is submitted only if you are awarded the contract.
- Use the envelope cover sheet (provided with the proposal) as the cover for the proposal envelope.
- Do not rely on overnight services to deliver your proposal prior to 10 AM on letting day. It will not be accepted if it is delivered after 10 AM.
- Do not submit your Substance Abuse Prevention Program (SAPP) with your bid. This form is to be submitted to the district engineer at the pre-construction conference if you are awarded the contract.

**The Bid Letting is now available in streaming Audio/Video from the IDOT Web Site.** A link to the stream will be placed on the main page of the current letting on the day of the Letting. The stream will not begin until 10 AM. The actual reading of the bids does not begin until approximately 10:20 AM.

Following the Letting, the As-Read Tabulation of Bids will be posted by the end of the day. You will find the link on the main page of the current letting.

If you are the apparent low-bidder, there is nothing further for you to do until the contract is officially awarded to your company. If your bid is not within the engineer's estimate it does not mean that the bid will be rejected. The award or rejection of the bids that are not within the engineer's estimate will be determined at the Awards Meeting. The Awards Meeting is usually held approximately two weeks after the letting. The responsive and responsible low-bidders of those contracts recommended for award will be notified by mail.

**Use the following checklist to assure completeness and the correct order in assembling your bid**

- Cover page followed by the Pay Items.** If you are using special software or a CBID to generate your schedule of prices, do not include the blank schedule of prices.
- Page 4 (Item 9)** – Check “Yes” if you will use a subcontractor. Include the subcontractor name, address and the dollar amount (if over \$25,000). If you will use subcontractor(s) but are uncertain who or the dollar amount; check “Yes” but leave the lines blank.
- After page 4,** insert your Cost Adjustments for Steel, Bituminous and Fuel (if applicable), and your State Board of Elections Business Registration (if applicable).
- Page 10 (Paragraph J)** – Check Yes or No whether your company has any business in Iran.
- Page 10 (Paragraph K)** – list the Union Local Name and number or certified training programs that you have in place. Do not include certificates with your bid. Keep the certificates in your office in case they are requested by IDOT.
- Page 11 (Paragraph L)** Insert a copy of your State Board of Elections Business Registration after page 4 of the bid proposal. Only include the page that has the date stamp on it. Do not include any other certificates or forms showing that you are an Illinois business.
- Page 11 (Paragraph M)** – Indicate if your company has hired a lobbyist in connection with the job for which you are submitting the bid proposal.
- Page 12 (Paragraph C)** – This is a work sheet to determine if a completed Form A is required. It is not part of the form and you do not need to make copies for each Form A that is filled out.
- Pages 14-17 (Form A)** – One Form A (4 pages) is required for each applicable person in your company. Copies of the Forms can be used and only need to be changed when the financial information changes. The certification signature and date must be original for each letting. Do not staple the forms together.  
  
If you answered NO to all of the questions in Paragraph C (page 12), complete the first section (page 14) with your company information and then sign and date the Not Applicable statement on page 17.
- Page 18 (Form B)** If you check YES to having other current or pending contracts it is acceptable to use the phrase, “See Affidavit of Availability on file”.
- Page 20 (Workforce Projection)** – Be sure to include the Duration of the Project. It is acceptable to use the phrase “Per Contract Specifications”.
- Bid Bond** – Submit your bid bond using the current Bid Bond Form provided in the proposal package. The Power of Attorney page should be stapled to the Bid Bond. If you are using an electronic bond, include your bid bond number on the form and attach the Proof of Insurance printed from the Surety 2000 Web Site.
- Disadvantaged Business Utilization plan and/or Good Faith Effort** – The last item in your bid should be the DBE Utilization Plan (SBE 2026), DBE Participation Statement (SBE 2025) and supporting paperwork. If you have documentation for a Good Faith Effort, it should follow the SBE Forms.