

TO: **ALL ARCHITECTS/ENGINEERS OF RECORD**

FROM: Russ Katherman, Administrator
Architecture & Engineering Division
1520 East Sixth Avenue, Rm 33
P O Box 200103
Helena MT 59620-0103

DATE: February 21, 2025

RE: **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

Firms interested in being considered for an interview for project on the attached pages must follow these procedures:

- Submit Form 115 through the State's eMACS system, <https://solutions.sciquest.com/apps/Router/SupplierLogin?CustOrg=StateOfMontana>. Information in addition to the 115 is acceptable.
- Submissions must be submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 20, 2025**
- Submissions received after the deadline may result in rejection.
- The procedure for selection will be in accordance with 18-8-204 MCA.

Firms selected for an interview:

- Will be given project-specific initial information, interview topics/questions, and the interview schedule.
- Will be asked to present their credentials before an interview committee. The committee will then submit the names of three (3) qualified firms to the Dept. of Administration Director, who will appoint one firm for each project in accordance with 18-2-112 MCA.

The State of Montana makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with an applicant's ability to compete in the application and selection process or that may interfere with an applicant's ability to perform the essential duties of the job. In order for the State to make such accommodations, applicants must make known any needed accommodation to the individual project managers or agency contacts listed. Persons using TDD may call the Montana Relay Service at 1-800-253-4091.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR A/E SERVICES
MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
MSU-N HEALTH REC (AURORA)
A/E #2023-05-07

PROJECT BUDGET: \$25,000,000

The Architecture & Engineering Division is accepting qualifications for architectural and engineering services for the Aurora Facility at MSU-Northern in Havre, Montana.

The Aurora Complex (Aurora) is a key infrastructure enhancement in support of MSU Northern's Strategic Plan <https://www.msun.edu/aboutmsun/strategicplan.aspx>. The Aurora Facility will support the innovative integration of academic and student life, increasing Northern's market competitiveness by offering the entire student body a vibrant platform for hands-on learning, in-depth study, and a holistic approach to furthering health and wellness. Focus academic programs that will benefit from Aurora include Integrated Health Sciences (with options in Exercise Science, Pre-Allied Health, and Community Health), Business Administration, Health and Physical Education, Community Psychology, Nursing, Counselor Education, and Community Arts Production. The Aurora Complex will foster the development of in-demand clinical-based programs by offering space for faculty and partnering licensed professionals to provide clinical opportunities to students. The space will also provide a venue through which communities across the Hi-Line can collaborate with faculty and students on projects related to community and personal health, thereby increasing awareness of, and access to, higher education opportunities for rural communities in North-Central and North-Eastern Montana.

Aurora Facility Scope

The following spaces represent the conceptual facility desired to forward Northern's Strategic Plan:

Integrated Health Science Simulation and Research Lab

The Integrated Health Science Simulation and Research Lab will serve as a multidisciplinary space where students from various programs—including biology, chemistry, integrative health science, nursing, community health, and pre-professional students in fields such as pre-dental, pre-veterinary, and pre-medical—will engage in both simulations and research. The lab will be fully equipped to conduct both bench research and human subjects research, providing a platform for hands-on learning and collaborative research across disciplines.

Clinical Skills and Education Center

The Clinical Skills and Education Center will be a versatile space dedicated to both the integrative health sciences programs and the training center. This facility will be used for skills pass-off, hands-on learning, and classroom instruction for our integrative health science programs, supporting a wide range of healthcare training programs.

Instructional Counseling/Exam/Simulation Rooms

These spaces are multi-functional rooms designed to accommodate a variety of health sciences programs and training space for counseling/therapy sessions, health exams, and clinical simulations.

Nutrition Laboratory

To fully address health and wellness education, the Aurora complex will include a nutrition laboratory that will offer space for nutrition science and life skills classes. The space programming will be consistent with the Family Education Model that has been so successful in Northern's Little River Institute.

Performance Classroom and Control Room

A large, multi-purpose performance classroom that will be used as both a large classroom and laboratory space.

Physical Education Methods Gymnasium

This space will prioritize academic physical education. A modular design that includes multiple courts and physical education classroom space that can also be used for academically related community engagement is desired as is an incorporated walking track.

Physical Education Methods Studio Spaces

These studios will serve the primary function of health education in studio formats. These spaces will facilitate instruction and student access to low-impact and approachable activities that promote wellness and socialization.

General Spaces

- Faculty and Administrative Offices
- Main Entry/Collision/Gathering Spaces
- Other Spaces to be considered
 - Event/Furniture Storage
 - Performance Classroom Storage
 - Restrooms
 - Freight Elevator
 - Athletic Locker Rooms on the First Floor
 - Athletic tunnels that lead to the field
 - General student locker room/changing areas
 - Modular spaces for corporate interviews and VIP gatherings

Submittal & Selection Process (Ref: MCA 18-2-112):

Firm shall submit their Statement of Qualifications (Form 115).

Qualifications submittals are due through eMACS on the time and date shown in the eMACS System.

Preliminary Schedule:

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| • February 21: | RFQ Posting for A/E Services |
| • March 20: | Submit RFQ Proposals to A/E |
| • March 24 - 28: | Shortlist teams for interviews |
| • March 28: | Shortlisted teams notified |
| • April 21 – 25: | Interviews Conducted |
| • NTL May 19: | Firm appointment notification |

Construction Execution:

At the discretion of the Department, project may be bid, executed as a design-bid-build or procured by alternative delivery method (General Contractor/Construction Manager).

Additional Documentation and Contact Information:

- Contact: Marina Little, A&E Div., (406)-444-3327, mlittle@mt.gov
- No additional project documentation, refer to link above.