



# Frequently Asked Questions about Riverside County Pre-Qualifications

The Facilities Management (FM) is interested in promoting business opportunities. We offer different ways in which you can participate in partnering with the County on their next public works project.

## **Question: Can I send our company's brochure to you so we can be considered for your next project?**

We suggest that you look to the next Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, or Notice Inviting Bids on the FM Proposals & Quotations link. You can sign up to receive automatic emails when items are posted. <https://rivcofm.org/RFP-RFQ>

## **Question: We offer construction-related professional services and are interested in providing our services to Riverside County. What do we need to do?**

There's a couple of options for you. The FM updates their prequalified list for Architects and Engineers and other construction-related professional services such as Construction Management, Labor Compliance, Geotechnical and Environmental firms every three years. This means that the firms' Statement of Qualifications (SOQs) have been through the evaluation process, ranked and selected to provide "on-call" services. The current three-year cycle of prequalified consulting services is now closed until Winter 2023.

If you've missed out on the prequalification cycle, there may be an opportunity with a **project-specific** Request for Qualification or Request for Proposal. For example, for a fire station project, we may advertise for a design firm that specializes in this unique building type. Again, the best way to get know about these opportunities is to check the FM Proposals & Quotations link.

## **Question: I'm a general contractor and would like to get on the County's pre-qualified list. How do I get started?**

There are three separate qualifications for public works contracting and they are distinguished by the construction cost and type of bidding required by law. It depends on **which prequalified list** you'd like to pursue, mainly whether it's for public works under \$200,000 or over \$200,000:

- 1) The Riverside County Purchasing Department has a pre-qualification process for informal bidding procurement for any type of contractor for projects **under \$200,000**. Their pre-qualification window is "open" year-round, although the pre-qualification list expires every December 31. Informal bidding is governed by California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCA). A contractor can "get on the list" any time but is limited to projects under \$200K. Here's the link:

<https://purchasing.co.riverside.ca.us/Bids/BiddingOpportunities.aspx>

- 2) Facilities Management PMO conducts a pre-qualification for formal bidding procurement of public works projects **over \$200,000**, which is governed by California Public Contract Code 20101. Under formal bidding, the PMO has separate pre-qualification processes for **General Building Contractors** and **Specialized Construction Trade Contractors**, conducted annually. B-license General Building Contractors are pre-qualified for the traditional design-bid-build, or "hard bid" public works projects for projects over \$200,000. The prequalification is divided into three categories and two experience levels: General County Facilities, Hospital Facilities, and Justice/Detention Facilities from \$200,000 to \$4,999,999 and \$5,000,000 to \$30,000,000. Whereas Specialized Construction Trade Contractors perform one specific craft or trade under a license for that trade on a construction project (e.g. plumbing, painting, electrical work, mechanical, etc.) and are utilized for Construction Management Multiple Prime projects and other methods of projects delivery.

The pre-qualified status of a pre-qualified contractor lasts 12 months starting on the date when the Board approves the pre-qual list of contractors, which is the same date as the Notice of Prequalification Letter. To be pre-qualified under this list, a contractor will have to wait until the next RFQ solicitation process. The current solicitations for County-Wide Pre-Qualifications are:

<u>Who Does Pre-Qualifications?</u>	<u>Who is Pre-Qualified?</u>	<u>Next RFQ advertised</u>
Riverside County Purchasing	Contractors for public works under \$200,000	Year Round
Riverside County FM Project Management	Contractors for public works over \$200,000	*Spring 2023
Riverside County FM Project Management	Trade Contractors for public works over \$200,000	*Spring 2023
Riverside County FM Project Management	Architects/Engineers & Professional Services	*Winter 2023

*\*These are approximate dates. The RFQ solicitation process begins approximately 4-6 months prior to the actual expiration of the current pre-qualification.*

- 3) Finally, there's a prequalification process for B-license general building contractors for the County's **Job Order Contracting (JOC)** program for small to medium renovation projects other than new construction. JOC is an indefinite quantity project delivery program that utilizes a Unit Price Book.

**Question: I'm already pre-qualified with the County of Riverside. Do I have to pre-qualify again?**

It depends on the **expiration date** of your prequalification status. If you responded to an FM Request for Qualifications and filled out the long-form standard questionnaire, by law, your prequalification status is only good for 12 months from the date of the Notice of Prequalification Letter we sent to you. If that 12-month clock is winding down, chances are the County is ramping up to advertise for the next cycle, so you will need to re-apply for prequalification with the County. The expiration dates are not all the same, so make sure you check the date of your Notice of Prequalification Letter.

**Question: We went through the Request for Qualifications process but didn't get on the prequalified list. Does that mean we can't bid on County projects?**

Just because you weren't selected to be prequalified, doesn't necessarily make you ineligible to bid on County projects. There may be an opportunity with a project-specific Request for Qualification or Request for Proposal coming up. Or, you may want to apply again in the next prequalification round. Take advantage of the de-briefing session that's offered at the end of the RFQ process. We're here to help you succeed.

**Question: Are the RFQs project specific?**

The title of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will usually state whether it is for a specific project or it is a general prequalification that we are establishing for future county projects. Prequalification ensures that the firm has the proper license, experience and quality in order to perform the services or work for the County. In addition, some RFQs that are project-specific may require that only prequalified firms are eligible to submit bids. It's important to read the RFQ for that purpose.

**Question: Who do I call if I have any questions on an RFQ?**

On the cover of each Request for Qualifications or in the Notice section, you'll see the name of the Project Manager and contact information listed. All "open" RFQs will post any addendums on the FM Proposals and Quotations link, so it's up to you to check on whether any changes to the RFQ, including deadline extensions, are posted.

For general questions about pre-qualification please contact:

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