

DATE: July 25, 2018 **(UPDATED 8/2/2018)**

SUBJECT: **Request for Letter of Interest - Architecture / Engineering (A/E) Team Selection**  
**New Allied Health Building**  
Penn State Mont Alto

TO: Architectural Firms

The Pennsylvania State University is excited to begin the Architecture-Engineering Team Selection process for the New Allied Health Building at Penn State Mont Alto. The project will space to support Allied Health programs, along with enhancing the existing campus aesthetic and character.

Allied Health professions are growing rapidly across the Commonwealth. These important enhancements will continue to strengthen Mont Alto's regional presence and academic offerings. Allied Health curriculums along with Forestry are Penn State Mont Alto's signature programs. Maintaining accreditation, attractive facilities, and superior programs will continue to keep the campus in the forefront of these programs.

Penn State Mont Alto's Allied Health program, consisting of Nursing, Physical Therapy (PT), and Occupation Therapy (OT), is preparing to expand the current PT and OT offerings to a 4-year curriculum. Accompanying these exciting changes is the need to accommodate modest growth in the Nursing program and address ongoing space inadequacies.

Attached at the end of this Request for Letter of Interest is excerpt of the Project's Program Study, completed by Hoffman Leakey Architects, which shows the most current thinking regarding the project. This project is being envisioned as an approximate 21,000 square feet addition to the existing Science and Technology Building (labeled 'Science Building' on attached exhibit). As shown on the attached exhibit, the project is also considering a physical connection to the existing General Studies building including a new entrance to access perimeter campus parking for faculty and staff. Modest renovations to the existing Science and Technology Building include program administrative offices and fire sprinkler system. A 3,000 square feet portion of the planned addition could be added to the existing Occupational Therapy House (labeled as 'Student Service Annex' on campus maps) rather than an addition to the Science and Technology Building.

In total, the anticipated program will provide a Nursing/Clinical Simulation Lab, classrooms, class labs, student lounge/study areas, lab support and storage spaces, student locker rooms, laundry area, and an ambulance port. Review and verification of the program will be the initial project phase for the selected project team. After the program validation phases, the project will follow the standard design phases: SD, DD, CD and CA Phases.

The total project budget, including soft costs and FF&E is \$13,000,000. This is broken down into \$9.5M for construction, \$2.2M in soft costs and \$1.3M in contingency. More details on the budget will be shared with the long-listed teams. The successful A/E firm will be expected to work in conjunction with a Construction Manager selected by the University throughout design and construction phases.

We anticipate the A/E agreement award following the team selection at the November 2018 Board of Trustee meeting. We anticipate final plan approval by May 2020 with construction to start in June 2020. The expected occupancy date is July 2021.

In the evaluation of Architecture/Engineering Teams, our evaluations will include the following criteria:

1. Experience in projects of this size, scope, and budget range. Including additions and renovations to existing buildings.
2. Proven experience in the planning, design, and delivery of academic Allied Health facilities, especially the program elements identified.
3. Design ability, especially for projects of a similar scale within a campus environment
4. Architecture/Engineering Team experience together
5. Familiarity with Penn State and PSU/ Office of the Physical Plant (OPP) procedures, standards, etc.

If your firm is interested in pursuing this project, please submit the following:

1. A brief statement detailing your firm's unique qualifications for designing facilities of a similar type, and size. Convey your firm's experience planning and delivering buildings with similar programs.
2. Include a sampling of your previous relevant experience and illustrative examples representative of your architectural designs.
3. Your firm's vision of what, beyond purely functional issues, constitutes the essence of this type of facility. To indicate to the Screening Committee your understanding of the uniqueness of this project, discuss some of the key issues that are important in the design of a project of this type.

**\* As applicable throughout your Letter of Interest, provide professional credit to architectural partners (including design architect, architect of record, and academic / lab planning partners) for all projects discussed within the proposal and for all project images shown.**

Please submit to my office ten (10) hard copies of your response by **Noon on August 13, 2018** and please limit your submission to five (5) total, single sided, 8-1/2 x 11 pages. If a cover letter is included, it must be within the five (5) pages. Send a PDF of the submission electronically to [gak21@psu.edu](mailto:gak21@psu.edu) and [JDW132@psu.edu](mailto:JDW132@psu.edu) by the submission deadline. Include the name and email address of your team's main contact for this project within the submission. Contact myself or Doug Wenger ([JDW132@psu.edu](mailto:JDW132@psu.edu) or 814-863-9622) with any questions.

The University will use a qualifications-based selection process with long-list, short-list and interviews. The Screening Committee will select a long-list of firms from the respondents to this letter. The long-list and a Request for Proposals (RFP) will be posted to this website by **August 22, 2018**. The RFPs will be due in my office at **Noon on September 12, 2018**. The three short-listed firms, chosen from the RFP respondents, will be interviewed. The interview notice will occur on October 3, 2018 with the three teams interviewed at on **October 18, 2018 at the Nittany Lion Inn, in State College, PA**. The results will be announced at the Board of Trustees meeting on **November 9th, 2018** and posted to this website.

Site tours will occur for Long-Listed teams will be on August 28<sup>th</sup> from 10am-11:30am or 12:30pm-2pm.

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CC: Screening Committee

Enclosed: Conceptual Plan exhibit from the Project's Program Study

**Final Option 2:**

18,000 S.F. Addition between ST/L  
& GS for Nursing/PT

3,000 S.F. Addition to Residence B  
for OT



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