



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

Request for Qualifications – Architects INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRATIVE AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

The University of Arkansas Fayetteville, in accordance with the policies of the Board of Trustees, is soliciting responses from qualified architects for a *planning, scope, and budget study* for the *Institute for Integrative and Innovative Research*.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The *Institute for Integrative and Innovative Research* will fulfill a key University of Arkansas goal¹ to create a distinctive research institute that drives discovery while meeting a significant need for additional laboratory capacity. This building (or group of buildings) will create a flexible, state-of-the-art, collaborative home that facilitates integration of research across disciplinary boundaries. In conjunction with a study of the Northwest Arkansas region² funded by the Walton Family Foundation³, the university has identified five innovation clusters that build on existing strengths and funding: *material science, data science, bioscience and bioengineering research and education in metabolism, food and technology, and integrative systems neuroscience*.

The design, location, and technological attributes of the building will support these groups by bringing researchers, visiting faculty, and industry experts together to collaborate, conduct research, and access suitable technology and equipment. This interdisciplinary environment will also help faculty to compete for funding from government agencies, national foundations, industry partners, and other external sources. Integration of research across these five strategic research themes will ultimately enhance the university's national reputation.

Because the scope of the project has not yet been determined, the university will engage in a **two-step process**: First, a project team including a professional design consultant and a construction manager/general contractor will study and validate program, scope, cost, and location. Based on the result of that study, the university may decide that the selected professional design consultant and construction manager/general contractor are suitable for continuation into design and construction of the project, or may choose to begin a new selection process for either or both of the teams.

¹ See the Chancellor's goals here:
<https://chancellor.uark.edu/focus-on-the-future/index.php>

² See the executive summary and full report prepared by the IC² Institute at:
<https://ic2.utexas.edu/pubs/northwest-arkansas-edge-final-report/>
<https://repositories.lib.utexas.edu/handle/2152/78349>

³ See the Walton Family Foundation's role in leading the study here:
<https://www.waltonfamilyfoundation.org/learning/northwest-arkansas-edge-report-innovate-again-innovate-here>

The building area may range from 75,000 to 100,000 square feet, and it may be arranged in a single building or a group of buildings from three to four stories high, depending on location. The project will give space for around 40 to 80 faculty researchers. It will house the central hubs of the research centers of excellence mentioned above, and will include space designed for innovation, prototyping, and collaborating with industry and other partners. The building will facilitate the continuation of growth in research volume and expenditures.

The total project cost is currently estimated at \$80 to \$100 million. Architects and consultants will work with a university building committee, an independent third-party commissioning agent, and Facilities Management to advance campus master planning and design principles, as well as sustainability requirements (LEED Silver is baseline). For general campus planning and standards information, visit <http://planning.uark.edu>.

Additional information about Northwest Arkansas and the University of Arkansas may be found at:

<https://research.uark.edu>

<https://economicdevelopment.uark.edu>

<http://www.nwacouncil.org>

ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

<i>Request for Qualifications (RFQ) issued</i>	<i>January 31</i>
<i>Statement of Qualification (SOQ) due</i>	<i>February 14</i>
<i>interviews of shortlisted firms</i>	<i>March 10</i>
<i>Board of Trustees selection announced</i>	<i>March 19</i>
<i>contract negotiations</i>	<i>March 2020</i>
<i>planning, scope, and budget study starts</i>	<i>April 2020</i>
<i>Board of Trustees review of study results</i>	<i>November 2020</i>

SUBMISSION

The deadline for responses is 1:00pm local time on Friday, February 14, 2020.

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

Address fifteen (15) copies of responses to: Todd Furgason, Senior Campus Planner
University of Arkansas
Facilities Management Planning and Design
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>.

Format requirements:

Printed responses should be no larger than 8.5in x 11in, limited to **50 sheets maximum (100 pages)**, fully recyclable (i.e. no plastic covers, plastic tabs, etc.) and bound with glue, staples, or thread (i.e. perfect bound, saddle stitching, etc.). No metal or plastic coils allowed. **Responses that do not meet these requirements will be disqualified.**

Please include a digital copy of the response via email to todd@uark.edu or on a flash drive delivered with the printed booklets.

Content requirements:

Include the information below and organize it in an easily accessible manner. You do not need to divide the response into chapters exactly matching the descriptions below. **Responses that do not include the required licensure information will be disqualified.**

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 in Arkansas 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 LETTER OF INTENT TO THE STATE BOARD DESCRIBED ABOVE FOR ALL TEAM MEMBER FIRMS MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THE RESPONSE.** The final selected firm(s) will have 30 days to make application for corporate licensure after they are awarded the contract.

Landscape Architects: All firms shall be licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, and Interior Designers. **A COPY A VALID ARKANSAS LICENSE MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THE SUBMITTAL.**

Civil Engineers: All engineers shall hold individual licenses in the State of Arkansas, and all engineering firms shall hold a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) issued by the Arkansas State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors. Joint venture firms are also required to hold a COA. **A COPY OF A VALID ARKANSAS CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZATION MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THE SUBMITTAL.**

2. Organizational chart for design team and all consultants
3. **Specific project experience** (within the past five years) with design of university research laboratories relevant to the innovation clusters *listed above*, and their programmatic, spatial, and technological requirements
4. **Specific project experience** (within the past five years) with creating flexible spaces that purposefully promote multi-disciplinary collaboration
5. **Specific project experience** (within the past five years) with creating compelling campus-like or urban environments through building arrangement, building design, and high-quality landscape design
6. Current office size, personnel description, and workload
7. Experience constructing projects under nationally-recognized sustainable rating systems
8. Experience with fully commissioned projects
9. Proof of current professional liability insurance coverage (\$1,000,000 minimum required)
10. List of projects currently under contract with state agencies or educational facilities
11. Statement of diversity in the workforce, if applicable
12. Certificate of women-owned or minority-owned business, if applicable

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REQUIRED

PROGRAMMING, FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENTS, GRAPHIC PRESENTATION, SITE PLANNING, CIVIL ENGINEERING, LANDSCAPE DESIGN, INTERIOR DESIGN, COST EVALUATION, SCHEMATIC DESIGN, DESIGN DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION, AND PROJECT CLOSEOUT.

LOCATION

The building site has not been identified. The planning study will help guide the selection of a suitable site, which may be on the central campus, Arkansas Research and Technology Park, or another site in Fayetteville.

