SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Ford Truck - F-250 (see Attachment 1)

I. PURPOSE OF THE BID

Salve Regina University is seeking bids from qualified and experienced Ford dealerships for the purchase of a Ford F-250 truck, according to the specifications provided in Attachment 1.

The funding of this purchase is through Federal Award NA260ARX469G0005 by the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as part of the grant "Salve Education, Engagement, and Aquaculture".

II. BID TIMELINE

Milestone	Date
RFP/Bid Issued	Thursday, November 12, 2026
Deadline for Vendor Questions	Thursday, November 19, 2026
University Responses to Vendor Questions	Tuesday, November 24, 2026
Proposal Submission Deadline	Friday, December 11, 2026
Evaluation of Proposals	Monday, December 14 – January 7, 2027
Vendor Selection/Notification	Friday January 8, 2027
Contract Finalization	Friday January 15, 2027
Anticipated Acquisition/Delivery of Vehicle	Friday January 15, 2027

All proposals must be received by the deadline identified above. Questions regarding this solicitation must be submitted in writing to the University contact identified in this RFP by the stated deadline. Responses to substantive questions will be provided to all participating vendors to ensure that all bidders have access to the same information.

The University reserves the right to modify the timeline as necessary. Any changes to the solicitation schedule will be communicated to participating vendors.

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III. Bid Specifications

The University will be acquiring a vehicle to safely tow a 8x20 ft mobile laboratory trailer to community deployment sites across Rhode Island to conduct research. The vehicle will need an extended cab, with an aluminum body due to the proximity to the ocean. For those reasons, a Ford F-250 Lariat was determined to be most suitable. **See Attachment 1.**

The vehicle's towing capacity must be specifically matched to the weight of a fully outfitted 8x20 ft trailer carrying scientific equipment, display technology, water systems, and community engagement materials.

The trailer, which will be separately acquired, will be customized to house the equipment above.

IV. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The successful bidder shall provide the vehicle that provides the specifications in **Attachment 1** which represents the University's anticipated requirements. Vendors may propose comparable or superior equipment (including different trim packages) that meets or exceeds the University's requirements.

Additionally, the bidder is to provide a schedule and estimated costs of vehicle maintenance costs for Year 1 – Year 5.

VII. GENERAL VENDOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The successful bidder shall:

1. Provide vehicle necessary to fulfill the requirements of this bid
2. Ensure that vehicle is properly outfitted according to the agreed upon specifications
3. Identify any items not included in the proposed bid
4. Notify the University in advance of any anticipated additional costs
5. If equipment differs from the equipment identified in this bid, explain how the proposed equipment meets or exceeds the University's requirements
6. Provide costs for estimated maintenance needs for Year1 – Year 5

VIII. VENDOR QUALIFICATIONS

Bidders should provide the following information:

Company Information

- Company name
- Address
- Primary contact

- Telephone number
- Email address
- Years in business
- Vehicle maintenance services after purchase

IX. PRICING

Bidders shall clearly identify vehicle pricing in accordance with **Attachment 1,** noting any additional fees, charges, taxes, transportation costs, or other expenses.

Pricing also to include estimated maintenance costs for Year 1 – Year 5.

X. DELIVERY

The anticipated delivery date of the vehicle is specified in the Bid Timeline in Section II above.

XII. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Proposals shall include:

1. Company information
2. Pricing proposal for Attachment 1
3. Estimated maintenance costs Year 1 – Year 5
4. Identification of exceptions or exclusions
5. Any additional information the bidder believes is relevant

XIII. EVALUATION

Proposals will be evaluated based on factors including:

- Demonstrated experience
- Proposed vehicle
- Pricing
- Overall value to the University

The University reserves the right to request clarification or additional information from any bidder.

The University is not obligated to select the lowest-priced proposal and reserves the right to select the proposal that best meets the University's stated requirements and needs.

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XIIII. UNIVERSITY CONTACT

Bid Contact:
Purchasing Department
purchasingoffice@salve.edu

XIV. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

Salve Regina University reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all bids
- Request clarification from bidders.
- Negotiate with one or more bidders.
- Modify the vehicle specifications
- Cancel or postpone the solicitation.
- Select the proposal that, in the University's judgment, best meets its requirements.

Submission of a bid does not create a contractual obligation between the bidder and Salve Regina University.

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Attachment 1

Vehicle specifications

2026 Super Duty® F-250® Lariat® - or similar

Paint S4 Star White Metallic Tri-Coat

Powertrain S4

6.8L 2V DEVCT NA PFI V8 Gas Engine

4X4

TorqShift®-G Ten-Speed Automatic Transmission with Selectable Drive Modes

3.73 Non-Limited Slip Axle Ratio Packages S4

Lariat® F-250® (608A)

5th Wheel/Gooseneck Hitch Prep Package

Ford Security Package (1-year included with activation)

Ford Connectivity Package (1-year included)

360-Degree Camera Package

F-250® Greater than 10K GVWR Package

18” Bright Machined and Carbonized Gray Painted Aluminum Wheels

LT275/65Rx18E BSW A/S Tires

Power-folding with Autofold, PowerScope® Telescoping and Power Glass Trailer Tow Mirrors with Heat

Power-Deployable Running Boards

Defrost with Fixed and Privacy Glass

Remote Start System

Trailer Brake Controller

190 Amp Alternator on Gas Engines and 250 Amp Alternator on Diesel Engines

LED Box Lighting

Spare Tire, Wheel, Carrier and Jack

Tough Bed® - Spray-in Bedliner

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Tonneau Pickup Box Cover - Soft Folding

Gooseneck Hitch Kit

Bed Hooks – Black, Retractable

Undercarriage protection from weather

Front ActiveX® Trimmed 40/Console/40, Matching 60/40 Rear Bench Seats

B&O® Sound System by Bang & Olufsen® with HD Radio™ and 8 Speakers including Subwoofer

Connected Navigation

SYNC® 4 with Enhanced Voice Recognition

SiriusXM with 360L (3 month Trial)

Make/model/trim must have:

Towing capacity of more than 10,000 lbs

Maximum payload of more than 4,000 lbs

Extended cab

Aluminum frame