

Disclosure of Public Contracting Process Mandated

The Alabama legislature has recently passed a bill to make more transparent part of the contract process engaged in by public entities. The law requires the state of Alabama and public entities, including public colleges and universities, to post on a state website each request for proposals (RFPs) that it issues. Act 2012-407. The website is to be maintained by the Division of Control and Accounts (DCA) of the Department of Finance. This requirement becomes effective January 1, 2013.

The database created by the submission of this information to the state will be a public record that can be viewed without charge by any citizen, either in person or via the State's website. The act also provides that, beginning October 1, 2013, the DCA may charge public entities for the database services or any other services provided by it.

Information and specific instructions regarding the entry of RFP s into the database will be posted on the State Comptroller website at <http://comptroller.alabama.gov>. Compliance with this new requirement will be the responsibility of Business Services and the Office of Sponsored Programs.