

## R.I. Gen. Laws § 37-2-13.1 Procurement Regulations - Request for Proposal (RFP)

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### What is R.I. Gen. Laws § 37-2-13.1?

Passed on June 29, 2022, [R.I. Gen. Laws § 37-2-13.1](#) addresses procurement regulations, specifically Request for Proposals. Point B of this General Law states that vendors who have a conflict of interest or who participated or were consulted with respect to an RFP cannot then bid on that same RFP.

### How does CCRI ensure compliance?

When we issue an RFP, all employees involved in creating the RFP will sign written [attestations](#) that they either did not consult with or receive input from an external party with respect to the RFP or, if they did consult with or receive input from an external party, that the party would be named and excluded from bidding. Such consult or input includes email exchanges, demonstrations, meetings, and anything related to receiving information regarding the RFP.

In addition, a signatory from CCRI will sign a written attestation on behalf of the College to confirm that no employee within the institution has consulted or received input from an external party with respect to the RFP. If an external party was consulted, they would be named and excluded from bidding.

As required by the statute, vendors responding to an RFP shall make a written certification that they do not have a conflict of interest and that they were neither involved nor consulted with respect to the RFP.

For RFPs that required submission after June 29, 2022, but before this policy's implementation, the Department is requiring the successful vendor to sign an attestation prior to and as a condition of an award.

### If a vendor responded to a Request for Information (RFI) related to a project or initiative, does that bar the vendor from responding to an RFP related to that project or initiative?

Formal responses to a Request for Information (RFI) do not constitute "participation" or "consultation" with respect to a future RFP and do not disqualify vendors submitting a response to an RFI from future participation in a subsequent RFP process.

### What if I have questions interpreting this law?

Employees requiring further interpretation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 37-2-13.1 should consult with CCRI Purchasing and/or CCRI legal counsel.