ADVERTISEMENT

RFQ Number: FM270144

Project Name: El Centro Improvement and Expansion Project

Project Description: Statements of Qualifications submittals are hereby solicited by the University of California, Santa Barbara ("University") from design professionals and firms with relevant experience and expertise in providing the services described herein. The selected consultant will provide design services associated with the El Centro Improvement and Expansion Project (the "Project"), as more fully described in this Request for Qualifications ("RFQ") No. FM270144.

The Project includes an assessment of opportunities for the renovation and expansion of El Centro, Arnulfo Casillas cultural center, located centrally on the main campus of the University of California, Santa Barbara. This includes providing a Detailed Project Program ("DPP") for renovation of up to approximately 5,927 GSF and 4,522 ASF in the current Building No. 406 and a possible expansion of the building. El Centro Arnulfo Casillas is the center of the Chicane and Latine experience on the UC Santa Barbara campus. El Centro is UCSB's first cultural resource building and also the original home of the first Department of Chicana/Chicano Studies Department in the UC system. It has been in operation since 1970.

Project programming will include new offices and support spaces, community spaces, archival storage, multi-media room, lounges, gender neutral restrooms, and possible expansion of the outdoor space. These additions will include modifications to electrical, mechanical, and fire alarm systems, sitework for accessibility compliance, and exterior improvements.

Estimated Construction Cost: The overall construction budget is TBD.

Scope of Services: The scope of services for this project will include phases for programming, producing a DPP and, if approved by the University, architectural and engineering design of the project, including cost estimating, code analysis, value engineering, project scheduling, and coordination with campus personnel and stakeholders.

The scope will include engaging with stakeholders in the evaluation of the existing facilities and programming requirements, preparation of conceptual plans for improvements and expansion on site or off, and calculation of cost estimates and a phasing plan. Professional services shall include:

- Assessment of all program needs, based on observation of the existing facilities and consultation with stakeholders including Students, Staff, Campus Planning, Facilities Maintenance, and others.
- Plan for proposed long term capital improvement projects to satisfy program needs.
- Stakeholder engagement sessions
- Conceptual blocking plans or diagrams for expansion possibilities
- Cost estimates for project elements
- Conceptual Drawings to illustrate how the design would meet the program criteria

The scope of professional services will be broken down into the following two stages: Stage 1 will be the preparation of a DPP and a project cost plan under the University's standard Professional Services Agreement (See Exhibit B). Stage 2, if awarded, will include architectural and engineering design services of the Project and the preparation of construction documents with updated cost estimates, administrative support services during the project and any environmental approval process, bidding assistance and construction phase administrative services and as built documentation under the University's standard Executive Design Professional Agreement (See Exhibit C).

While it is anticipated that funding will be obtained, there is no assurance that funds will be received for the project noted. Selection of the design professional will follow standard University procedures.

Instructions for Applicants: Qualified professionals and firms possessing relevant experience and expertise in providing design services for projects similar in scale, size and scope are encouraged to respond to this RFQ. The Request for Qualifications document will be made available on October 6, 2026 on the University's online planroom page located at www.ucsbplanroom.com. (click "RFQs" and the project link).

Contact Information: For additional project information please contact the Associate Director of Capital Development, Diane Galt, at dianegalt@ucsb.edu.

SOQ Deadline: An electronic copy of your firm's SOQ submittal in .pdf format must be returned to the University on October 26, 2026 by 4:00 p.m. either: (i) via email the UCSB project planroom page at https://www.ucsbplanroom.com/projects/674/details/rfq-no-fm270144 ; or, alternatively, (ii) an electronic (.pdf) copy may be delivered to the following physical address on a thumb drive:

Greg Moore, Associate Director
Contracting Services
University of California, Santa Barbara
6789 Navigator Way, 2nd Floor
Goleta, CA 93117

Equal Opportunity Statement: Each candidate firm will be required to show evidence of its equal employment opportunity policy. Every effort will be made to ensure that all persons shall have equal access to contracts and other business opportunities with the University, regardless of: race; color; religion; sex; age; ancestry; national origin; sexual orientation; physical or mental disability; veteran's status; medical condition; genetic information; marital status; gender identity; pregnancy; service in the uniformed services; or citizenship within the limits imposed by law or University's policy.

(Advertisement Posted: 10/05/2026)