



**GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO**  
**Puerto Rico Public-Private Partnerships Authority**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

List of Qualified Advisors - 2018

for

**PUERTO RICO PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AUTHORITY**

Issue Date: May 25, 2018

RFQ Number: 001-2018

**Submission Location:**

Responses to be submitted after registration in the e-Submission portal found at

<http://www.p3.pr.gov>

Documents will only be received electronically.

Hand delivery and physically mailed documents will not be accepted.

**Submission:**

Responses to be received at the above e-Submission Portal

**Contact Person:**

Bernice M. Valentín

Office Administrator, Puerto Rico Public-Private Partnerships Authority

**No telephone queries**

Only questions or comments regarding problems to gain access to the e-Submission Portal will be answered and must be notified to the Puerto Rico Public-Private Partnerships Authority via formal email to [advisors@p3.pr.gov](mailto:advisors@p3.pr.gov)



## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. THE PUERTO RICO PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AUTHORITY

The Puerto Rico Public-Private Partnerships Authority (“P3A”), created by the Public- Private Partnerships Act, Act No. 29-2009, as amended (“Act”), for the purpose of implementing the public policy of the Government of Puerto Rico (the “Government”) of favoring the establishment of public-private partnerships (“PPPs”) in Puerto Rico. The Act sets forth the public policy framework to establish PPPs for the completion of priority projects in alliance with the Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority (“FAFAA”). The aim of the newly amended Act is to enhance the development and maintenance of infrastructure facilities, to allocate risks between the Government and potential proponents, to improve Government services and functions, to foster job creation, and to promote the social and economic development, and competitiveness of Puerto Rico.

### B. BACKGROUND

#### 1. PUERTO RICO’S CURRENT FISCAL SITUATION

Puerto Rico faces unprecedented fiscal and economic challenges and the administration believes that PPPs will form the cornerstone of the island’s economic development. As part of the proposed Fiscal Plan prepared pursuant to the requirements of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (“PROMESA”), the administration’s economic development plans heavily depend on the establishment of PPPs for a many of government services and the delivery of new infrastructure.

With Act 1 – 2017, which amends the Act, the Government positioned the PPP model as the primary path to achieve infrastructure and government right-sizing. Amongst many changes, Act 1-2017 improves the ability of the P3A to evaluate, analyze and develop projects submitted through unsolicited proposals and provides the P3A with the authority to establish pre-development agreements.

## II. QUALIFICATIONS AND SCOPE OF WORK

### A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) is to update the List of Qualified Advisors (the “List”) available to the P3A. The List’s principal purpose is to facilitate the identification and engagement of suitably qualified providers of advisory services for occasions when such services are required.

## B. TYPE OF CONTRACT

This RFQ does not constitute an offer to enter into a contract or engagement with any qualified advisor to the P3A that results from this RFQ. Hence, no contract will directly result of this RFQ.

## C. ACTIVITIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

The scope of activities and assignments will be determined at the time the parties negotiate the contract and will be included in any future agreement with the P3A.

Set forth below are particular areas of expertise that the P3A believes relevant in its evaluation and selection of a potential qualified P3A Advisors:

- Public-Private Partnerships Procurement Design, Agreements and Contract Management
  - o Desirability and convenience studies
  - o Pre-development agreement/reports
  - o Unsolicited Proposal review/reports
  - o Greenfield projects
  - o Brownfield projects, including monetizations and operations and management projects
  - o Payment Structures, including availability payments, revenue share structures, asset swaps, hybrid structures and other innovative payment structures
  - o Others
- Area of Advisory
  - o Legal
  - o Infrastructure
  - o Financial
  - o Technical
  - o General
  - o Strategic
  - o Policy
  - o Corporate
  - o Others
- Industry of Expertise
  - o Affordable Housing
  - o Corrections
  - o Education
  - o Energy/Renewable Energy
  - o Health
  - o Recreation
  - o Security

- Tourism
  - Transportation
  - Parking
  - Technology Implementation
  - Others
- Role
- Contract Management
  - Project Management
  - Design Advisor
  - Urban Planning
  - Environmental Advisory
  - Others

**The P3A may modify the aforementioned categories, subcategories, and areas. Nevertheless, Respondents are encouraged to indicate the advisory services, specialization categories, and areas of expertise in which they wish to be included based on their experience, knowledge, and expertise.**

#### D. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

Only interested individual firms or individuals may submit Responses to this RFQ. Advisors will be listed on an individual basis. Therefore, the Authority will not accept respondents that put forward the names of multiple candidates or submit as consortiums, joint ventures or partnerships.

### III. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF RESPONSE

#### A. CALENDAR

The P3A will accept requests for clarifications on a time to time basis.

#### B. REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATIONS

Requests for clarifications need be to be submitted in PDF format using the e-submission portal found at <http://www.p3.pr.gov> and be addressed to Omar J. Marrero-Díaz, Esq., Executive Director of the P3A. The P3A will publish on its webpage all clarifications provided to potential respondents at its sole discretion.

#### C. LANGUAGE

The response to the RFQ and all accompanying documents shall be in English.

#### D. FORMAT OF RESPONSE

The uploaded files must be in PDF format.

The P3A does not expect the submitted RFQ responses to follow any pre-determined format. Nonetheless, the P3A expects all responses to cover in the manner possible, all topics provided in the scope of the assignment and content of the RFQ response criteria as prescribed in both sections of this RFQ.

#### E. SUBMISSION DETAILS

To submit qualifications for the List, the respondent must register in the P3A e-submission Portal (the "Portal") found at <http://www.p3.pr.gov> . Registration in the Portal consist of providing basic contact information for the firm and checking any category applicable regarding areas of experience, advisory, and industry.

Once registered, the respondent must click on "Go to User Options Page", where any document may be uploaded in PDF format. The respondent must select the type of document to be uploaded from the drop-down list in the Portal, and provide the reference number for which the document being uploaded is to be associated with. In the case of this RFQ, the reference number is 001-2018.

The document may be edited by the respondent upon request to the P3A.

#### F. VALIDITY OF THE RESPONSE & MAINTENANCE OF THE LIST

The Authority may, at its sole discretion, and from time to time:

1. invite additional candidates to submit their qualifications;
2. classify candidates on the basis of their stated areas of expertise;
3. request or permit one or more candidates to submit updated or additional information, including fee information;
4. update the List based on revised eligibility criteria; and
5. update the List at any time by adding new advisors and removing advisors.

Qualified advisors and/or the contact person registered as an advisor must promptly notify the P3A via a formal email request to [advisors@p3.pr.gov](mailto:advisors@p3.pr.gov), addressed to Bernice M. Valentín, Office Administrator, P3A, of any material changes to the information contained in their submission. Once the P3A acknowledges such changes via email, the advisor may enter the system and update such information.

#### G. CONTENT OF THE RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

##### 1. DESCRIPTION OF THE FIRM

Provide a brief overview of your firm and its primary areas of business.

2. EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS RELATED TO THE SCOPE OF WORK AND REQUIRED EXPERTISE

Provide a summary of the firm's experience in the required areas of expertise listed above. Interested firms should also identify any other practice area experience your firm has that may be helpful as the P3A's advisor.

3. LISTING OF INDIVIDUALS TO BE ASSIGNED TO THE P3A AND PUBLIC CORPORATIONS' ACTIVITIES

Include a description of any relevant experience and history of working in Puerto Rico. Provide an organizational chart for your team with the designation of primary leadership and day-to-day professionals.

Responses to the RFQ should also contain a description of any prior work done for the Government of Puerto Rico or any of its public corporations during the past five years. Please provide information related to any involvement in litigation and/or investigations related to the Government in Puerto Rico, if any.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

To allow the P3A to conduct an initial assessment of potential conflicts of interest, please provide a list of any other current or former advisory contracts your firms has/had with any public entity in Puerto Rico. Further, please provide a description of any recent historical or ongoing legal proceedings, interviews or investigations being conducted by any U.S. law enforcement agencies involving your firm that are related to transactions executed in or on behalf of the Government and/or its public corporations. In addition, please provide a brief description of any work you have performed for any creditors or guarantors of the Government of Puerto Rico or any public corporation debt about their positions in Puerto Rico debt obligations. Indicate whether this activity is ongoing, and if not, when the prior assignment concluded.

At some point in the selection process, the P3A may request information on the individual conflict of interests that professionals that are expected to work with the P3A, or by principals at the firm may have. Also, the P3A may in the future request a list of direct or indirect relationships the firm or its professionals have to members of the P3A or Board Members or executives of other public corporations.

5. REFERENCES

Provide contact information for references for three (3) separate past advisory assignments that are directly related to the establishment of PPPs as the ones anticipated by the P3A.

## IV. REVIEW PROCESS

All responses to this RFQ will be reviewed by the P3A for completeness as per the information requested.

The Authority may, at its sole and absolute discretion:

- conduct reference checks;
- take into consideration information from other sources;
- seek clarification from any or all respondents; and
- request meetings with any or all respondents.

### A. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

The Authority will make public the official List of Qualified Advisors to the P3A as notification to the respondents and the public, at its sole discretion.

### B. USE OF THE LIST

The Authority may, at its discretion, and from time to time:

1. use the List to identify providers of advisory services with experience in specific projects or tasks;
2. use the List on behalf of other Government entities; or
3. make the List available to a participating Government entity in connection with a given PPP project, capital project, proposed project, recovery project, and other distinct tasks concerning the work performed by the P3A. The retention and instruction of advisors in association with other Government entities will be at the discretion of the particular Government entity involved.

The Authority and the Participating Government Entity will have the right, at their discretion, to:

1. invite any or all qualified advisors on the List to participate in selection processes for one or more projects;
2. develop and implement processes and criteria for identifying, classifying, and selecting qualified advisors from the List;
3. directly select qualified advisors from the List to enter into one or more agreements with the P3A;
4. not engage any qualified advisor in the List in connection with a project or task;
5. not utilize the List in any way whatsoever, including without limitation, by not selecting any qualified advisor to enter into, or by not inviting any qualified advisor to compete for any one or more contracts;
6. employ other means or mechanisms to identify prospective advisory services external to the List or otherwise engage advisory services external to the List, in connection with

any PPP project, capital project, proposed project, distinct tasks in connection with P3A projects, or related policy development; and

7. screen qualified advisors for conflicts of interest or other relationships that require them to commit to strict confidentiality obligations.

There is no obligation whatsoever on the Authority or any other Government entity to:

1. contact any one or more qualified advisors on the List;
2. consider or invite any one or more qualified advisors to enter into, or compete to enter into, any contracts or engagements; and
3. to enter into one or more contracts or engagements.

**The P3A would like to state that any assignment to a qualified advisor will be subject, but not limited to, the following Laws of Puerto Rico: Code of Ethics for Contractors, Law No. 84-2002, as amended, Law 237 of 2014 regarding Professional and Advisory Services Agreements, which amends Law No. 29-2009, and Law No. 458 -2000.**

#### C. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE LIST

Any qualified advisor may withdraw from the List by sending a formal request addressed to Bernice M. Valentín, Office Administrator, P3A to [advisors@p3.pr.gov](mailto:advisors@p3.pr.gov).

#### D. REJECTION OF RESPONSES

The P3A reserves the right, in its sole complete discretion, to reject any response received as a result of this RFQ.

#### E. INCURRING COSTS

The P3A is not responsible for any expense incurred in preparing and submitting a response to this RFQ or taking any action in connection with the selection process, or for the costs of any services performed by any firm prior to the execution of a contract with the P3A. Moreover, each respondent acknowledges that it is solely responsible for all costs it incurs in preparing a response, including costs of providing information requested by the P3A, and for subsequent negotiations or competitions arising from, or in connection with, a contract, if any.

#### F. NO COLLUSION

Each potential qualified advisor is held responsible for ensuring that its participation in this RFQ process is conducted without collusion or fraud.