

**EXHIBIT A**  
**HHSC AND DFPS AFFIRMATIONS AND GRANT OPPORTUNITY**  
**ACCEPTANCE**

In this document, the terms Applicant, Contractor, and Vendor, when referring to the following affirmations (whether framed as certifications, representations, warranties, or in other terms) refer to Applicant, and the affirmations apply to all Applicants regardless of their business form (e.g., individual, partnership, corporation).

Applicant affirms, without exception, as follows:

As applicable to this Request for Application, Applicant represents and warrants that all certifications, representations, warranties, and other provisions in this Affirmations and Grant Opportunity Acceptance apply to Applicant and all of Applicant's principals, officers, directors, shareholders, partners, owners, agents, employees, subcontractors, subawards, independent contractors, and any other representatives who may provide services under, who have a financial interest in, or who otherwise are interested in this Grant Opportunity or any Grant Agreement resulting from this Grant Opportunity.

1. Prior Disaster Relief Contract Violation. Under Texas Government Code §2155.004 (regarding the prohibition of certain financial participation by persons) and §2155.006 and §2261.053 (both relating to ability to receive this Contract and to convictions or penalties regarding Hurricane Rita, Hurricane Katrina, or other disasters), Applicant acknowledges that it is not ineligible to receive this Contract and that this Contract will be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is found to be inaccurate.
2. Excluded Parties. Applicant is not listed on the federal government's terrorism watch list described in Executive Order 13224. Entities ineligible for federal award are listed at <https://sam.gov/search/?index>. This Grant will be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate. Applicant must include this provision in its entirety in Applicant's Contracts, Subawards, and Subcontracts.
3. Buy Texas Affirmation. If this Grant is for services, the Applicant will comply with Texas Government Code §2155.4441 for the purchase of products and materials produced in the State of Texas. However, this §2155.4441 is not applicable to Grants or Contracts with federal funding that prohibits the use of geographic preferences.
4. Human Trafficking Prohibition. Under Texas Government Code §2155.0061, Applicant certifies that it is not ineligible to receive this Grant and acknowledges that this Grant may be terminated and payment withheld if it is found that during the five-year period preceding the date of this Grant, the Applicant was convicted of any offense related to the direct support or promotion of human trafficking.

5. COVID-19 Vaccine Documentation. Applicant represents and warrants that it is in compliance with Section 161.0085(c) of the Texas Health and Safety Code and is eligible, pursuant to that section, to receive a grant or enter into a contract with DFPS payable with state funds.
6. Firearm and Ammunition Industries Discrimination Prohibition. For Grants entered into on or after September 1, 2021, if Applicant is a Company under Texas Government Code §2274.002 at the time of executing this Grant, Applicant certifies that it is exempt under that section or it does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association and will not discriminate during the term of the Grant against a firearm entity or firearm trade association.
7. Applicant represents and warrants that all statements and information provided to HHSC and DFPS are current, complete, and accurate. This includes all statements and information in this Grant Application.
8. Applicant understands that HHSC and DFPS will comply with the Texas Public Information Act (Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code) as interpreted by judicial rulings and opinions of the Attorney General of the State of Texas. Information, documentation, and other material prepared and submitted in connection with this Grant Opportunity or any resulting Grant Agreement may be subject to public disclosure pursuant to the Texas Public Information Act. In accordance with Section 2252.907 of the Texas Government Code, Applicant is required to make any information created or exchanged with the State pursuant to the Grant Agreement, and not otherwise excepted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to the State.
9. Applicant represents and warrants that it will comply with the requirements of Section 552.372(a) of the Texas Government Code. Except as provided by Section 552.374(c) of the Texas Government Code, the requirements of Chapter 552, Subchapter J (Additional Provisions Related to Contracting Information) of the Government Code apply to the Grant Agreement, and the Applicant agrees that the Grant Agreement can be terminated if the Applicant knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.
10. Applicant acknowledges its obligation to specifically identify information it contends is confidential or proprietary, and if Applicant designated substantial portions of its Grant Application or its entire Grant Application as confidential or proprietary, the Grant Application is subject to being disqualified.
11. Applicant's Grant Application will remain a firm and binding offer for 240 days from the date the Grant Application is due.
12. Applicant shall not assign its rights under the Grant Agreement or delegate the performance of its duties under the Grant Agreement without prior written approval from HHSC or DFPS. Any attempted assignment in violation of this provision is void and without effect.

13. Applicant accepts the Grant Opportunity terms and conditions unless specifically noted by exceptions advanced in the form and manner directed in the Grant Opportunity. No exceptions, terms, or conditions will be considered if not advanced in the form and manner directed in the Grant Opportunity. Applicant agrees that all exceptions to the Grant Opportunity as well as terms and conditions advanced by Applicant that differ in any manner from DFPS's terms and conditions are rejected unless expressly accepted by DFPS in writing in a fully executed Grant Agreement.
14. Applicant agrees that HHSC and DFPS has the right to use, produce, and distribute copies of and to disclose to HHSC and DFPS employees, agents, and contractors and other governmental entities all or part of Applicant's Grant Application as HHSC or DFPS deems necessary to complete the Grant Opportunity process or comply with state or federal laws.
15. Applicant generally releases from liability and waives all claims against any party providing information about the Applicant at the request of HHSC or DFPS.
16. Applicant acknowledges all addenda and amendments to the Grant Opportunity.
17. Applicant certifies that if a Texas address is shown as Applicant's address on this Application, Applicant qualifies as a Texas Bidder as defined in Section 2155.444(c) of the Texas Government Code.
18. Applicant represents and warrants that it qualifies for all preferences claimed under 34 Texas Administrative Code, Section 20.306 or Chapter 2155, Subchapter H of the Texas Government Code as indicated below (check applicable boxes):
  - ☐ Goods produced or offered by a Texas bidder that is owned by a Texas resident service-disabled veteran
  - ☐ Goods produced in Texas or offered by a Texas bidder that is not owned by a Texas resident service-disabled veteran
  - ☐ Agricultural products grown in Texas
  - ☐ Agricultural products offered by a Texas bidder
  - ☐ Services offered by a Texas bidder that is owned by a Texas resident service-disabled veteran
  - ☐ Services offered by a Texas bidder that is not owned by a Texas resident service-disabled veteran
  - ☐ Texas Vegetation Native to the Region
  - ☐ USA-produced supplies, materials, or equipment
  - ☐ Products of persons with mental or physical disabilities
  - ☐ Products made of recycled, remanufactured, or environmentally sensitive materials including recycled steel
  - ☐ Energy-efficient products

- ☐ Rubberized asphalt paving material
  - ☐ Recycled motor oil and lubricants
  - ☐ Products produced at facilities located on formerly contaminated property
  - ☐ Products and services from economically depressed or blighted areas
  - ☐ Vendors that meet or exceed air quality standards
  - ☐ Recycled or reused computer equipment of other manufacturers
  - ☐ Foods of higher nutritional value
  - ☐ Commercial production company or advertising agency located in Texas
19. Applicant has not given, has not offered to give, and does not intend to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with this Grant Application, this Grant Opportunity, or any Grant Agreement resulting from this Grant Opportunity.
20. Under Section 2155.004, Texas Government Code (relating to financial participation in preparing Grant Opportunities), Applicant certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Application or Grant Agreement is not ineligible to receive the specified Grant Agreement and acknowledges that this Grant Agreement may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.
21. Under Section 231.006(d) of the Texas Family Code regarding child support, Applicant certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Application is not ineligible to receive the specified payment and acknowledges that the Grant Agreement may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate. Furthermore, any Applicant subject to Section 231.006 of the Texas Family Code must include in the Application the names and social security numbers (SSNs) of each person with at least 25% ownership of the business entity submitting the Application:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

**FEDERAL PRIVACY ACT NOTICE:** This notice is given pursuant to the Federal Privacy Act. Disclosure of requested SSNs is required under Section 231.006(c) and Section 231.302(c)(2), Texas Family Code. The SSNs will be used to identify persons who may owe child support. The SSNs will be kept confidential to the fullest extent permitted by law.

If submitted by email, Applications containing SSNs must be encrypted. Failure by a Applicant to provide or encrypt the SSNs as required may result in disqualification of the Applicant's Application.

22. Applicant certifies that it and its principals are not suspended or debarred from doing business with the state or federal government as listed on the State of Texas Debarred Vendor List maintained by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the System for Award Management maintained by the General Services Administration. This certification is made pursuant to the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549 and Executive Order 12689, 2 C.F.R. Part 376 Debarment and Suspension and any relevant regulations promulgated by the Department or Agency funding this project. This provision shall be included in its entirety in Applicant's Subawards, if any, if payment in whole or in part is from federal funds.
23. Applicant certifies that it is not listed in the prohibited vendors list authorized by Executive Order 13224, "Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism," published by the United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control.
24. Applicant represents and warrants that it is not engaged in business with Iran, Sudan, or a foreign terrorist organization as prohibited by Section 2252.152 of the Texas Government Code.
25. In accordance with Section 669.003 of the Texas Government Code, relating to contracting with the executive head of a state agency, Applicant certifies that it is not (1) the executive head of an HHS agency, (2) a person who at any time during the four years before the date of the Grant Agreement was the executive head of an HHS agency, or (3) a person who employs a current or former executive head of an HHS agency.
26. Applicant represents and warrants that it is not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise taxes owed the State of Texas under Chapter 171 of the Texas Tax Code.
27. Applicant agrees that any payments due under any Grant Agreement resulting from this Grant Opportunity shall be applied towards any debt or delinquency that is owed to the State of Texas.
28. Applicant represents and warrants that payments to Applicant and Applicant's receipt of appropriated or other funds under any Grant Agreement resulting from this Grant Opportunity are not prohibited by Sections 556.005, 556.0055, or 556.008 of the Texas Government Code (relating to use of appropriated money or state funds to employ or pay lobbyists, lobbying expenses, or influence legislation).
29. Applicant agrees that upon request of HHSC or DFPS, Applicant shall provide copies of its most recent business continuity and disaster recovery plans.
30. Applicant expressly acknowledges that state funds may not be expended in connection with the purchase of an automated information system unless that system meets certain statutory requirements relating to accessibility by persons with visual impairments. Accordingly, Applicant represents and warrants to HHSC and DFPS that the technology provided to HHSC or DFPS for purchase is capable, either by virtue of features included within the technology or because it is readily adaptable by use with other technology, of:

- providing equivalent access for effective use by both visual and nonvisual means;
- presenting information, including prompts used for interactive communications, in formats intended for nonvisual use; and
- being integrated into networks for obtaining, retrieving, and disseminating information used by individuals who are not blind or visually impaired.

For purposes of this Section, the phrase “equivalent access” means a substantially similar ability to communicate with or make use of the technology, either directly by features incorporated within the technology or by other reasonable means such as assistive devices or services that would constitute reasonable accommodations under the Americans With Disabilities Act or similar state or federal laws. Examples of methods by which equivalent access may be provided include but are not limited to keyboard alternatives to mouse commands and other means of navigating graphical displays and customizable display appearance.

31. If Applicant is submitting an Application for the purchase or lease of computer equipment, then Applicant certifies that it is in compliance with Subchapter Y, Chapter 361 of the Texas Health and Safety Code related to the Computer Equipment Recycling Program and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality rules in 30 TAC Chapter 328.
32. If Applicant is submitting an Application for the purchase or lease of covered television equipment, then Applicant certifies that it is in compliance with Subchapter Z, Chapter 361 of the Texas Health and Safety Code related to the Television Equipment Recycling Program.
33. Applicant represents and warrants that it will comply with the requirements of Section 2054.5192 of the Texas Government Code relating to cybersecurity training and required verification of completion of the training program.
34. Applicant acknowledges that pursuant to Section 572.069 of the Texas Government Code, a former state officer or employee of a state agency who during the period of state service or employment participated on behalf of a state agency in a procurement or contract negotiation involving Applicant may not accept employment from Applicant before the second anniversary of the date the Grant Agreement is signed or the procurement is terminated or withdrawn.
35. Applicant represents and warrants that it has no actual or potential conflicts of interest in providing the requested goods or services to DFPS under this Grant Opportunity and any resulting Grant Agreement and that Applicant’s provision of the requested goods and/or services under this Grant Opportunity and any resulting Grant Agreement will not constitute an actual or potential conflict of interest or reasonably create an appearance of impropriety.
36. Applicant understands that HHSC and DFPS do not tolerate any type of fraud. HHSC and DFPS policy is to promote consistent, legal, and ethical organizational behavior by assigning responsibilities and providing guidelines to enforce controls. Violations of law,

agency policies, or standards of ethical conduct will be investigated, and appropriate actions will be taken. All employees or contractors who suspect fraud, waste, or abuse (including employee misconduct that would constitute fraud, waste, or abuse) are required to immediately report the questionable activity to both HHSC's Office of the Inspector General at 1-800-436-6184 and the State Auditor's Office. Applicant agrees to comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations including DFPS and HHSC policies regarding fraud including but not limited to HHS Circular C-027.

37. The undersigned affirms under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Texas that (a) in connection with this Application, neither the Applicant nor any representative of the Applicant has violated any provision of the Texas Free Enterprise and Antitrust Act, Texas Business & Commerce Code Chapter 15; (b) in connection with this Application, neither the Applicant nor any representative of the Applicant has violated any federal antitrust law; and (c) neither the Applicant nor any representative of the Applicant has directly or indirectly communicated any of the contents of this Application to a competitor of the Applicant or any other company, corporation, firm, partnership, or individual engaged in the same line of business as the Applicant.
38. Applicant represents and warrants that it is not aware of and has received no notice of any court or governmental agency proceeding, investigation, or other action pending or threatened against Applicant or any of the individuals or entities included in numbered paragraph 1 of this Affirmations and Grant Opportunity Acceptance within the five calendar years immediately preceding the submission of this Grant Application that would or could impair Applicant's performance under any Grant Agreement resulting from this Grant Opportunity, related to the grant services, or otherwise be relevant to DFPS's consideration of entering into a Grant Agreement. If Applicant is unable to make the preceding representation and warranty, then Applicant instead represents and warrants that it has provided to HHSC and DFPS a complete, detailed disclosure of any such court or governmental agency proceeding, investigation, or other action that would or could impair Applicant's performance under a Grant awarded as a result of this Grant Opportunity, related to the grant services, or otherwise be relevant to DFPS's consideration of entering into a Grant Agreement. In addition, Applicant acknowledges this is a continuing disclosure requirement. Applicant represents and warrants that if awarded a grant as a result of this Grant Opportunity, Applicant shall notify DFPS in writing within five business days of any changes to the representations or warranties in this clause and understands that failure to so timely update DFPS shall constitute breach of contract and may result in immediate grant termination.
39. Applicant certifies that for this grant, Applicant shall utilize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system during the Period of Performance to determine the eligibility of:
  - (a) all persons employed by Applicant to perform duties within Texas; and
  - (b) all persons, including Subawardees, assigned by Applicant to perform work pursuant to the grant within the United States of America.

40. Pursuant to Section 2271.002 of the Texas Government Code, Applicant certifies that either (i) it meets an exemption criteria under Section 2271.002 or (ii) it does not boycott Israel and will not boycott Israel during the term of the contract resulting from this Grant Opportunity. If Applicant refuses to make that certification, Applicant shall state here any facts that make it exempt from the boycott certification:
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
41. Funding Eligibility. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that it is eligible to contract with DFPS under the terms of Chapter 2273 of the Texas Government Code and Article IX of the General Appropriations Act, which prohibit DFPS from contracting with an abortion provider or an affiliate of an abortion provider.
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- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
42. Applicant understands, acknowledges, and agrees that Grant Applications and Agreements are subject to Texas Government Code Chapter 552, the Public Information Act (PIA) and may be disclosed to the public upon request or through posting on HHSC or DFPS website, the LBB’s website, or as otherwise required by law. Applicant certifies that it:
- ☐ asserts that information provided in its Application is exempt from disclosure under the PIA and that Applicant therefore has submitted a “Public Information Act Copy” as required under the Grant Opportunity; or
- ☐ asserts that there is no information provided in its Application that is exempt from disclosure under the PIA and that Applicant therefore has not submitted a “Public Information Act Copy.”
43. Applicant understands, acknowledges, and agrees that any false representation or any failure to comply with a representation, warranty, or certification made by Applicant is subject to all civil and criminal consequences provided at law or in equity including but not limited to immediate termination of any grant resulting from this Grant Opportunity.
44. Applicant represents and warrants that it will comply with all applicable laws and maintain all permits and licenses required by applicable city, county, state, and federal rules, regulations, statutes, codes, and other laws that pertain to any Grant resulting from this Grant Opportunity.
45. Applicant represents and warrants that all statements and information prepared and submitted in this document are current, complete, true, and accurate. Submitting an Application with a false statement or material misrepresentations made during the performance of a grant is a material breach of contract and may void the submitted Application and any resulting Grant Agreement.



46. By submitting this Application, Applicant represents and warrants that the individual submitting this document and the documents made part of this Application is authorized to sign such documents on behalf of the Applicant and to bind the Applicant under any grant that may result from the submission of this Application.

**Signature Page Follows**

**Authorized representative on behalf of Applicant must complete and sign the following:**

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**Legal Name of Applicant**

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**Assumed Business Name of Applicant, if applicable (d/b/a or ‘doing business as’)**

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**Texas County(s) for Assumed Business Name (d/b/a or ‘doing business as’)**  
**Attach Assumed Name Certificate(s) filed with the Texas Secretary of State for each Texas**  
**County Where Assumed Name Certificate(s) has been filed**

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**Signature of Authorized Representative**

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**Date Signed**

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**Printed Name of Authorized Representative**  
**First, Middle Name or Initial, and Last Name**

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**Title of Authorized Representative**

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**Physical Street Address**

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**City, State, Zip Code**

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**Mailing Address, if different**

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**City, State, Zip Code**

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**Phone Number**

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**SAM Number**

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**Email Address**

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**DUNS Number**

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**Federal Employer Identification Number**

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**Texas Payee ID No. – 11 digits**

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**Texas Franchise Tax Number**

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**Texas Secretary of State Filing Number**