

Contact: Brad Berg

**SELECTION OF BOND SERVICE PROVIDERS**

**Actions Requested:** Consider;

1. Approval of the selection of:
  - a. Ahlers & Cooney as bond counsel
  - b. Baker Tilly as municipal advisor
  - c. Berens-Tate Consulting Group as arbitrage rebate service provider
2. Authorizing the Executive Director to execute the contracts on behalf of the Board.

**Executive Summary:** Statutory provisions require the Board of Regents to solicit bids for services related to issuance of bonds through a competitive process. The Iowa Administrative Code defines the selection process and requires that agreements with such firms provide for annual renewals during a period not to exceed five years. The last RFP process for bond associated service contracts was conducted during 2016. The current contracts expire on August 31, 2021.

In January 2021, the Board Office issued separate Requests for Proposal (RFP) for bond counsel, municipal advisor, and arbitrage rebate service provider. In accordance with the established competitive process and selection criteria, a review committee comprised of University representatives and Board Office staff reviewed the proposals and interviewed finalists.

Based on the proposals, presentations, background, and capability of the firms, the committee recommends the selection of:

- Ahlers & Cooney, P.C. as bond counsel;
- Baker Tilly, LLC as municipal advisor;
- Berens-Tate Consulting Group as arbitrage rebate service provider.