

State of Maine
Master Score Sheet

RFP# 202304080

Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

Bidder Name:		Alpha Analytical	Maine Laboratories	Granite State Analytical	Nova Analytical
Proposed Cost:		\$570,000	\$524,542	\$525,333	\$650,000
Scoring Sections	Points Available				
Section I: Eligibility	Pass/Fail	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
Section II: Qualifications and Experience	60	60	40	30	
Section III: Activities and Requirements	25	25	20	10	
Section IV: Funding Request	15	13.8	15	14.97	
TOTAL	<u>100</u>	<u>98.8</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>54.97</u>	



**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

**Melanie Loyzim
Commissioner**

**Janet T. Mills
Governor**

February 13, 2024

Stephen Knollmeyer- Alpha Analytical
145 Flanders Road
Westborough, MA 01581

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA # 20230408
Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

Dear Mr. Knollmeyer:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Application (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection for Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following bidders:

- Alpha Analytical \$262,666.50
- Maine Laboratories \$262,666.50

The amount awarded differs from the amount requested by the applicants. Per the RFA it was our intention to award the funds to two bidders. The amount available for the RFA was divided equally between the two top bidders.

The bidders listed above received the evaluation team's highest rankings. The Department will be contacting the aforementioned bidders soon to negotiate a contract. As provided in the RFA, the Notice of Conditional Contract Award is subject to execution of a written contract and, as a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the Department and the apparent successful vendor. The vendor shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Department is executed. The Department further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Conditional Contract Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

As stated in the RFA, following announcement of this award decision, all submissions in response to the RFA are considered public records available for public inspection pursuant to the State of Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA). 1 M.R.S. §§ 401 et seq.; 5 M.R.S. § 1825-B (6). rev. 3/5/2018

This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

Kelly A Perkins

Kelly Perkins
Chemist 3
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).



**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
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Governor**

**Melanie Loyzim
Commissioner**

February 13, 2024

John Lyons- Granite State Analytical Services, LLC. DBA A & L Laboratory
22 Manchester Road
Derry, New Hampshire 03038

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA # 20230408
Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

Dear Mr. Lyons:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Application (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection for Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following bidders:

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Sincerely,

Kelly A Perkins

Kelly Perkins
Chemist 3
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

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STATE OF MAINE
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Janet T. Mills
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February 13, 2024

Katie-Richards- Maine Laboratories
25 Maine Street
Norridgewock, Maine 04957

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA # 20230408
Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

Dear Ms. Richards:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Application (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection for Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following bidders:

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This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

Kelly Perkins

Kelly Perkins
Chemist 3
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

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Governor**

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Commissioner**

February 13, 2024

Greg Newland- Nova Analytic Labs, LLC
65 Milliken St, Unit C
Portland, Maine 04103

**SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA # 20230408
Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine**

Dear Mr. Newland:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Application (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection for Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following bidders:

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- Maine Laboratories \$262,666.50

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As stated in the RFA, following announcement of this award decision, all submissions in response to the RFA are considered public records available for public inspection pursuant to the State of Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA). 1 M.R.S. §§ 401 et seq.; 5 M.R.S. § 1825-B (6).

This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

Kelly A Perkins

Kelly Perkins
Chemist 3
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS

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**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Alpha Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Environmental Protection

Name of RFP Coordinator: Kelly Perkins

Names of Evaluators: Kelly Perkins, Molly King, Victoria Eleftheriou

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility	Pass	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information showing that the applying analytical laboratory currently provides analysis for PFAS and has a physical presence in Maine. This must include one of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If the Applicant owns the property, a copy of the deed(s) to the property proposed for use. 2) If the Applicant has a lease on the property, a copy of the lease agreement showing its duration and terms. 3) If the Applicant has an option to buy or lease the property, a copy of the option agreement. If selected, the Applicant must provide the Department with a copy of the deed or lease prior to the award. • A current certificate from the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program which includes the corresponding analytes the laboratory is certified for. The analyte list must include organic compound methods. • An actual Level II report generated from the testing of organic compounds at the bidder's current analytical laboratory with the corresponding data in the Department's most current electronical data deliverable format. Sample address and other personal identifying information may be redacted, as appropriate. 	All requested items were provided	
<u>Scoring Sections</u> (Edit sections below to match evaluation criteria within RFP)	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Qualifications and Experience	60	60
Section III. Activities and Requirements	25	25
Section IV. Funding Request	15	13.8
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>98.8</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Alpha Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

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**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Alpha Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Eligibility

Evaluation Team Comments:

Alpha Analytical has a service center in Brewer, Maine. They use this location as a central hub for couriering samples to their laboratories in Mansfield and Westborough, MA. As part of their proposal they included a copy of their lease, a copy of their Maine Laboratory Accreditation and an example level 2 report and Environmental Geographic and Analysis Database (EGAD) EDD.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Alpha Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Qualifications and Experience	60	60

Evaluation Team Comments:

- 1) Provide a description of projects that occurred within the past five years which reflect experience and expertise needed in performing the functions described on page 3 of the RFA. For each of the project examples provided, a contact person from the client organization involved should be listed, along with that person's telephone number and e-mail address. Please note that contract history with the State of Maine, whether positive or negative, may be considered in rating proposals even if not provided by the Bidder.

Alpha provided information on three projects performed for the States of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. All have PFAS analyses performed on a variety of matrices. The Maine and New Hampshire projects have been in effect from 2019 to present. The Vermont project was in effect from 2021-2022.

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Proposed Services**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Activities and Requirements	25	25

Evaluation Team Comments:

1. A brief description of the proposed project, including:
 - a. A description of current laboratory operations and analytical tests performed.

Alpha has operated as a full service analytical laboratory since 1985. Their core services include air, water and soil analysis, with particular expertise in the highly-specialized fields of tissue, sediment, forensic petroleum and emerging contaminants analysis. They entered the PFAS testing market in 2017.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Alpha Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

- b. A description of proposed analytical tests to be performed, and a list of matrices proposed to be analyzed and corresponding test methods. Accreditation for the testing of PFAS in drinking water in strict accordance with US EPA Test Methods 533 or 537.1 must be obtained first. Additional analytical testing could include other matrices such as soil, vegetative tissue, muscle tissue, blood, serum, milk, manure, and compost.

They currently analyze all types of PFAS samples from drinking water, groundwater, surface water, wastewater, soil, biosolids, tissue, milk and vegetative tissue and plan to expand on these capabilities for samples originating from the State of Maine. They currently have Maine accreditation for both US EPA Test Methods 533 and 537.1 for the analysis of drinking water. They currently perform method 537.1 modified with isotope dilution for all other non-drinking water PFAS analyses. Alpha is also Department of Defense and NELAC accredited for draft method 1633.

- c. Qualifications for senior staff that perform organic analyses.

Alpha provided resumes for key senior staff that perform organic analyses and would be involved with the analysis of PFAS samples for the State of Maine. All have 18 or more years of analytical laboratory experience.

- d. A description of how the analytical laboratory will give priority PFAS analysis and data reporting to the Department and other state agencies for samples originating in Maine.

Alpha currently provides priority status for all MEDEP and Maine ACF projects. For the MEDEP samples, Alpha logs in the samples on a 7-day extraction time in order to have the samples run and evaluated within the 14-day holding time for extraction. If reextraction is required then there is time left to perform the re-extraction within the 14-day holding time. For Maine ACF projects where milk analysis is being performed on a rapid TAT, Alpha has continued to provide expedited TAT even when we have not been doing expedited analyses for any other clients. It is this type of attention and turnaround that Alpha intends to continue to perform if awarded this grant.

- e. A physical address for the laboratory if different from the mailing address.

Alpha Analytical Maine Service Center: 72 Center Street Brewer, ME 04412

Alpha Analytical PFAS Lab location 320 Forbes Blvd. Mansfield, MA 02048

- f. A figure that shows the layout of the analytical laboratory including locations for current analyses labelled by type and locations proposed for PFAS laboratory operations including extraction and analysis.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Alpha Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

Alpha provided a floor plan for their current and proposed PFAS laboratory. This laboratory is dedicated to the extraction and analysis of PFAS samples and has sufficient space to accommodate the 25+ PFAS analysts.

- g.** A description of measures that will be taken to ensure data quality including a discussion as to how cross-contamination will be avoided.

Alpha has set up separate analytical space and a separate extraction/preparation room for PFAS analysis only. No other analysis or extractions are performed in these rooms and the rooms have dedicated ventilation systems, hoods and air handling systems to allow for a PFAS-free environment. This lab has proven to be suitable for the PFAS operations through years of operation and thousands of blank samples analyzed.

- h.** The bidder's proposed capacity for analyzing PFAS samples on both a daily and annual basis once full-scale operations are achieved.

Alpha currently has eight instruments dedicated to the analysis of PFAS samples and can analyze up to 200 hundred PFAS samples daily and 48,000 samples annually.

- 2.** A schedule in the form of a Gantt chart or similar timeline chart that illustrates anticipated timelines to reach full-scale PFAS laboratory testing services.
 - a.** Benchmarks should include, but not be limited to, equipment delivery; Quality Assurance Manual development; Standard Operating Procedure development; staff training; proficiency testing; completion of corrective actions, if needed; and achieving method accreditation.

Alpha provided a timeline chart that will need to be updated after RFA award. Because they are currently analyzing PFAS samples the majority of the benchmarks have already been achieved. New equipment purchased with the RFA funds will need to be setup and validated.

- b.** A timeframe should be provided to reach compliance drinking water accreditation.

Alpha already has Maine drinking water accreditation for methods 533 and 537.1.

- c.** Timeframes should be provided for reaching proficiency in testing other media, as applicable, once compliance drinking water accreditation has been achieved.

- 3.** Information to demonstrate that the Department and other state agencies, and homeowners submitting in-state drinking water supply samples, will receive preferential pricing based on a standard 10-day turnaround time.

Alpha is providing the attached pricing sheet for use by state agencies, residential

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Alpha Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

customers and other entities in the state of Maine. These discounted prices are set at 15-20% below market rates. Alpha provides a standard 15-business day TAT for all customers. Our laboratory currently logs in MEDEP work with a 7- day extraction requirement to expedite the analysis so that analytical runs can be reviewed and re-extractions performed within the 14 day holding time.

4. Proposals that include analytical testing capacity of tissue (vegetative and/or muscle) must indicate whether the Applicant has or proposes to purchase equipment and appurtenant systems necessary for preparing samples (e.g., cryogenic grinder to homogenize tissues).

In addition to the analytical equipment Alpha is proposing to purchase a series of cryogenic homogenization and extraction equipment to handle various types of samples. They are proposing a large “hopper-type” homogenization and grinding unit that will be capable of taking large quantities of vegetative material (e.g., corn stalks, corn cobs and other whole plant samples) and grinding and homogenizing under cryogenic conditions using dry ice. In addition, Alpha is proposing to purchase several tabletop grinders and homogenizers to handle smaller samples of tissue, meat, fish and vegetative material from farm samples to garden samples. All of these RFA# 202304080 – Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine Page | 18 pieces of equipment are listed in Attachment 1 Equipment List. Lastly, they are proposing the purchase of a cryogenic extractor that will take the homogenate generated in the abovementioned equipment and will use a solvent to extract under cryogenic conditions.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Alpha Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Funding Request**

Lowest Submitted Cost Proposal	,	Cost Proposal Being Scored	x	Score Weight	=	Score
\$524,542	,	\$570,000	x	15 points	=	13.8

Evaluation Team Comments:

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Granite State Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Environmental Protection

Name of RFP Coordinator: Kelly Perkins

Names of Evaluators: Kelly Perkins, Molly King, Victoria Eleftheriou

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility	Pass	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information showing that the applying analytical laboratory currently provides analysis for PFAS and has a physical presence in Maine. This must include one of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If the Applicant owns the property, a copy of the deed(s) to the property proposed for use. 2) If the Applicant has a lease on the property, a copy of the lease agreement showing its duration and terms. 3) If the Applicant has an option to buy or lease the property, a copy of the option agreement. If selected, the Applicant must provide the Department with a copy of the deed or lease prior to the award. • A current certificate from the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program which includes the corresponding analytes the laboratory is certified for. The analyte list must include organic compound methods. • An actual Level II report generated from the testing of organic compounds at the bidder's current analytical laboratory with the corresponding data in the Department's most current electronical data deliverable format. Sample address and other personal identifying information may be redacted, as appropriate. 	All requested items were provided	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Qualifications and Experience	60	30
Section III. Activities and Requirements	25	10
Section IV. Funding Request	15	14.97
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>54.97</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Granite State Analytical

DATE: January 18, 2024

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**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Granite State Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Eligibility

Evaluation Team Comments:

Granite State plans to use their sister lab (A&L) in Auburn, Maine for collection and receipt of samples. Samples will then be transported to Granite State in New Hampshire for analysis. A copy of the deed for the A&L property was provided with the proposal. They currently do not perform PFAS analyses- but provided Maine accreditation for both the A&L laboratory and Granite State locations for the analyses they do perform. An example data report and Maine EGAD EDD were provided with the proposal. Currently the A&L laboratory subcontracts PFAS analyses to Alpha Analytical.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Granite State Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Qualifications and Experience	60	30

Evaluation Team Comments:

- 1) Provide a description of projects that occurred within the past five years which reflect experience and expertise needed in performing the functions described on page 3 of the RFA. For each of the project examples provided, a contact person from the client organization involved should be listed, along with that person's telephone number and e-mail address. Please note that contract history with the State of Maine, whether positive or negative, may be considered in rating proposals even if not provided by the Bidder.

Details regarding 3 projects were provided. Because they do not currently test for PFAS themselves, the projects did not include PFAS testing and points were deducted. It was clear however, that they have made an effort to support testing needs for samples originating in Maine.

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Proposed Services**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Activities and Requirements	25	10

Evaluation Team Comments:

1. A brief description of the proposed project, including:
 - a. A description of current laboratory operations and analytical tests performed.

It is their intent to provide analysis for Drinking Water in accordance with EPA 533 and EPA537.1 and Modified 537 with Isotope Dilution.

- b. A description of proposed analytical tests to be performed, and a list of matrices proposed to be analyzed and corresponding test methods. Accreditation for the

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Granite State Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

testing of PFAS in drinking water in strict accordance with US EPA Test Methods 533 or 537.1 must be obtained first. Additional analytical testing could include other matrices such as soil, vegetative tissue, muscle tissue, blood, serum, milk, manure, and compost.

They intend to only test for PFAS in drinking water.

c. Qualifications for senior staff that perform organic analyses.

Senior staff have sufficient organic experience and should be able to bring PFAS analysis online. No staff listed have experience with LC/MS/MS analysis. Two of the senior staff listed did not have organic experience. One focused on metals analysis and the other on microbiology.

d. A description of how the analytical laboratory will give priority PFAS analysis and data reporting to the Department and other state agencies for samples originating in Maine

Samples originating in the State of Maine will be flagged in our LIMS to ensure they are reprocessed in accordance with the contract and within the required 10 Day turnaround time. Should the need arise to prioritize samples to meet this timeline those originating from Maine will take priority. Additionally, expedited analysis will be available for an additional cost should the department need results faster than the standard 10 days

e. A physical address for the laboratory if different from the mailing address

A & L Laboratory
155 Center Street
Building C
Auburn, Maine 04210

Granite State Analytical Services, LLC.
2 Manchester Road
Derry, New Hampshire 03038

f. A figure that shows the layout of the analytical laboratory including locations for current analyses labelled by type and locations proposed for PFAS laboratory operations including extraction and analysis

Figure provided includes future PFAS laboratory.

g. A description of measures that will be taken to ensure data quality including a discussion as to how cross-contamination will be avoided

Information regarding data quality and how cross contamination will be avoided is sufficient.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Granite State Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

- h.** The bidder's proposed capacity for analyzing PFAS samples on both a daily and annual basis once full-scale operations are achieved

They estimate they will be able to analyze 50 drinking water samples per day or 11,000-13,000 samples per year after they are up and running.

- 2.** A schedule in the form of a Gantt chart or similar timeline chart that illustrates anticipated timelines to reach full-scale PFAS laboratory testing services.
 - a.** Benchmarks should include, but not be limited to, equipment delivery; Quality Assurance Manual development; Standard Operating Procedure development; staff training; proficiency testing; completion of corrective actions, if needed; and achieving method accreditation.

Gantt chart provided. Would need to be updated after award.

- b.** A timeframe should be provided to reach compliance drinking water accreditation. Provided
- c.** Timeframes should be provided for reaching proficiency in testing other media, as applicable, once compliance drinking water accreditation has been achieved.

They do not intend to run matrices other than drinking water.

- 3.** Information to demonstrate that the Department and other state agencies, and homeowners submitting in-state drinking water supply samples, will receive preferential pricing based on a standard 10-day turnaround time

The Department, other state agencies, and homeowners submitting drinking water supply samples will receive a 7.5% discount for in-state samples submitted. The LIMS system at GSA is sophisticated enough to provide project specific pricing to specific clients. They have utilized this feature for the department and other clients throughout Maine over the years.

- 4.** Proposals that include analytical testing capacity of tissue (vegetative and/or muscle) must indicate whether the Applicant has or proposes to purchase equipment and appurtenant systems necessary for preparing samples (e.g., cryogenic grinder to homogenize tissues).

They do not intend to test tissue samples.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Granite State Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Funding Request**

Lowest Submitted Cost Proposal	,	Cost Proposal Being Scored	x	Score Weight	=	Score
\$524,542	,	\$525,333	x	15 points	=	14.97

Evaluation Team Comments:

**OR STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Maine Laboratories

DATE: August 10, 2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Environmental Protection

Name of RFP Coordinator: Kelly Perkins

Names of Evaluators: Kelly Perkins, Molly King, Victoria Eleftheriou

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility	Pass	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information showing that the applying analytical laboratory currently provides analysis for PFAS and has a physical presence in Maine. This must include one of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If the Applicant owns the property, a copy of the deed(s) to the property proposed for use. 2) If the Applicant has a lease on the property, a copy of the lease agreement showing its duration and terms. 3) If the Applicant has an option to buy or lease the property, a copy of the option agreement. If selected, the Applicant must provide the Department with a copy of the deed or lease prior to the award. • A current certificate from the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program which includes the corresponding analytes the laboratory is certified for. The analyte list must include organic compound methods. • An actual Level II report generated from the testing of organic compounds at the bidder's current analytical laboratory with the corresponding data in the Department's most current electronical data deliverable format. Sample address and other personal identifying information may be redacted, as appropriate. 	All requested items were provided	
<u>Scoring Sections</u> (Edit sections below to match evaluation criteria within RFP)	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Qualifications and Experience	60	40
Section III. Activities and Requirements	25	20
Section IV. Funding Request	15	15
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>75</u>

**OR STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Maine Laboratories

DATE: August 10, 2023

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**OR STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Maine Laboratories

DATE: August 10, 2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Eligibility

Evaluation Team Comments:

Maine Laboratories is physically located on Main St. in Norridgewock, ME. All testing takes place at this location, and they are certified through the MLAP program for testing PFAS compounds by 537.1. A copy of the deed to the property was attached to their proposal.

**OR STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Maine Laboratories

DATE: August 10, 2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Qualifications and Experience	60	40

Evaluation Team Comments:

- 1) Provide a description of projects that occurred within the past five years which reflect experience and expertise needed in performing the functions described on page 3 of the RFA. For each of the project examples provided, a contact person from the client organization involved should be listed, along with that person's telephone number and e-mail address. Please note that contract history with the State of Maine, whether positive or negative, may be considered in rating proposals even if not provided by the Bidder.

Maine Laboratories provided information regarding 3 projects that occurred in 2022 and 2023. All three projects involved PFAS analysis and were research focused. Points were deducted due to length of time for projects and lack of routine analytical testing projects.

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Proposed Services**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Activities and Requirements	25	20

Evaluation Team Comments:

1. A brief description of the proposed project, including:
 - a. A description of current laboratory operations and analytical tests performed.

Maine laboratories performs testing exclusively for PFAS. They currently perform analyses for all matrices on one instrument.
 - b. A description of proposed analytical tests to be performed, and a list of matrices proposed to be analyzed and corresponding test methods. Accreditation for the testing of PFAS in drinking water in strict accordance with US EPA Test Methods 533 or 537.1 must be obtained first. Additional analytical testing could include

**OR STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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BIDDER: Maine Laboratories

DATE: August 10, 2023

other matrices such as soil, vegetative tissue, muscle tissue, blood, serum, milk, manure, and compost.

Maine Laboratories provided a copy of their 537.1 Maine accreditation for drinking water. They indicated that they had also developed testing methods for wastewater, landfill leachate, biosolids, influent, effluent, groundwater, milk, soil, plant tissue, fish, and animal tissue.

c. Qualifications for senior staff that perform organic analyses

Their staff consists of a PhD Analytical Chemist, a PhD Biochemist, and Laboratory Technical Director with 11 years' experience in environmental testing.

d. A description of how the analytical laboratory will give priority PFAS analysis and data reporting to the Department and other state agencies for samples originating in Maine

Maine state agency samples will be sorted into a prioritized workflow in their Laboratory Information Management System (WeLIMS) to ensure a 10-day maximum turnaround. An alert status within their WeLIMS system will be used to ensure they remain in compliance with this target. The prioritized workflow moves state agency samples to the top of the queue. Their workflow is designed to accommodate expedited and priority samples. State agency samples will automatically be labeled as priority samples at no additional cost. Similarly, samples originating in Maine are also flagged with a priority status and are moved ahead of out of state samples in the workflow.

e. A physical address for the laboratory if different from the mailing address

Physical Address: 25 Main St, Norridgewock ME 04957

Mailing Address: PO Box 843, Norridgewock ME 04957

f. A figure that shows the layout of the analytical laboratory including locations for current analyses labelled by type and locations proposed for PFAS laboratory operations including extraction and analysis

Figures for current and post award operations provided.

g. A description of measures that will be taken to ensure data quality including a discussion as to how cross-contamination will be avoided

Per their proposal:

1. The facility only tests PFAS samples which eliminates the possibility that unrelated sample types contaminate PFAS samples.
2. All consumables and reagents are tested for the presence of PFAS in every lot that enters the building. In our experience, this has been a critical procedure. We have seen significant lot to lot variation in PFAS levels for reagents such as methanol and for consumables such as polypropylene tubes. No lot can be introduced into a laboratory procedure until it is tested for contamination. The presence of detectable levels of any PFAS compound results in the disposal of the entire lot.

**OR STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Maine Laboratories

DATE: August 10, 2023

3. Personnel training is an important part of maintaining data quality and limiting cross contamination. We have a rigorous training program in place for data integrity, data analysis, and proper laboratory procedures to avoid cross contamination.

4. All methods follow all guidelines set forth in EPA 533 and 537.1 and we utilize additional quality controls and blanks beyond those required by the method. When a sample shows a high concentration of any of the analytes an additional blank is run on the sample prep equipment such as the solid phase extraction instrumentation and on the analysis equipment (LC/MS/MS) to ensure that there is no carryover.

5. For EPA 533, EPA 537.1, and modified 537, all extraction/prep batches include laboratory blanks, fortified blanks, and matrix fortified blanks. Additionally, the calibration is validated for every run using a calibration standard of known concentration.

6. A detailed procedure is in place that includes required tracking and documentation which allows the lab to monitor all processes and identify any quality or cross contamination issues. Redundancies are built in such that a second personnel member reviews all documentation.

7. All raw and processed data goes through a secondary quality review by a second person.

8. Personnel are required to adhere to a list of acceptable clothing and personal hygiene products which have been demonstrated to not be contaminated with PFAS.

9. The tubing in all instruments is replaced to ensure that there is no PTFE (Teflon). Additionally, no PTFE of any kind is used in the laboratory.

10. A guard column and a delay column are used in the HPLC to avoid the detection of background signals from the instrument in the same spectral region as PFAS analytes.

- h. The bidder's proposed capacity for analyzing PFAS samples on both a daily and annual basis once full-scale operations are achieved

Currently they have capacity to perform around 20 samples per day or 4000 tests per year. With the grant funding they hope to double this capacity.

- i. A schedule in the form of a Gantt chart or similar timeline chart that illustrates anticipated timelines to reach full-scale PFAS laboratory testing services. Benchmarks should include, but not be limited to, equipment delivery; Quality Assurance Manual development; Standard Operating Procedure development; staff training; proficiency testing; completion of corrective actions, if needed; and achieving method accreditation.

Gantt chart provided. This will need to be updated post award.

- 1) A timeframe should be provided to reach compliance drinking water accreditation. They currently have accreditation for 537.1 in compliance drinking water. Timeframes should be provided for reaching proficiency in testing other media, as applicable, once compliance drinking water accreditation has been achieved. Information provided
- 2) Information to demonstrate that the Department and other state

**OR STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

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agencies, and homeowners submitting in-state drinking water supply samples, will receive preferential pricing based on a standard 10-day turnaround time.

Maine Laboratories' current standard turnaround time is 10 business days from receipt of the sample. The average turnaround time testing on all samples over the last 3 months has been 6-7 business days. This represents the time from sample receipt until completion and delivery of the full analytical report.

They currently offer an expedited service of 5 business days at an additional 50% of the published cost of the test. As part of the proposed project, Maine Homeowners will receive a **15% discount** off the published price on all testing services.

Maine state agencies will receive a discount based on the volume of samples requested:

- 1 to 19 samples will receive a discount of 15% off the published price.
- 20 plus samples will receive a discount of 20% off the published price.

As part of this project, Maine Laboratories will offer a free courier service to Augusta, Bangor, Portland, and Presque Isle.

Their standard turnaround will be 10 business days. Homeowners and State agencies may request expedited service for an additional fee.

2. Proposals that include analytical testing capacity of tissue (vegetative and/or muscle) must indicate whether the Applicant has or proposes to purchase equipment and appurtenant systems necessary for preparing samples (e.g., cryogenic grinder to homogenize tissues).

They already possess a cryogrinder.

**OR STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Maine Laboratories

DATE: August 10, 2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Funding Request**

Lowest Submitted Cost Proposal	,	Cost Proposal Being Scored	x	Score Weight	=	Score
\$524,542	,	\$524,542	x	15 points	=	15

Evaluation Team Comments:

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER: Nova Analytical

DATE: August 10, 2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Environmental Protection

Name of RFP Coordinator: Kelly Perkins

Names of Evaluators:

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility	Fail	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information showing that the applying analytical laboratory currently provides analysis for PFAS and has a physical presence in Maine. This must include one of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If the Applicant owns the property, a copy of the deed(s) to the property proposed for use. 2) If the Applicant has a lease on the property, a copy of the lease agreement showing its duration and terms. 3) If the Applicant has an option to buy or lease the property, a copy of the option agreement. If selected, the Applicant must provide the Department with a copy of the deed or lease prior to the award. • A current certificate from the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program which includes the corresponding analytes the laboratory is certified for. The analyte list must include organic compound methods. • An actual Level II report generated from the testing of organic compounds at the bidder's current analytical laboratory with the corresponding data in the Department's most current electronical data deliverable format. Sample address and other personal identifying information may be redacted, as appropriate. 	The laboratory did not include any of the eligibility items with their bid	

The proposal failed eligibility criteria because they did not include any of the required documentation.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Alpha Analytical

DATE: 6/15/23

EVALUATOR NAME: Kelly Perkins

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

Eligibility

1. The analytical laboratory must have a physical presence in Maine, and provide PFAS testing services- Yes
2. The analytical laboratory must already participate in the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program- Yes
3. The analytical laboratory must be accredited to analyze for organic compounds- Yes
4. The analytical laboratory must be equipped to provide, at a minimum, a Level II report, and data in the Department's [most current electronic data deliverable format](#) (currently EGAD v6.0)- Yes
5. Copy of lease, accreditation, report and EDD provided

Qualifications

1. Sufficient qualified staff.
2. 3 projects listed were for States of Maine, NH and VT and included PFAS testing
3. Testing and processing priority PFAS samples for the Department, other state agencies, and homeowners located in Maine; Pickup from 4 Maine DEP offices free of charge. Alpha currently provides priority status for all MEDEP and Maine ACF projects.
For the MEDEP samples, Alpha logs in the samples on a 7-day extraction time in order to have the samples run and evaluated within the 14-day holding time for extraction. If re-extraction is required then there is time left to perform the re-extraction within the 14-day holding time. For Maine ACF projects where milk analysis is being performed on a rapid TAT, Alpha has continued to provide expedited TAT even when we have not been doing expedited analyses for any other clients. It is this type of attention and turnaround that Alpha intends to continue to perform if awarded this grant.
4. Providing preferential pricing for testing Department and other state agency samples based on a standard 10-day turnaround time; They use 15 day TAT.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Alpha Analytical

DATE: 6/15/23

EVALUATOR NAME: Kelly Perkins

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

Pricing provided.

5. Providing preferential pricing for testing in-state residential drinking water supply samples taken by homeowners based on a standard 10-day turnaround time- they use a 15 day TAT. Pricing provided.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202304080

RFA TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Alpha Analytical, LLC

DATE: June 15, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Victoria Eleftheriou

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. *Eligibility to Submit Applications – Eligibility Confirmed*
 1. *Provided lease agreement for 72 Center Street Suite #3, Brewer.*
 2. *Provided certificate (#2022033) from the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program and list of test methods laboratory is certified for. Mansfield Laboratory is certified for EPA 533 and 537.1.*
 3. *Accredited to analyze organic compounds (SVOC's & VOC's).*
 4. *Provided Level II report of data in the Department's most current electronical data deliverable format.*

- II. *Organization Qualifications and Experience*
 1. *Has provided testing services since 1985.*
 2. *Technical Director – Phil Bassignani*
 3. *Three projects described.*
 - *Maine DEP PFAS lab services.*
 - *NHDEP analysis for PFAS, VOCs, SVOCs, pesticides, PCBs, metals, inorganics, dioxins/furans, 1,4-dioxane.*
 - *Vermont DEC PFAS fish project.*

- III. *Activities and Requirements*
 - 1a. *Full-service laboratory since 1985. Core services include air, water, and soil. Expertise in tissue, sediment, forensic petroleum, and emerging contaminant analysis. Already established service center and courier service in Maine. Proposed project: LC/MS/MS system with extraction equipment and cryogenic grinder and tabletop grinders.*
 - 1b. *Currently offer 537.1 and 533 for drinking water. 537.1 with isotope dilution for groundwater, wastewater, surface water. 1633 for all types of matrices.*
 - 1c. *Resumes provided for key staff. See Attachment 4.*
 - 1d. *Meet 7-day extraction time and 14-day holding time.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202304080

RFA TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Alpha Analytical, LLC

DATE: June 15, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Victoria Eleftheriou

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

- 1e. *Physical address: 72 Center Street, Brewer (service center) and 32 Forbes Blvd, Mansfield, MA (PFAS lab).*
- 1f. *Floor plan provided in Attachment 5.*
- 1g. *Considerations regarding avoiding cross-contamination provided. Will have separate analytical space and separate extraction/preparation space for PFAS.*
- 1h. *Capacity: 200 samples per day; 48,000 PFAS samples per year.*

2. *Gantt chart provided with timelines and milestones. Timeline to Maine accreditation: March 2024; receipt of samples: April 2024.*

3. *Preferential pricing: 15-20% below market rates. 15-day turn around for all customers. Meet 7-day extraction and 14-day holding times.*

4. *Cryogenic homogenization proposed. Additional equipment proposed.*

IV. Funding Request

1. *Cost breakdown and manufacturer price quotes provided. Match from Alpha not discussed.*
 - *Total request: \$570,000 on page 8. Page 19 specifies \$524,683.49.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Alpha Analytical

DATE: 6/15/23

EVALUATOR NAME: Molly King

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

REV 4/4/2023

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Eligibility:

- Provided copy of lease for Brewer, ME service center (since 2015, 5 employees)
- Provided copy of current ME accreditation certifications
- Lab report and EDD provided

Qualifications & Experience:

- Established in 1985, certified in 35+ states
- Analysis of air, water, soil, and highly specialized in tissue, sediment, emerging contaminants
- Daily courier runs to Bangor, Augusta, Portland, and 3rd party courier for PI
- Commitment to PFAS work in 2017 – hired staff, purchased equipment
- Listed three projects – MEDEP PFAS contract (since 2019, analysis of PFAS many matrices), NHDES contract (analysis of PFAS and other contaminants), VTDEC (2-year contract for analysis of PFAS in fish and surface water)

Activities & Requirements:

- Currently 8 LC/MS/MS machines
- Proposal to purchase 1 additional machine – dedicated to soil, water, tissue, & vegetation
- Also purchase cryogenic homogenization & analytical equipment: large, hopper-type cryogrinder that can take whole plants, several tabletop cryogrinders for smaller samples, cryo extractant
- Plan to add matrices: soil, sludge, biosolids, septage, consumer products, vegetation, tissue
- ME sample in LIMS with 7-day extraction, 14-day hold time
- Included resumes for applicable staff, layout/figure of lab
- Dedicated space and systems for PFAS analysis to avoid cross-contamination & ensure PFAS-free environment
- Capacity = 200/day; 1,000/week; 4,000/month; 48,000/year
- Start receiving samples by 4/1/2024
- Costs to ME agencies and homeowners discounted 15-20% below market

Funding Request:

- \$524,683.49
- Purchase machine, grinders, and extractor
- Provided a fee schedule under the grant

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Granite State Analytical

DATE: 6/15/23

EVALUATOR NAME: Kelly Perkins

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

Eligibility

1. The analytical laboratory must have a physical presence in Maine, and provide PFAS testing services- Does not currently perform PFAS testing but has A&L Lab in Maine
2. The analytical laboratory must already participate in the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program- Yes.
3. The analytical laboratory must be accredited to analyze for organic compounds- Yes
4. The analytical laboratory must be equipped to provide, at a minimum, a Level II report, and data in the Department's [most current electronical data deliverable format](#) (currently EGAD v6.0)- Yes
5. Copy of deed, accreditation, report and EDD provided

Qualifications

1. Sufficient staff but no LC/MS/MS experience
2. 3 projects included.
3. Gantt chart reasonable
4. Said they would provide preferential pricing for State agencies on a 10 day TAT- but no pricing provided but provided discount. Intends to run DW only
5. Said they would provide preferential pricing for residential customers on a 10 day TAT- but no pricing provided but provided discount. Intends to run DW only

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202304080

RFA TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Granite State Analytical Services, LLC - DBA A & L Laboratory

DATE: June 5 and June 15, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Victoria Eleftheriou

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility to Submit Applications – Eligibility Confirmed

- 1. Provided warranty deed for 155 Center Street Building, Auburn.*
- 2. Provided certificate (#2022003 & 2021031) from the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program and list of test methods laboratory is certified for.*
- 3. Accredited to analyze organic compounds (SVOC's & VOC's).*
- 4. Provided Level II report of data in the Department's most current electronical data deliverable format.*

II. Organization Qualifications and Experience

- 1. Has provided testing services since 1987.*
- 2. Resumes provided for Dr. Donald D'Anjou, Jennifer Romanowski, and Gia Quinn.*
 - Dr. D'Anjou – Laboratory Director for over 20 years.*
 - Jennifer Romanowski – Laboratory Supervisory since June 2016.*
 - Gia Quinn – Analytical Chemist II since 2018.*
- 3. Three projects described.*
 - School Drinking Water Lead Testing for Maine DHHS*
 - Subcontract Laboratory for HETL for select analyses*
 - Maine Water Company Skowhegan – Unknown Odor and Contaminant Investigation*

III. Activities and Requirements

- 1a. Full-service laboratory.*
 - Proposed project: 22 Manchester Road, Derry, NH.*
- 1b. Drinking water - 537.1 then 537 and 533.*
- 1c. Dr. D'Anjou – over 20 years as Laboratory Director. See Appendix B.*
- 1d. Meet 10-day turnaround time. Prioritize Maine samples.*
- 1e. Physical address: 155 Center Street, Auburn and 22 Manchester Road, Derry.*
- 1f. Floor plan provided in Appendix C.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202304080

RFA TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Granite State Analytical Services, LLC - DBA A & L Laboratory

DATE: June 5 and June 15, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Victoria Eleftheriou

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

1g. Considerations regarding avoiding cross-contamination provided. Will have dedicated room and appurtenant equipment for PFAS analysis. Will test reagent water, solvents, etc. for PFAS before use. Will use blank control and follow EPA approved methods and quality control procedures.

1h. Capacity: 50 drinking water samples per day; 11,000 – 13,000 PFAS samples per year.

2. Gantt chart provided with timelines and milestones. See Appendix D. Timeline to Maine accreditation: November/December 2023 for 537.1; timeline for 533 January/February 2024.

3. Preferential pricing: 7.5% discount.

4. Cryogenic homogenization not needed. Focused on drinking water analysis only.

IV. Funding Request

1. Cost breakdown and manufacturer price quotes provided. Granite State will provide grant match.

- Total request: \$641,866.65*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202304080

RFA TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Granite State Analytical Services, LLC - DBA A & L Laboratory

DATE: June 5 and June 15, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Molly King

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

REV 4/4/2023

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

Eligibility:

- In Auburn, ME as A&L Laboratory, A&L facilitates PFAS sampling in Maine (with Alpha)
- Accreditations in Appendix A
- Lab report and EDD provided

Qualifications & Experience:

- Since 1987
- Organics analysis in ME for >10 years
- Works with state agencies
- Drinking water/residential niche
- Listed three projects – DHHS contract for Pb testing (analysis, tracking, reporting, logistics), HETL contract for sample analysis (communication, prioritization, tracking, reporting), ME Water in Skowhegan following Do Not Drink Order (research, rush analysis, communication, emergency response, earned Excellence in Volunteerism award)

Activities & Requirements:

- Water analysis only
- Design and construction of dedicated PFAS lab
- Plan to hire at least one person to run LC/MS/mS
- State agencies and ME homeowners will receive 7.5% discount, ME sampled plugged in LIMS for 10 data TAT
- Discussed QC processes and steps to prevent cross-contamination
- Capacity = 50/day, 1,100-1,300/year

Funding Request:

- \$641,866.85
- Two machines
- Uniship courier service instead of driver, no charge.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Maine Laboratories

DATE: 6/15/23

EVALUATOR NAME: Kelly Perkins

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

Eligibility

1. The analytical laboratory must have a physical presence in Maine, and provide PFAS testing services- Yes
2. The analytical laboratory must already participate in the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program- Yes
3. The analytical laboratory must be accredited to analyze for organic compounds- Yes
4. The analytical laboratory must be equipped to provide, at a minimum, a Level II report, and data in the Department's [most current electronic data deliverable format](#) (currently EGAD v6.0)- Yes
5. Copy of deed, accreditation, report and EDD provided

Qualifications

1. Limited staff (qualified) and currently only has one instrument.
2. 3 projects listed included PFAS testing
3. **The proposed project will double their capacity from 4000 tests per year to 8000 tests per year for testing under EPA Method 537.1, EPA Method 533, and modified 537 with isotope dilution within approximately 90-120 days of receipt of funds. Capabilities for EPA 1633 will be established within 4 months of receipt of the grant.**
4. Providing preferential pricing for testing Department and other state agency samples based on a standard 10-day turnaround time; Rapid TAT provided at a surcharge
5. Providing preferential pricing for testing in-state residential drinking water supply samples taken by homeowners based on a standard 10-day turnaround time-. Pricing provided.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202304080

RFA TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Maine Laboratories

DATE: June 15, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Victoria Eleftheriou

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility to Submit Applications – Eligibility Confirmed

- 1. Provided warranty deed but can't tell exact location of property from deed.*
- 2. Provided certificate (#2023004) from the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program and list of test methods laboratory is certified for. Certified for 537.1.*
- 3. Accredited to analyze for PFAS (537.1)*
- 4. Provided Level II report of data testing using modified 537 with isotope dilution and EDD in the Department's most current electrical data deliverable format.*

II. Organization Qualifications and Experience

- 1. Incorporated in 2022; only commercial PFAS lab in Maine.*
- 2. Experience:*
 - Chief Science Officer: PhD in analytical chemistry; assay development for last 15 years.*
 - Chief Quality Officer: 25 years of experience.*
 - Lab Technical Director with 11 years' experience.*
 - CEO: 20 years managing complex projects.*
- 3. Three projects described.*
 - MDI Biological Laboratory. Research study. Testing 100 PFAS samples.*
 - ECT2 R&D. PFAS testing with quick turn around times (average 5 business days).*
 - AMSD PFAS Treatment Project. PFAS testing. Developed and validated an internal 537 method with isotope dilution.*

III. Activities and Requirements

- 1a. To double PFAS testing capacity at Maine Laboratories with purchase of LC/MS/MS instrument, extraction system and associated equipment. Provide 8,000 tests per year across any matrix. Hire 2 new employees.*
- 1b. Currently offer 537.1. Application submitted for 533. Internally validated 537 with isotope dilution. Already test wide range of matrices. Also use draft 1633.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202304080

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BIDDER NAME: Maine Laboratories

DATE: June 15, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Victoria Eleftheriou

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

- 1c. *Qualifications provided for key staff: Dr. Richards, Dr. Heidary, and Sara Dunne.*
- 1d. *Will prioritize state agency samples to ensure 10-day maximum turn around.*
- 1e. *Physical address: 25 Main Street, Norridgewock.*
- 1f. *Floor plan provided for both current and future spaces. Space dedicated for PFAS preparation, extraction, testing.*
- 1g. *Dedicated lab for PFAS testing only. Reagents tested for PFAS. Provide personnel training. Use lab blanks.*
- 1h. *Capacity: Current 20 samples per day; 4,000 PFAS samples per year. Future: 40 samples per day, 8,000 per year.*

2. *Gantt chart provided. 170 days to modified 537 and 1633. Application for 533 accreditation submitted on April 25, 2023.*

3. *Preferential pricing depends on volume of samples. 15% discount for 1 to 19 samples, 20 plus will receive 20% off. Standard turn around is 10 days. Offer expedited service.*

4. *Already equipped with cryogenic grinder.*

IV. Funding Request

1. *Cost breakdown and manufacturer price quotes provided. Match from Alpha not discussed. Maine Laboratories will invest an additional \$350,000.*
 - *Total request: \$524,542*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202304080

RFA TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Maine Laboratories

DATE: June 15, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Molly King

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Eligibility:

- Located in ME
- Currently providing PFAS testing
- Accredited for 537.1

Qualifications & Experience:

- 11 years of experience in environmental testing, PhD chemist and biochemist
- Lab used strictly for PFAS analysis – limit cross-contamination and streamline workflow
- Average TAT of six days
- Current capacity = 4,000/year; grant will allow up to 8,000/year with 10-day TAT
- Listed three projects – MDI Bio. Lab testing ~100 residential wells for PFAS (linear/branched isomers, creating test kits, providing guidance), ECT2 R&D project (shorter TAT, lower RLs), Anson-Madison Sanitary District (wastewater/leachate testing, custom reporting, avg. 5-day TAT)

Activities & Requirements

- Purchase sample prep and analysis instrumentation
- Hire two additional staff
- Purchase cryogrinder and nitrogen grinder
- Plan to double capacity and move to 1633
- 4-months funding for 2 positions (lab tech and field tech)
- 3-months funding for current employee
- 90-120 days to full capacity, 4 months for 1633
- Revamp lab and purchase courier vehicle
- Prioritize state agency samples at no additional cost, ME homeowners receive 15% discount
- Outlined steps to eliminate cross-contamination – test consumable lots for PFAS, run QC analyses, calibration standard used, clothing and hygiene requirements
- Capacity =20/day, 4,000 /year

- Can further expand with own funding
- State agency discount based on volume of samples, free courier to all DEP offices, ME homeowners receive 15% discount
- 10-day TAT will be standard

Funding Request:

- \$524,542
- If awarded, will invest \$350,000 of lab's money to complete proposal – no assurance documentation provided
- Some equipment is to ramp up for 1633
- Fund for training, sampling equipment, and automation
- Already have contractors lined up to complete renovations w/in 90 days of award
- w/ purchase of second instrument, plan to dedicate one to DW and one to residential samples and all other matrices

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Nova Analytical

DATE: 6/15/23

EVALUATOR NAME: Kelly Perkins

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Eligibility

1. The analytical laboratory must have a physical presence in Maine, and provide PFAS testing services- Does not currently perform PFAS testing but does have experience with LC/MS/MS
2. The analytical laboratory must already participate in the Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program- Yes. Accredited for bacteria
3. The analytical laboratory must be accredited to analyze for organic compounds- Performs cannabis testing through Maine CDC
4. The analytical laboratory must be equipped to provide, at a minimum, a Level II report, and data in the Department's [most current electronical data deliverable format](#) (currently EGAD v6.0)- Yes
5. Copy of deed, accreditation, report and EDD NOT Provided

Qualifications

1. Limited staff (qualified) and currently only has one instrument that is currently used for pesticide analysis but can be converted to PFAS
2. 3 projects listed included cannabis testing
3. Gantt chart not reasonable
4. Said they would provide preferential pricing for State agencies on a 10 day TAT- but no pricing provided.
5. Said they would provide preferential pricing for residential customers on a 10 day TAT- but no pricing provided.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202304080

RFA TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Nova Analytic Labs, LLC

DATE: June 15, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Victoria Eleftheriou

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. Eligibility to Submit Applications – Not Eligible
 1. *Did not provide a copy of deed, lease agreement, or option to buy or lease as requested.*
 2. *Not certified by Maine Laboratory Accreditation Program. Certified by Maine CDC and OCP but did not provide certificate. Also have ISO 17025 certification but did not provide certificate.*
 3. *Certified by CDC, OCP, and ISO 17025 to analyze organic compounds.*
 4. *Did not provide example Level II report of data in the Department's most current electronical data deliverable format.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

BIDDER NAME: Nova Analytical

DATE: 6/15/23

EVALUATOR NAME: Molly King

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Environmental Protection

REV 4/4/2023

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Nova Analytical Labs LLC

Eligibility:

- Located in Portland, ME
- Not currently providing for PFAS analysis
- Does not appear to meet eligibility requirements

Qualifications & Experience:

- Three founders with over 60 years combined experience
- Recently hired someone with more than 20 years experience working with PFAS analysis methods
- Recently accredited for coliform analysis (discussed in "Activities & Requirements")
- Listed three projects – Unnamed cannabis facility(onsite testing, price decreases, minimum TAT), Establishing Nova Analytical (budgeting, developing workflows and methods, planning, reporting), Various clients (develop shelf life, sampling plans)

Activities & Requirements

- Have LCMS for backup or primary, will install a hood and analyze PFAS in separate room
- Will certify for 533 ASAP (9/2023), then develop 537.1 modified (10/2023) for sludge, septage, eggs, milk, and crops until 1633 is final
- Specialize in creating tailored methods/R&D
- Staff performing analysis will have at least BS and two years in organic analysis
- TAT five days or less (if rushed)
- 10-hour workdays Mon-Sat, willing to bring on more employees is awarded
- General discussion of WC systems in place, will verify no PFAS in analytical equipmentx, use disposable consumables
- Capacity = 50/day

- Preferential pricing, 10-day TAT, and payment plans for ME, will charge commercial entities rush pricing to make up the difference
- Already have cryogrinder

Funding Request

- Request funds to purchase LCMS system or ancillary equipment
- Nova will invest \$750,000 no financial statement of assurance provided to support this
- Not sure exactly how much they are requesting



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION



Melanie Loyzim
Commissioner

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFA #: 202304080

RFA TITLE: GRANT FUNDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PFAS LABORATORIES IN
MAINE

I, Victoria Eleftheriou accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Applications (RFA) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFA nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand and agree that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner without bias or prejudice. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Applications presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the award decision notices for public distribution.

Victoria Eleftheriou

Signature

February 6, 2024
Date



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Melanie Loyzim
Commissioner

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFP #: 202304080

RFP TITLE: GRANT FUDNING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PFAS LABORATORIES IN
MAINE

I, Molly King accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFP.

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Molly King

Signature

February 6, 2024

Date



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Melanie Loyzim
Commissioner

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RFA# 20230408

RFA TITLE: Grant Funding for the Establishment of PFAS Laboratories in Maine

I, Kelly Perkins accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFP.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

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I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the funding decision notices for public distribution.

Kelly A Perkins
Signature

February 6, 2024
Date