



THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

UC Legal

March 30, 2021

Office of the President
1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94607

universityofcalifornia.edu

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA UC LEGAL - PREFERRED PROVIDER CONSTRUCTION COUNSEL PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Overview

[The University of California](#) is a public corporation established under [Article IX, Section 9 of the California Constitution](#) and governed by [The Regents of the University of California](#). The General Counsel and Vice President –Legal Affairs is a Principal Officer of The Regents and Chief Legal Officer of the University responsible for all legal matters pertaining to the Corporation and the University.

[UC Legal- The Office of General Counsel](#) oversees outside counsel and legal services required by the University’s campuses and medical centers. In connection therewith, The Office of General Counsel now seeks applications from interested law firms and attorneys to participate on the University’s Construction Law Panel. The purpose of the panel is to secure high-quality, cost effective legal services from qualified law firms and attorneys who would be available for retention and assignment for individual construction related claims, legal actions and other transactions.

Over the last five years, the University has had approximately 25 construction-related matters for which outside counsel was retained to assist the University. The total spend by the University on these outside counsel retentions was just over \$10 million in total. These numbers are provided for informational purposes only and are not a forecast or estimate of potential matters in the future.

CAMPUSES

Berkeley
Davis
Irvine
UCLA
Merced
Riverside
San Diego
San Francisco
Santa Barbara
Santa Cruz

MEDICAL CENTERS

Davis
Irvine
UCLA
San Diego
San Francisco

NATIONAL LABORATORIES

Lawrence Berkeley
Lawrence Livermore
Los Alamos

RFP Timeline

- March 30, 2021- RFP published and distributed to candidate firms
- April 16, 2021 – Last day for any questions regarding RFP from candidate firms
- April 20, 2021 – UC Legal will post answers to questions by this date at <https://www.ucop.edu/uc-legal/cons-program-rfp.html>
- April 30, 2021 - RFP Submissions due
- May 7, 2021 - Finalists notified and interview schedules set
- May 10- May 21, 2021- Finalist interviews
- June 4, 2021 - Firms notified of results and assignments to begin

UC Legal reserves the right to modify this schedule, at any time for any reason, at its discretion.

Diversity Report Card Program and Demographics

UC Legal strives for a high level of commitment to diversity in the legal industry. We wish to inspire law firms to a similar focus. In that vein, UC Legal has developed a Diversity Report Card which will evaluate actions that our law firms have taken to promote diversity in the legal industry. All UC law firms (including those selected for these panels) will be required to complete the Report Card annually. In the introductory year of this program, the Report Card scores will be collected and analyzed but not considered in the distribution of work amongst firms. In addition, UC Legal periodically requires its law firms to provide demographic data for the firm as a whole as well as for its teams that are representing the University. The next demographic data survey is also expected to be sent out in early 2021. These data will help UC Legal better understand the diversity of its outside counsel, but they will be collected separately from – and are not part of – the Report Card assessment.

Applications

Applications are available online at:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/408c7f758cf349398529dff359ad7edd>. All applications must be submitted **on or before April 30, 2021**.

Only qualified firms and attorneys should apply. Applications must document a firm's or an attorney's expertise and experience in construction matters in California. Other important considerations for our selection process include a demonstrated commitment to [diversity](#), efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Preference will be given to firms providing hourly rates below \$400.

Interviews

Following a review of the written proposals, UC Legal may ask you to travel to UC Legal 's Oakland office or meet virtually for an interview. In no event will UC Legal schedule meetings in advance of receipt of your RFP response, and the only meetings UC Legal intends to hold, if any, are with the finalists. If your firm is invited to an interview, only the key individuals being proposed to work as part of the proposal should attend. UC Legal may award a position as a Preferred Construction Counsel without further negotiations or discussions or further interviews with the finalist law firms.

Questions

Should you have any questions or encounter problems with submission of your application, please submit those to ConstructionPanelRFP@ucop.edu. All such questions or requests must be received by close of business on April 16, 2021, and all such questions or requests received after such date will be answered, if at all, by UC Legal, in its sole discretion. You are not authorized to contact any other UC Legal employee concerning this RFP. Failure to adhere to this requirement will be grounds for disqualifying your proposal. Questions along with all responses to those questions will be posted at <https://www.ucop.edu/uc-legal/cons-program-rfp.html>.

Disclaimer

This RFP does not bind UC Legal to any obligations or impose liability for any costs or expenses incurred by your firm in responding to the proposal or traveling to an interview in connection with this RFP. UC Legal, in its sole discretion, may or may not make an award, and reserves the right to reject any responses received. UC Legal also reserves the right to terminate this RFP or any engagement at any time in its sole discretion.