



## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
FOR  
**Economic Impact Modeling and Economic Development Data Tool**

ISSUED BY:

WISCONSIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

ON: **May 12, 2025**

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Steven Richmond at [steven.richmond@wedc.org](mailto:steven.richmond@wedc.org) by May 19, 2025 at 4:00 pm CT.

PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY:  
**May 30, 2025, 4:00 PM CT**

To:  
**Steven Richmond**  
Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation  
2352 S. Park St., Suite 303  
Madison, WI 53713

**LOOK FORWARD ►**

**I. Scope**

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to provide interested proposers with the information needed to prepare and submit a Proposal for the following:

An economic impact modeling and economic development data tool to be used by both WEDC staff and partners at Wisconsin Regional Economic Development Organizations (REDOs) and Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs). This tool will be used by WEDC staff to estimate the long-term economic impacts stemming from the establishment of new businesses as well as from expansion or loss of existing businesses within Wisconsin. The tool will also be used by WEDC and partner organization staff to access industry, workforce, and educational data to support economic development activities.

**II. Project Timeline**

The work needed to be completed under this RFP is subject to tight timing constraints. Proposers responding to this RFP must be prepared to conform to the following timeline. If this timeline is prohibitively restrictive, please indicate such and propose an alternate timeline.

RFP Issued:

May 12, 2025

Deadline to Submit Questions:

May 19, 2025

Answers Posted to RFP Page

May 23, 2025

Proposals Due:

May 30, 2025

Committee review of Proposals:

June 2-3, 2025

Inform Proposers of Possible Interviews

June 4, 2025

Possible Interviews with Proposers:

June 5-10, 2025

Approval of Award:

June 20, 2025

Contract Start Date:

July 1, 2025

**III. Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation**

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) is a public body corporate and politic governed by Chapter 238 of the Wisconsin Statutes. WEDC was created under 2011 Wisconsin Act 7 and 2011 Wisconsin Act 32 to replace the economic and community development operations of the former Wisconsin Department of Commerce and to serve as the State of Wisconsin's lead economic development organization. WEDC is governed by a

sixteen-member Board of Directors. WEDC's Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Governor.

WEDC provides financial and technical assistance and services to businesses and organizations in Wisconsin for the purpose of strategically investing in Wisconsin to enhance the economic well-being of people and their businesses and communities. As of June 30, 2024, WEDC had approximately 134 employees and an operating budget of approximately \$61.8 million. Revenues to finance its operating budget are primarily derived from state appropriations, loan repayments, and other sources of income.

WEDC operates twelve (12) departments, primarily located in Madison, Wisconsin. WEDC provides grants, loans, tax credits, and other financial and technical assistance to its customers. WEDC utilizes the Intacct accounting system as well as Salesforce and a grant and loan management system.

#### **IV. Proposal Requirements**

Proposers responding to this RFP must provide sufficient responses to all of the requests below for information. Failure to respond to any of the requests may result in disqualification of the proposal.

##### **A. Mandatory Requirements**

1. Input-Output modeling for changes to industries at the 6-digit NAICS level to estimate short and long-term supply chain impacts of:
  - a. establishment of new businesses,
  - b. expansion of existing businesses,
  - c. loss of existing businesses,across industries, occupations, and demographics.
2. Easy to interpret outputs and interface.
3. Ability to construct geographic regions based on single or multiple states, counties, ZIP Codes, Census tracts, Census blocks, or metropolitan statistical areas.
4. Ability to access a geographic region's data on the following:
  - a. industries (from 2-digit through 6-digit NAICS),
  - b. occupations (from 2-digit through 5-digit SOC),
  - c. educational programs,
  - d. relationships that connect these three areas of the economy.
5. Accessible to 75 unique user logins across WEDC and 18 partner entities.
6. Provide annual or quarterly training and support of the tool.

##### **B. Organizational and Staff Capabilities**

1. Provide a brief description of the proposer's history and organization.
2. Describe the proposer's experience providing similar services.
3. Provide a list of at least three relevant engagements, with references, held by the proposer which indicates relevant experience.
4. Provide a list of all staff persons who will be involved in carrying out the tasks covered by this RFP, describing each in terms of their involvement in specific tasks and qualifications.
5. Provide a list of any subcontractors (individual or organizational) that the proposer intends to use when providing services under this RFP (Note: the proposer is not required to use subcontractor(s). However, no subcontractor may be used without WEDC's written approval.)

C. Technical Requirements/Approach to the Project

1. Describe, in detail, the proposer's technical approach to providing the service outlined in this RFP
2. Provide a timeline for implementation of the required services under this RFP.

D. Other Items

1. Proposers should detail any additional types of data, analysis, etc. that will be included in your service that do not fall under the Mandatory Requirements. Any additional costs associated with such services should be clearly listed.
2. Please also describe your onboarding process for new users and what on-demand training is available for your service.

E. Documents

1. Provide a copy of the proposer's W-9.
2. Provide a copy of the proposer's standard contract documents.
3. Provide a completed Supplier Demographic Attestation Form.

**V. Cost Proposal**

Proposers should provide a fixed cost proposal for the services to be provided under this RFP, including anticipated out of pocket costs. The cost proposal shall be a capped total cost for the services to be provided under this RFP and include the cost for the first year of service and of each annual renewal under this RFP (up to four renewals for a total of five years).

**VI. Terms and Conditions**

The following terms and conditions affect responses to this RFP and any resulting contract. These terms shall be adhered to by any interested proposer and are non-negotiable.

A. Contract Term

The contract will cover 1 year with the option to renew annually for another 4 years, for a total of 5 years.

B. Confidentiality

Proposer acknowledges that all information, data, records and documents disclosed by WEDC to proposer, or which come to proposer's attention during the course of its response to this RFP or performance under any resulting contract constitute valuable and proprietary assets of WEDC (Confidential Information). The proposer agrees not to disclose the Confidential Information, either directly or indirectly, to any person, entity or affiliate unless required to do so by legal process of law without prior authorization by WEDC. If required to disclose Confidential Information by legal process, Proposer shall provide WEDC with prompt notice so WEDC may seek an appropriate protective order. Except as required to respond to this RFP or during the course of its performance under the terms of any resulting Agreement, proposer shall not use any Confidential Information for its own purposes.

C. Conflict of Interests

Proposers' response to this RFP must include, in writing, disclosure of any potential conflict of interests that may arise from proposer's performing services for WEDC. Any resulting contract will require that if a vendor fails to disclose a potential conflict of interest, and if WEDC determines such failure to disclose involves a material conflict of interest, the vendor's contract may be declared to be void by WEDC and any amounts paid under the contract may

be recovered by WEDC. Vendors shall advise WEDC of any changes in potential conflicts of interest. This language may change with the new procurement policy.

**D. Nondiscrimination**

Pursuant to Wisconsin law, any contract resulting from this RFP will include the following language regarding nondiscrimination:

"Consistent with Wis. Stat. § 16.765: In connection with the performance of work under this contract, the Vendor agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, religion, color, handicap, sex, physical condition, developmental disability as defined in s. 51.01 (5), sexual orientation or national origin. This provision will include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. Except with respect to sexual orientation, the Vendor further agrees to take affirmative action to ensure equal employment opportunities. The Vendor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available for employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Vendor officer setting forth the provisions of the nondiscrimination clause."

**E. Public Records**

Responses to this RFP, any communication with WEDC, and any resulting contract and work product are subject to the public records laws of the State of Wisconsin, § 19.31 et seq. Proposers shall mark documents "confidential" where appropriate for financial and other sensitive materials that should be, to the extent possible, be kept in confidence. WEDC will notify the proposer if it receives a public records request for materials marked confidential. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.36(3), all records of the Proposer that are produced or collected in response to this RFQ and any resulting Agreement(s) are potentially subject to disclosure in response to a public records request.

**F. Insurance**

If awarded the contract, the proposer shall maintain Worker's Compensation, Comprehensive General Liability, including Contractual Liability, and Automobile Liability insurance for any claims that may arise from operations under the contract.

**VII. RFP Process**

**A. Reasonable Accommodations**

WEDC will provide reasonable accommodations, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, for individuals with disabilities upon request.

**B. Communication with WEDC & Submitting Questions**

All communication regarding this RFP shall be directed to WEDC's Economic Research Manager, Steven Richmond at [steven.richmond@wedc.org](mailto:steven.richmond@wedc.org). Information regarding this RFP obtained from other sources is unofficial and nonbinding. Communication with other sources may be cause for the rejection of a proposal. All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to WEDC's Economic Research Manager, Steven Richmond by May 19, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. CT.

**C. Incurring Costs**

WEDC is not liable for any cost incurred by a vendor for responding to this RFP.

#### D. News Releases

News releases pertaining to the RFP or to the acceptance, rejection or evaluation of proposals shall not be made without the prior written approval of WEDC.

#### E. Submitting the Proposal

Proposers shall submit an electronic, PDF, version of their Proposal to WEDC's Economic Research Manager, Steven Richmond at [steven.richmond@wedc.org](mailto:steven.richmond@wedc.org), no later than May 30, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. CT. Proposal responses should follow the sequence and outline presented in this RFP.

### VIII. Evaluation of RFP

#### A. Proposal Review, Verification and Acceptance

WEDC shall review each proposal to verify that it meets all specified requirements in the RFP. Proposals that do not comply with instructions contained in the RFP may be rejected by WEDC. WEDC reserves the right to waive a particular specification if no proposer meets that specification. WEDC may request reports on the proposer's financial stability. WEDC may reject a proposal if the proposer is determined to have inadequate financial means to provide the required service.

WEDC retains the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, or accept or reject any part of a proposal, determined to be in the best interest of WEDC. WEDC shall be the sole judge as to compliance with the instructions contained in this RFP. Proposals shall be firm for acceptance for sixty (60) days from the date of proposal opening unless otherwise noted. A proposer may not modify its proposal after submission except to correct minor omissions or miscalculations as directed in writing by WEDC.

#### B. Proposal Scoring

WEDC will review each proposal and intends to select the vendor that provides the best value to WEDC. Each bid will be evaluated based on the vendor's Cost Proposal and ability to meet the requirements laid out in Section I: Scope and Section IV: Proposal Requirements. WEDC may request a meeting with some qualified proposers before the final selection. Proposals will be reviewed in accordance with the evaluation criteria described in Section C below.

It is WEDC's intent to have its Supplier Diversity Program reflect its commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, therefore, proposals from Diverse Businesses will receive a Five Percent (5%) preference during the proposal scoring process. WEDC strongly encourages Diverse Businesses to apply/submit proposals. (See Supplier Demographic Attestation)

In addition, WEDC values maximizing opportunities in Wisconsin for businesses, therefore a Five Percent (5%) bid preference will be given to proposers that are located in Wisconsin (Ten Percent (10%) cumulative if the proposer is diverse and located in Wisconsin).

#### C. Evaluation Criteria

Mandatory requirements must be met in order for a proposal to be considered for award under this RFP. Evaluation of the proposals will be based on the cost of the proposal, the proposer's relevant engagements and experience, and the proposer's ability to meet the following mandatory requirements:

1. Input-Output modeling for changes to industries at the 6-digit NAICS level to estimate long-term and supply chain impacts of:

- a. establishment of new businesses,
  - b. expansion of existing businesses,
  - c. loss of existing businesses,across industries, occupations, and demographics.
2. Easy to interpret outputs and interface.
3. Ability to construct geographic regions based on single or multiple states, counties, ZIP Codes, Census tracts, Census blocks, or metropolitan statistical areas.
4. Ability to access a geographic region's data on the following:
  - a. industries (from 2-digit through 6-digit NAICS),
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  - c. educational programs,
  - d. relationships that connect these three areas of the economy.
5. Accessible to 75 unique user logins across WEDC and 18 partner entities.
6. Provide annual or quarterly training and support of the tool.

**D. Right to Reject Proposals and Negotiate with Proposers**

WEDC reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. WEDC may negotiate with multiple vendors regarding the terms of the contract and the cost proposal before determining the highest-scoring proposer. WEDC shall not, under any circumstances, reveal a proposer's cost proposal to any other proposer prior to contracting for services.

**E. Award Decision**

WEDC will make the award to the proposer deemed to provide the services described in this RFP at the best value to WEDC, taking into consideration the proposers' experience, expertise, and cost proposals.

**F. Notice of Intent to Award**

All proposers who respond to this RFP will be notified in writing of WEDC's intent to award the contract as a result of this RFP.