



REQUEST FOR TENDER (RFT)

MULTI-PARTY FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

Title of Competition	Establishment of eight (8) Multi Party Framework Agreements for the Provision of Specialist Equipment and Supplies for Apprenticeship and Further Education and Training
Lot No.	Lot Description
#1	Advanced Manufacturing & Related Technologies
#2	Digital and Biotech Labs & Related Technologies
#3	Modern Methods of Construction & Building Technologies
#4	Renewable Energy and Micro Grid Management & Related Technologies
#5	Digital College & Related Technologies
#6	Healthcare Simulators & Related Technologies
#7	Driving Simulators & Heavy Equipment Training
#8	Dedicated Software, AI Avatars & Digital Twin Platforms
Contracting Authority:	Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board
Procedure:	Open at E.U. Level
eTenders/OJEU ref:	CFT 9022463
Issue Date:	9 th September 2026
Closing Date for Queries:	Monday 12 th October 2026 at 12 Noon (Irish Time)

Closing Date for Tender Submission:	Tuesday 20th October 2026 at 12 Noon (Irish Time)
Submissions and Queries via:	eTenders only
Notes: • Please note that information relating to this qualification stage, including clarifications and changes, will be published on the Irish Government's online Portal 'eTenders' (www.etenders.gov.ie). Registration is free of charge and there is no charge for documents. Please note that the Contracting Authority accepts no responsibility for information relayed (or not relayed) via third parties. Please upload your response as a ZIP FILE to protect the integrity of the file names.	

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Disclaimer

This document issued herewith ("the Document") is for information only and does not constitute, and shall not be interpreted as, an offer for sale, prospectus, or the basis of a contract.

Tenderers are recommended to read the documents thoroughly. While all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that the information set out in the Document is accurate and up to date, no representation or warranty, express or implied, is or will be made or given in relation to the accuracy or the completeness of any information contained in the Document or otherwise provided by or on behalf of the Contracting Authority (in writing or otherwise) to any interested party or its advisers. No responsibility or liability for any loss or damage arising as a result of reliance on these documents, or for the information contained in these documents or for any omission is or will be accepted by the Contracting Authority or by any of its officers, employees, agents or professional advisers. No officer, employee, agent, or professional adviser of the company has any authority to give or make any representation or warranty, express or implied, in relation to such information. The Contracting Authority's officers, employees, agents, and professional advisers expressly disclaim any and all liability arising out of such documentation or information and any errors or omissions in or from the documents and information.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to discontinue the procurement process at any time.

Use of eTenders

Please note that information relating to this Request for Tender, including clarifications and changes, will be published on the Irish Government Procurement Opportunities Portal www.etenders.gov.ie. Registration is free of charge and there is no charge for documents. Please note that the Contracting Authority accepts no responsibility for information relayed (or not relayed) via third parties. In order to submit a response, it is mandatory to have **ASSOCIATED** your company with the competition using the eTenders log in.

For all up to date information on using eTenders, please refer to the Guidance Material on eTenders: <https://www.etenders.gov.ie/epps/home.do>

eTenders system usage queries are managed by eTenders Technical Support: <https://www.etenders.gov.ie/epps/PrepareContactUsAction.do>

Use of a Tender Response Document

The Contracting Authority have provided two Tender Response Documents (TRD) as separate documents for tenderers to use in preparing their response to this tender.

- PART A – should only be completed once, irrespective of the number of lots being tendered;
- PART B – should be completed separately for each lot.

These document and format must be used. Tenderers should note that personalisation of the TRD is not allowed, and they must not add their branding/colours to the TRD.

Please note that in addition to this RFT and the TRDs (PART A and PART B), the following documents form part of the tender documentation to be considered as part of the tender preparation:

- Appendix 1 – Pricing Schedule
- Appendix 2 – Draft Framework Agreement Terms and Conditions
- Appendix 3 – Draft Supplies Contract Terms and Conditions
- Any Clarification documents issued by the Contracting Authority during the tender submission period. Tenderers must ensure they regularly monitor eTenders and review any Clarification documents published.

It is recommended to upload your response as a **Zip file** in order to protect the integrity of file names.

1 About the Contracting Authority

1.1 The Contracting Authority

Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board (hereinafter referred to as the “Contracting Authority”) is the authority responsible for this procurement.

Further information is available at our corporate website www.ddletb.ie

1.2 Small and Medium Enterprise participation

It is the policy of the Contracting Authority to promote participation by Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) on a fair and equal basis.

SMEs are encouraged to explore the possibilities of forming relationships with other SMEs or with larger enterprises to meet the financial, economic or technical capacity requirements of the competition, if required.

Tenderers may include individuals, partnerships, limited companies, groupings or any combination of the foregoing with or without legal personality. However, a grouping if successful will be required to establish legal personality to enter the framework agreement / contract.

Tenderers are reminded that they may rely on the resources of other entities to establish the requirements on condition that they can prove to the satisfaction of the Contracting Authority that they will have these resources at their disposal when necessary.

If the tender is from a consortium / joint venture, tenderers must ensure that all the relevant information is provided and where necessary, provide the information requested separately for each party. Relevant information relates to where a tenderer is relying on the resources to qualify (e.g. turnover, personnel, previous experience) and or to deliver contract elements. The consortium must appoint a single point of contact who will assume overall responsibility for delivery, and who is authorised to sign the framework agreement / contract on behalf of all consortia members. The Contracting Authority will not act as an arbitrator between members of consortia.

2 Scope of the Framework Agreement

2.1 Type of Framework

The Contracting Authority proposes to engage in a competitive process for the establishment of a framework agreement. A framework agreement constitutes a means of establishing overall terms and conditions in accordance with which, for a specified duration, individual contracts may or may not be awarded.

This competition relates to the establishment of a multi-party framework with three (3) Economic Operators. Thereafter contracts will be awarded in accordance with the rules contained herein.

2.2 Scope of Requirements under the Framework

2.2.1 The Scope of the Framework

The Contracting Authority, as part of its remit to provide training in its Further Education Colleges, and Training Centres seeks to establish eight (8) Multi-Party Framework Agreements to meet its requirements for specialist training equipment as follows:

Lot Number	Lot Description	Envisaged number to be admitted to the framework agreement
#1	Advanced Manufacturing & Related Technologies	3
#2	Digital and Biotech Labs & Related Technologies	3
#3	Modern Methods of Construction & Building Technologies	3
#4	Renewable Energy and Micro Grid Management & Related Technologies	3
#5	Digital College & Related Technologies	3
#6	Healthcare Simulators & Related Technologies	3
#7	Driving Simulators & Heavy Equipment Training	3
#8	Dedicated Software, AI Avatars & Digital Twin Platforms	3

In the absence of sufficient numbers qualifying for admittance to each framework, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to establish the frameworks with the qualifying parties, even where this may result in only one party qualifying.

Where there is a narrow score differential of less than 5% of the marks between the third supplier admitted to the framework and the next ranked tender(s), the Contracting Authority will invite such tenderer(s) to join the framework.

2.2.2 Details on Scope of Lots

The following narrative provides a detailed description of the requirements and scope of the individual lots:

- **Lot 1 - Advanced Manufacturing & Related Technologies**

(Scope: The supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and training for advanced manufacturing and engineering equipment—including but not limited to CNC machining, additive manufacturing, industrial robotics, mechatronics, automated production systems, precision engineering tools, and CAD/CAM integration—and other related manufacturing or engineering equipment as deemed necessary by the Contracting Authority.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to procure adjacent manufacturing, production, or technical tooling under this lot provided such items reasonably align with the technical domain of industrial manufacturing and operations.

- **Lot 2 - Digital and Biotech Labs & Related Technologies**

Scope: The supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and training for specialized laboratory equipment, analytical instruments, and digital technology hardware—including but not limited to bioprocess monitoring units, spectrophotometers, lab automation systems, chromatography units, digital twin simulators, data acquisition systems, and precision measurement tools—and other related laboratory, biotechnology, or scientific equipment as deemed necessary by the Contracting Authority.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to procure adjacent lab technologies, analytical systems, or scientific testing hardware under this lot provided such items reasonably align with the technical domain of laboratory, life sciences, and bio-pharma operations.

- **Lot 3 - Modern Methods of Construction & Building Technologies**

Scope: The supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and training for equipment, tooling, and systems supporting Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) and building trades—including but not limited to off-site manufacturing systems, timber frame fabrication equipment, modular assembly tooling, digital survey/BIM integration hardware, dynamic testing equipment, and sustainable building systems—and other related construction or building equipment as deemed necessary by the Contracting Authority. The Contracting Authority reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to procure adjacent construction, structural, or built-environment tooling under this lot provided such items reasonably align with the technical domain of construction and building services.

- **Lot 4 - Renewable Energy and Micro Grid Management & Related Technologies**

Scope: The supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and training for equipment, trainer systems, and hardware supporting renewable energy and modern electrical installations—including but not limited to solar PV simulators, wind turbine technology rigs, heat pump test benches, micro-grid management systems, energy storage/battery units, smart metering, and EV charging infrastructure—and other related renewable energy, power management, or electrical equipment as deemed necessary by the Contracting Authority.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to procure adjacent energy, green technology, or electrical distribution hardware under this lot provided such items reasonably align with the technical domain of renewable systems and power management.

- **Lot 5 - Digital College & Related Technologies**

Scope: The supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and training for hardware, software, and digital infrastructure supporting digital learning environments and technical training—including but not limited to extended reality (VR/AR/MR) hardware and enterprise management software, interactive display technology, digital twin lab setups, networking/server infrastructure, high-performance computing units, and specialized AV systems—and other related digital, educational, or ICT equipment as deemed necessary by the Contracting Authority.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to procure adjacent digital, software, or technology infrastructure under this lot provided such items reasonably align with the technical domain of digital college operations and tech-enabled learning.

- **Lot 6 – Healthcare Simulators & Related Technologies**

Scope: The supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and training for medical training equipment, clinical simulation units, and healthcare instruction technology—including but not limited to high-fidelity patient mannequins, anatomical models, clinical skills trainers, diagnostic simulation equipment, virtual/augmented clinical software, and associated medical hardware—and other related healthcare, nursing, or clinical simulation equipment as deemed necessary by the Contracting Authority.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to procure adjacent medical, clinical, or care- training equipment under this lot provided such items reasonably align with the technical domain of healthcare education and patient simulation.

- **Lot 7 – Driving Simulators & Heavy Equipment Training**

Services & Scope of Requirement: Mobile driving simulator units featuring motion bases, multi-display setups, head tracking, and multi-vehicle software licenses (e.g., HGV Class 1/2, ADT, Dozer, 360 Excavator, and Forklift interfaces, crane interfaces).

- **Lot 8 – Dedicated Software, AI Avatars & Digital Twin Platforms**

Services & Scope of Requirement: Web-based 3D virtual campus models (e.g. 8,000 m², AI-powered virtual receptionist avatars, multi-discipline VR curriculum simulation software suites, and software-to-hardware sensor integration).

See **Section 3.1** below for further details.

2.2.3 The Initial Contract

The framework agreements under all lots will be established on foot of this tender competition with the initial contract covering the initial requirements under each lot being awarded to the highest ranked tenderer shortly after the formal establishment of the framework agreements.

The initial contracts will provisionally be for the supply of the items identified in the relevant Tab (Lot) of Appendix 1 – Pricing Document. Quantities stated in the pricing schedule are estimated for tender evaluation purposes and may change at contract award stage.

Whilst it is indicated that the initial contracts will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tender immediately following a tender evaluation and the establishment of the frameworks, it should be noted that the Contracting Authority may, at its sole discretion, establish the framework agreements without awarding the initial contracts should the circumstances so dictate.

Admission to the framework agreement will be conditional upon acceptance of the Contracting Authority's Supplies Contract Terms and Conditions as appended at the relevant Appendix

2.2.4 Additional / Call-Off Contracts under the Frameworks

There is no guarantee of additional contracts, but where they arise, the Contracting Authority will consult the members of the framework agreement in accordance with the rules of operation outlined in this Request for Tender.

It is envisaged, at this stage, that following completion of the initial contracts, further follow-on contracts will be awarded under all lots in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.7 of this RFT.

There is no guarantee of additional contracts, but where they arise, the Contracting Authority will consult the members of the framework agreement in accordance with the rules of operation outlined in this Request for Tender.

Tenderers should note that the award of contracts under these frameworks is subject to the Contracting Authority's business needs and budgetary constraints.

2.3 Anticipated Timeline

The following indicative timeline is envisaged for this procurement:

Issue RFT	As specified on title page
Closing Date for Queries	As specified on title page
Closing Date for Tender Submission	As specified on title page
Clarification/verification meetings (if anticipated)	[insert detail]
Award decision	[insert detail]
Framework Agreement Commencement	[insert detail]

The dates provided above are estimates at the time of publication of the Request for Tender. The Contracting Authority will endeavour to run the process to this timetable, but this cannot be guaranteed.

2.4 Numbers admitted to the Frameworks

The framework agreements will be established as multi-party framework agreements with three (3) members, subject to that number meeting the minimum criteria and rules. In the absence of sufficient numbers qualifying for admittance to the framework, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to establish the framework with the qualifying parties, even where this may result in only one party qualifying.

2.5 Duration of the Framework Agreements

The maximum duration of the framework agreements will be four (4) years subject to satisfactory annual review of performance.

The Contracting Authority confirms that the period of any contracts awarded under the framework agreement may extend beyond the date of expiry of the agreement.

2.6 Estimated Value for the Lots under the Framework Agreements

It is envisaged that maximum spend under this framework agreement will be in the region of €13m to €14m excluding V.A.T with an estimated breakdown of spend (**for year 1**) under the various lots as follows:

Lot Number	Lot Description	Estimated Spend in Year 1	Maximum Estimated Value of Framework
#1	Advanced Manufacturing & Related Technologies	€500,000	€2m
#2	Digital and Biotech Labs & Related Technologies	€100,000	€500,000
#3	Modern Methods of Construction & Building Technologies	€600,000	€3m
#4	Renewable Energy and Micro Grid Management & Related Technologies	€400,000	€2m
#5	Digital College & Related Technologies	€600,000	€2.5m
#6	Healthcare Simulators & Related Technologies	€200,000	€1m
#7	Driving Simulators & Heavy Equipment Training	€300,000	€1.5m
#8	Dedicated Software, AI Avatars & Digital Twin Platforms	€300,000	€1.5m

It is emphasised, however, that these figures are provided strictly for indicative purposes only as there is no guaranteed expenditure under the framework agreements.

Given the variations in needs for training equipment across the total number of lots, the Contracting Authority may ultimately spend more or less than the estimated individual framework values. The overarching figure for this procurement is the maximum value outlined in 2.6 above, thus once financial cover is available in the maximum value, individual lot frameworks may exceed the estimated value outlined per lot.

2.7 Awarding Contracts under the Framework Agreements

Any additional multi-party framework agreement contracts will be awarded as follows:

2.7.1 Initial Requirements

The initial contract under this Framework Agreement will be awarded to the highest-ranking framework member following evaluation (See Section 2.2.3 above). All subsequent contract awards will be on the basis of Sections 2.7.2 and 2.7.3 below.

2.7.2 Mini-Tenders

Through invitation to a mini tender of all the firms admitted to the framework agreement. On each occasion, a Supplementary Request for Tender (SRFT) will be issued detailing the scope of requirements, the award criteria, a closing date and time and methodology for submission of responses.

This award method will operate for all contracts, following the initial contract requirement with a value in excess of €50,000 excl. V.A.T.

2.7.3 Cascade Method

Through application of the cascade method whereby contracts are awarded on foot of the original tenders to the first ranked firm admitted to the framework agreement. Where they are not able to deliver the contract due to availability, conflict of interest, etc. the next ranked firm will be approached moving in ranked order through the Framework Members until the contract is awarded.

Please note that the cascade method will only be used in cases where the contract value is up to €50,000 excl. V.A.T. following the award for the initial requirement (See Section 2.7.1 above)

Please note that under the cascade system, performance and quality of delivery will be a key feature, and the Contracting Authority reserves the right to apply the relegation process detailed in the Framework Terms and Conditions and relegate the first ranked member to the bottom position on the cascade list for poor performance.

2.8 Right to tender outside of the Framework

The Contracting Authority intends to use the framework for the procurement of requirements falling within its scope during the specified period; however, it reserves the right to go outside the framework for the procurement of any requirement without reference to the Framework Member(s). Admission to a framework does not guarantee the award of any contract to any Economic Operator, nor does it give the member(s) the right to be consulted in respect of, or tender for, any contract.

2.9 Compliance with the Terms and Conditions of the Framework Agreement

Admission to the framework agreement will be conditional upon acceptance of the Contracting Authority's Framework Terms and Conditions as appended at the relevant Appendix.

Tenderers are required to review these terms and conditions and indicate their acceptance thereof as part of their tender submission. Any reservation regarding these terms should be submitted as a query in accordance with the procedure described in the Instructions to Tenderers (*Section 6*) of this document.

2.10 Award to Runner Up

If for any reason, it is not possible to admit to the framework agreement one or more of the tenderers invited following the conclusion of this competitive process, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to invite the next highest scoring tenderer(s) to join the framework agreement as appropriate, at any time during the tender validity period.

If, following the award of any contract under this framework agreement, the Framework Member cannot, for whatever reason, deliver the required services to the satisfaction of the Contracting Authority; the Contracting Authority reserves the right to award the contract to the next highest-ranked tenderer emerging from the process at any time during the contract tender validity period.

3 Specification of Requirements

3.1 Scope of Requirements under the Framework Agreements

The framework agreements will be established on foot of this tender competition.

The Contracting Authority requires the supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, testing, and maintenance of modern, industry-standard specialist training equipment and associated teaching technologies.

The objective of this Framework Agreement is to support DDLETB's ongoing expansion and modernisation of Further Education Colleges and Centres.

Across the 8 designated Lots, successful Framework Members will be required to provide:

- **Hardware & Technology:** High-specification equipment, machinery, simulators, digital lab setups, and renewable energy training rigs etc as detailed in future call-off/mini-tender specifications.
- **Turnkey Delivery:** Safe delivery, full assembly, site positioning, electrical/mechanical commissioning, and compliance certification.
- **Training & Support:** Operational and safety training for the Contracting Authority's instructional and teaching staff, complete technical documentation, user manuals, and warranty support.

3.2 Details of Contracts arising over the life of the Framework Agreements

In addition to the initial contracts, the framework agreements will also be used for additional requirements within the scope of the framework lot(s).

3.3 Delivery Deadlines

Tenderers should note that the supply of equipment under the various lots is very time-sensitive particularly regarding the Contracting Authority's requirements for the remainder of 2026. Tenderers are required to address this matter in their response to **Award Criterion C**.

3.4 Understanding of Requirements:

3.4.1 Delivery:

This is delivery of the required equipment to the specified location as agreed with the Contracting Authority.

3.4.2 Positioning & Commissioning

Prior to hand over, the required equipment must be checked and cleared demonstrated as "fit for work". Evidence of this may be required.

3.4.3 Training (if required):

Tenderers are required to provide details of the proposed training that can be provided for all users, including operators, of the specific equipment to a level that all are competent regarding its functionality.

3.5 Contract Management

The Contracting Authority requires tenderers to nominate a dedicated contract manager who will act as the main point of contact for the duration of the framework. This person shall have the authority to deal with all matters in relation to contracts and be responsible for the satisfactory delivery of the services required. The duties of the contract manager will include the following:

- Overall responsibility for a good working relationship with the Contracting Authority
- Provide regular reports on performance as agreed with the Contracting Authority
- Meet as and when required to review and examine performance
- Deal with disputes, complaints or concerns that cannot be adequately resolved
- Proactively discuss with the Contracting Authority ways of improving efficiency regarding service delivery in general and providing suggestions for improvement and cost savings

See also **Award Criterion D** in section 5 of this RFT.

3.6 Support and Maintenance

3.6.1 Proactive Maintenance

Tenderers must provide details of any preventative/ proactive maintenance, to include equipment calibration (if required). The cost of any hardware “packs” and software updates, is understood to be included in the cost during the warranty period. To support this, a Maintenance Schedule should be provided, if appropriate.

Due to the nature of the locations, an agreed notice period for preventative maintenance will be put in place with each location prior to commencement of any contract awarded.

3.6.2 Reactive Maintenance

For reactive maintenance, that is requirement urgent/ immediate response, tenderers are required to details their customer support process, be it by phone, email/ web portal etc. and also to provide details of their proposed response times.

3.7 Warranty Period/ Extended Warranties

All requirements shall be supplied with the required minimum mandatory warranty of 12 months, parts and labour on all supplied equipment,

Tenderers must confirm an option to provide extended warranties over the lifetime of the framework and any contracts awarded which run beyond the term of the Framework.

3.8 Goods Recalls

In the event of a Goods recall, advice and/or alert to Contracting Authority, the Supplier must have formal procedures in place for identifying the Goods, advising and/or alerting the delivery locations, removing from the delivery locations all Goods that are subject to a Goods recall, and offer replacement/ alternative Goods). The implementation of these procedures shall result in minimum cost and disruption to the delivery location. The Supplier acknowledges and agrees that if the Goods recall and Contracting Authority advice and/or alert procedures proposed do not meet the Contracting Authority’s requirements, the Contracting Authority reserves the right

to prescribe Goods recall, advisory and/ or alert procedures to be adopted by the Supplier. All Goods recalls must be notified immediately to each delivery location affected.

A summary of all Goods recalls/alerts/advisories/complaints, their investigation, conclusion, resolution and subsequent corrective and or preventative actions must be provided during the Term of the Goods Contract, upon request, within 2 working days.

3.9 Sustainability/ Environmental Characteristics

Tenderers as part of their response should provide details on how the principle of sustainability, across the three pillars Environment, Social and Economic, might be applied in delivering the Contracting Authority's requirements.

4 Selection Criteria

The Contracting Authority is using the **Open** procedure for the award of this framework agreement, therefore, while all interested parties may submit a tender, only those demonstrating that they have the required level of financial and technical capacity will have their tender considered. In order to demonstrate a tenderer's qualifications, tenderers are required to provide the information set out below in the Tender Response Document (TRD) which is based on a self-declaration model. However, tenderers are required to provide the minimum information required.

4.1 Use of the European Single Procurement Document

In accordance with Directive 2014/24/EU, tenderers may have compiled accepted as evidence of compliance with *Section 4.3* on condition that all information a European Single Procurement Document (ESPD), either electronically via the eESPD on eTenders or as a separate uploaded attachment with the tender response, which will be self-declared will be provided promptly on request at any time prior to an award decision.

4.2 Relying on the standing of other Entities

SMEs are encouraged to explore the possibilities of forming relationships with other SMEs or with larger enterprises to meet the financial, economic or technical capacity requirements of the competition, if required.

Tenderers are reminded that they may rely on the resources of other entities to establish the requirements on condition that they can prove to the satisfaction of the Contracting Authority that they will have these resources at their disposal when necessary.

If the tender is from a consortium/joint venture, tenderers must ensure that all the relevant information is provided and where necessary, provide the information requested separately for each party. The consortium must appoint a single point of contact who will assume overall responsibility for delivery, and who is authorised to sign the framework agreement / contract on behalf of all consortia members. The Contracting Authority will not act as an arbitrator between members of consortia.

4.3 General Declarations and Financial Capacity Requirements

Tenderers are required to provide information on the following in the Tender Response Document. The criteria and rules outlined below are assessed on a pass/fail basis. Failure to comply with the requirements will result in the tender being considered inadmissible.

General Information

Provide contact and general information on the tendering organisation - company name, address and contact details for individual responsible for this tender and company overview as well as information on sub-contractors and consortium members if applicable.

Financial and Economic Standing

Tax Compliance

Confirmation that the tenderer / all parties associated with the tenderer are fully tax compliant. Please refer to the tax rules contained in the Tender Response Document.

Financial Capacity

(a) Confirmation that the tendering party turnover exceeded the following in respect of the indicated lots during one of the last three years or pro-rata if more recently established firms are tendering – however the firm must have been in existence for at least 6 months.

Lot Number	Lot Description	Turnover required per lot
#1	Advanced Manufacturing & Related Technologies	€450,000
#2	l Digital and Biotech Labs & Related Technologies	€120,000
#3	Modern Methods of Construction & Building Technologies	€750,000
#4	Renewable Energy and Micro Grid Management & Related Technologies	€600,000
#5	Digital College & Related Technologies	€750,000
#6	Healthcare Simulators & Related Technologies	€175,000
#7	Driving Simulators & Heavy Equipment Training	€150,000
#8	Dedicated Software, AI Avatars & Digital Twin Platforms	€450,000

(b) Confirmation of financial standing ensuring the tendering party has the financial capacity to pay its debts identified on the current statement of assets and liabilities as being the debts as they fall due.

Note: If tenderers are successful in more than three lots, then the maximum turnover which will be required and checked prior to final framework establishment will be €1m.

	Evidence of both statements will be required prior to the award of any contract.		
Insurance	Confirmation of the following insurances being in place:		
Insurance Type		Required Level	
Employer’s Liability		€13 million	
Public Liability		€6.5 million	
Product Liability		€6.5 million	
Professional Indemnity		Not deemed appropriate at this stage – but may arise for a specific lot. In the event that it is required, the required level will be €1 million.	
Declaration			
Complete the Declaration of Bona Fides as per Art. 57 of Directive 2014/24/EU as implemented by Regulation SI 284 of May 2016 and as contained in the Tender Response Document. Complete the Declaration regarding compliance with relevant statutory obligations as contained in the Tender Response Document. Where tenderers are established and operating outside of the jurisdiction of supply, compliance with equivalent legislation as applicable in the country of establishment / operation is required. Complete the Article 5K Declaration regarding the EU regulation 2022/576 on restrictive measures in the Context of Russian Actions in the Ukraine.			

Tenderers are required to provide information on the following in the Tender Response Document. The criteria and rules outlined below are assessed on a pass/fail basis. Failure to comply with the requirements will result in the tender being considered inadmissible.

4.4 Technical Capacity Requirements

Personnel and Skills	
Tenderers must provide information which demonstrates access to the minimum number of skilled personnel as indicated below and outlined in the TRD.	
Skillset Required	Minimum Number
Contract Manager	1
Installation and Service Technician	2
Admin Staff	1
Previous Experience	

Tenderers must provide information clearly demonstrating successful delivery of three (3) previous comparable experience/projects, involving the features as defined in the TRD.

Health & Safety Management System

Tenderers must provide information which demonstrates operation of Health & Safety systems and procedures in line with all relevant Safety, Health & Welfare at Work legislation. Please complete the TRD. Evidence of compliance will be required as condition of contract award.

Quality Assurance Management System

Tenderers must provide information which demonstrates a commitment to quality assurance and provide details of quality assurance policies and systems and whether externally certified. Please complete the TRD.

5 Award Criteria

Only tenders which meet the Selection Criteria and are confirmed as valid and responsive to the specifications set out in this document will be evaluated against the award criteria. Tenderers should ensure that they have submitted sufficient relevant information to allow their tenders to be assessed under each of the award criteria set out below.

The framework will be awarded on the basis of the most economically advantageous compliant tender taking into account the following award criteria and weightings. Please refer to the Framework Terms and Conditions for details of the award criteria which would apply in the case of mini-tenders under the framework agreement.

Criterion A	Weighting	Maximum Marks	Minimum Marks
	30%	3,000	n/a
Title	Ultimate Cost for the purposes of evaluation and initial contract		
Description	Total Ultimate Cost as per the Pricing Schedule and Form of Tender in TRD in respect of each lot for which a proposal is being submitted.		
Criterion B	Weighting	Maximum Marks	Minimum Marks 50%
	30%	3,000	1,500
Title	Suitability of Proposed Equipment and Supplies		
Description	This award criterion relates to the evaluation team's assessment of how well the proposed equipment meets the Contracting Authority's requirements in terms of the specifications as set out in the tender documents. Alignment with the Contracting Authority's business model in terms of functional and technical requirements is key in determining fitness for purpose. This will include factors such as (but not limited to): • Ease of operation and maintenance. • Compliance with appropriate international standards of the equipment being proposed. • Suitability of equipment in terms of operability in an educational / training environment This criterion will be evaluated based on the totality of the response. Tenderers must score a minimum of 50% marks under this criterion in order to remain eligible for consideration under this tender competition.		
	Weighting	Maximum Marks	Minimum Marks 50%

Criterion C	15%	1,500	750
Title	Delivery Proposals		
Description	This award criterion relates to the evaluation team’s assessment of how well the proposed equipment meets the Contracting Authority’s requirements in terms of proposed timelines for delivery of the equipment under the various lots. Due to the time sensitive nature of the requirements under each lot, tenderers must outline their methodology for ensuring that equipment will be delivered in a prompt manner, ideally within a period of 28 days . Matters such as stock availability, deployment logistics, supply chain processes and risk mitigation for non-delivery should also be addressed in detail. This criterion will be evaluated based on the totality of the response. Tenderers must score a minimum of 50% marks under this criterion in order to remain eligible for consideration under this tender competition.		
Criterion D	Weighting	Maximum Marks	Minimum Marks 50%
	15%	1,500	750
Title	End-to-end Contract Management		
Description	This award criterion relates to the Tenderer’s ability to provide: an end-to-end contract management service for the provision of the proposed equipment and supplies together with the delivery and maintenance of same This will include factors such as (but not limited to): • Details of role including CV in respect of the designated Contract Manager • Responsiveness and effectiveness of the support team • Details of call logging where applicable (including response times) • Commissioning and testing of proposed equipment • Proposed escalation processes • Staff training proposals		

	As part of their response to this criterion, tenderers are required to provide details of how the proactive/ reactive maintenance and support would be provided. Please refer to Section 3.6 of this RFT for Guidance, for the Contracting Authority's consideration and evaluation. This criterion will be evaluated based on the totality of the response. Tenderers must score a minimum of 50% marks under this criterion in order to remain eligible for consideration under this tender competition.		
Criterion E	Weighting	Maximum Marks	Minimum Marks 50%
	10%	1,000	500
Title	Sustainability / Environmental Characteristics		
Description	Tenderers are invited to present specific proposals for implementing best practice environmental management measures in the provision of the supplies and related services. This may include but is not limited to the use of environmentally friendly products, waste management, application of circular economy principles, energy management etc. Please refer to Section 3.9 of this RFT for guidance. This criterion will be evaluated based on the totality of the response. Tenderers must score a minimum of 50% marks under this criterion in order to remain eligible for consideration under this tender competition.		

Tenderers should ensure in their tenders that they provide detailed information in respect of all aspects of the framework award criteria as stated above. This will enable the awarding authority to assess fully the extent of their offers.

5.1 Methodology for calculating the Cost Score

The following formula will be applied to the cost score:

The lowest cost tender that also meets all the minimum requirements of the qualitative award criteria will receive the maximum score achievable under this criterion. The scores of the other valid tenders will be calculated using the following formula:

Lowest Cost from a Bona Fide tender	A
Cost for the tender being evaluated	B
Maximum Points available for Cost	C

Formula employed	$\frac{A \times C}{B}$
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5.2 Methodology for scoring Qualitative Criteria

Score	Category	Description
90 – 100%	Exceptional	An exceptional response demonstrating extensive understanding offering full assurance to client – fully supported with no reservations.
80 – 89%	Excellent	An excellent response demonstrating excellent understanding offering assurance to client – fully supported.
70 – 79%	Very good	A very good response demonstrating very good understanding offering assurance to client – strongly supported.
60 – 69%	Good	A good response demonstrating good understanding offering assurance to client – well supported.
50 – 59%	Acceptable	An acceptable response demonstrating a minimum understanding offering assurance to client - satisfactorily supported.
Less than 50% is unacceptable and considered ineligible for further consideration		

Marks in the score ranges outlined above can be awarded where responses so merit additional marks.

1.1 Post Tender Clarification

At the discretion of the Contracting Authority, tenderers may be invited, in writing, to clarify certain aspects of their tender, particularly where information or documentation to be submitted appears to be incomplete or erroneous. However, all such requests will be made in full compliance with the principles of equal treatment and transparency and avoid any distortion of competition.

1.2 Verification

Award of contract/membership of the framework may be subject to attendance at a verification meeting. It would be essential that the key personnel assigned to this contract should be available and present at this meeting. If required, tenderers will be notified of the date, time, agenda and format for such meetings as soon as possible.

A visit to the tenderer's premises may be required to clarify any questions or queries regarding the tender offer.

1.3 Clarification of Abnormally Low Tenders

If the Contracting Authority considers the tender submission to be commercially unsustainable or otherwise problematic considering the tendered price or any other financial matter (including proposed indicative hours), the tenderer shall be invited to provide clarification to the Contracting Authority in respect of all elements of the tender submission that the Contracting Authority deems relevant. Any failure to satisfactorily comply with such a request, or to satisfactorily address the Contracting Authority's concerns, may, at the discretion of the Contracting Authority, result in the elimination of the tender in question based on it being considered abnormally low.

1.4 Right to Confirm Suitability

Tenderers should note that the Contracting Authority reserves the right to confirm that the financial and technical capacity of the tenderer is valid and unchanged prior to the establishment of the framework and award of any contract.

6 Instructions for Tenderers

6.1 Closing Date for Tenders

The closing date for tender submission is specified on the title page.

It is the responsibility of the tenderer to ensure that their tender is complete and is uploaded / submitted by the designated deadline. Tenders that are received late or via other means will not be considered in this public procurement competition.

It is important to note that only persons who have downloaded and accepted a document can upload a submission.

6.2 Submission of Tenders

The Contracting Authority is using the postbox facility on eTenders, and tender responses must be submitted electronically via the eTenders postbox facility on www.etenders.gov.ie only. Only tenders submitted to the electronic postbox will be accepted. Tenders submitted by any other means (including but not limited to by email, post or hand delivery) will **not** be accepted.

Tenderers must ensure that they give themselves enough time to upload and submit all required documentation before the closing date/time noting the use of the new eTenders platform. Tenderers should consider the fact that upload speeds vary. In order to submit a response to the electronic postbox, please note that you must ensure you have submitted the response completely. It is advisable to familiarise yourself with the new platform prior to the closing date.

Below we provide an overview of the key steps. Please note that the Contracting Authority take no responsibility for these steps being the totality of the steps required as different processes may require different actions.

If in doubt, please ensure you contact the eTenders helpdesk as follows:

Email: irish-eproc-helpdesk@eurodyn.com

Phone: +353-818001459

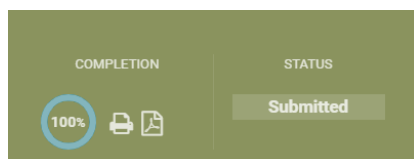
1.4.1 Accessing Documents

It is important to note that you must ensure you **ASSOCIATE** your company with this competition in the first instance. To do this you must do the following:

- (a) Log-in to the system
- (b) Locate the competition using the Advanced Search by Contracting Authority or Resource ID
- (c) Click on the hyperlink for the competition which will bring you to the CfT Workspace
- (d) In the Show CfT Menu for the competition click on the “Expression of Interest” in the drop-down menu
- (e) Complete the “Association with the CfT” tab.
- (f) This will then provide you with a link to “Tender” under the Show CfT Menu

1.4.2 Submitting your Response

In responding to a competition without an electronic ESPD, a number of steps are required. The final step involves clicking on a Submit button and receiving the following status:



If you do not receive a message similar to above, you have not submitted your response.

Please note that the screen may say **OFFLINE**, this is a technical feature of etenders and does not mean you cannot submit. Also please note you may see the percentage field also saying 100% before you submit, this still requires you to go through the submit button.

Please upload your response as a **ZIP FILE** to protect the integrity of the file names.

It is the responsibility of the Tenderer to ensure that their tender is complete and is uploaded in accordance with the instructions provided on eTenders prior to the deadline as per the front page.

6.3 Queries

The closing date for submitting queries is specified on the title page.

All queries regarding this tender should be through the messaging facility on www.etenders.gov.ie, including any omissions which would prevent tenderers from submitting a comprehensive tender. Please submit queries as soon as possible.

In circulating responses, queries will be edited to avoid disclosing the identity of the querist and will be circulated to all parties who have expressed an interest in the procurement on the eTenders website.

6.4 Extension of the Tender Deadline

The Contracting Authority reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to extend the closing date for receipt of tenders by giving notice in writing (by eTenders) to all parties who have expressed an interest in the notice via eTenders no later than six calendar days before the original closing date.

Tenderers will be responsible for any costs incurred by them in the event that they are required to attend clarification or other meetings or make a presentation of their proposals.

6.5 Tender Validity Period

To allow sufficient time for tender assessment a tender validity period of [12 months] is required, this period commencing on the closing date by which the tenders are to be returned.

6.6 Discrepancies between Documents

A pdf version of the Request for Tender has been made available on eTenders. This document will be considered as the primary source document in this procurement process, word versions of documents where they are provided are being made available to assist tenderers in responding to the tender competition. Where there is a discrepancy between a pdf version and a word version, the pdf version will take precedence. Tenderers are requested to notify the Contracting Authority immediately of any anomaly. Where applicable the Contracting Authority will issue amended versions.

6.7 Formatting of Tenders / Amending Tender Documents

Tenderers must ensure they use the Tender Response Document (TRD) when preparing their submission.

Tenderers are prohibited from amending any text or content of forms or declarations or templates provided as part of this tender competition in their tender responses. Where amendments have been identified, the Contracting Authority may at its discretion eliminate the tenderer from further consideration. Likewise, failure to use the template documentation provided particularly in relation to costing / pricing may result in tenders being eliminated.

6.8 Collusive Tendering

If any tendering party is found to have, at any time, offered to give or to have agreed to offer or give to any person, any bribe, gift, gratuity, commission or consideration of any kind as an inducement or reward for taking or forbearing to take any action in relation to the obtaining of its tenders, or for showing or forbearing to show any favour or disfavour to any person in relation to its tenders, the bid submitted by such tendering party shall be automatically disqualified and the circumstances surrounding such action shall be referred to the appropriate authority.

6.9 Confidentiality

After the official opening of tenders, information relating to the examination, clarification, evaluation and comparison of tenders and recommendations will not be disclosed to tenderers or other persons not officially concerned with such process until the award decision with the successful tenderer has been announced and in conformity with national laws.

Tenderers shall treat the details of all documents supplied to them in connection with this contract as private and confidential and shall not disclose the contents to a third party without the permission of the Contracting Authority.

Any effort by the tenderer to influence the Contracting Authority or their staff in the process of examination, clarification, evaluation and comparison of tenders and in decisions concerning the award of the contract may result in the rejection of that tender.

6.10 Clarification of Tenders

The Contracting Authority is entitled, but not obliged, to seek clarification of tenders, including pricing breakdowns in the course of the evaluation process. No change in the price or substance of the tender shall be sought, offered or permitted. To assist in finalising the tender evaluation, selected tenderers may be invited to attend clarification meetings with the Contracting Authority.

6.11 Correction of errors

Detailed pricing of all tenders will be examined for errors that might alter the tender pricing as determined from the figures on the Form of Tender or as between other pricing documents (if applicable). In general, the following approach will be applied to manifest errors - where there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the total amount derived from the multiplication of the unit price and the quantity, the unit price as quoted will normally govern.

The amount stated in the tender form will be adjusted by the Contracting Authority in accordance with the above procedure and, with the agreement of the tenderer, shall be considered as binding

upon the tenderer. Without prejudice to the above, a tenderer not accepting the correction of their tender as outlined may have their tender rejected.

6.12 Change in the composition of a Tender

Where a change in composition of a tender arises, this must be notified in writing to the Contracting Authority and formally approved by them.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right, but is not obliged, to disqualify any tenderer that makes any change to its composition after submission of a tender.

6.13 Interference and Inducement to Purchase

Any effort by the tenderer to unduly influence the Contracting Authority, relevant agency personnel or any other relevant persons or bodies in the process of examination, clarification, evaluation and comparison of tenders and in decisions concerning the Award of Contract shall have their tender rejected. The presumptions (including as to any gift, consideration or advantage) and other provisions under the Criminal Justice Act 2018, and all other measures for the time being governing the subject-matter in any applicable jurisdiction, shall be applicable.

6.14 Conflict of Interest

Any conflict of interest involving a tenderer (or tenderers in the event of a consortium bid) must be fully disclosed to the Contracting Authority. Any registrable interest involving the tenderer and the Contracting Authority or employees of the Contracting Authority, or their relatives must be fully disclosed in the tender submission or should be communicated to the Contracting Authority immediately upon such information becoming known to the tenderer, in the event of this information only coming to their notice after the submission of a bid and prior to the award of the contract. Failure to disclose a conflict of interest may disqualify a tenderer or invalidate an award of contract, depending on when the conflict of interest comes to light.

6.15 Publicity

Tenderers shall not undertake (or permit to be undertaken) at any time, whether at this stage or after the award of the contract, any publicity activity with any section of the media in relation to this tender/agreement other than with the prior written consent of the Contracting Authority. Such consent shall extend to the content of any publicity. For the purposes of this paragraph, the word “media” includes (but is not limited to) radio, television, newspapers, trade and specialist press, the Internet and email, accessible by the public at large and the representatives of such media.

The Contracting Authority will have the right to publicise or otherwise disclose to any third-party information regarding this process and the agreement.

6.16 Right Not to Award

The Contracting Authority does not bind itself to accept the most economically advantageous tender or any tender. It also reserves the right to accept or reject in whole or in part any or all tenders received, and, in particular, to source the requirement with more than one service provider.

The Request for Tender is issued in good faith; however, the Contracting Authority at its sole discretion shall not be obliged to award a contract or proceed to further stages in the procurement process and reserves the right to cancel the procurement process.

6.17 Notification of Tender Evaluations

All tenderers will be informed of the outcome of their tenders following tender evaluation and any necessary clarifications.

Potential outcomes can be:

- Establishment of Framework/Award of Contract
- Letter of Regret
- Decision not to proceed with the establishment of the Framework

The following information will be provided in the Letter of Regret – name of successful tenderer designate; the applicable standstill period (for EU tenders only); scores of tenderer being notified and that of the successful tenderer; the features and characteristics of the successful tenderer where they scored higher marks in specific criteria.

In the case of EU tenders only, the Contracting Authority will undertake not to award the contract for a period of at least 14 (or whatever period is stated in the notification letters) calendar days from the date of notification of unsuccessful tenderers ('standstill period').

6.18 Award Notices

Following the award of contract, an award notice will be dispatched to the Official Journal of the European Union announcing the results of the competition. It should be noted that it is standard practice for the Contracting Authority to include the price of the winning tender or the range of prices of tenders received in the publication of the award notice as required under European procurement rules.

6.19 Policy on Personal Debriefings

Based on the provision of the information to unsuccessful tenderers as outlined above and due to resourcing constraints, the Contracting Authority will not be offering individual debriefing meetings to unsuccessful bidders.

6.20 Copyright

The Contracting Authority will have copyright ownership of any material developed for use by the Contracting Authority under the terms of this tender. The service provider may have a non-exclusive license to use such material but only for its own purposes (to be agreed with the successful tenderer).

6.21 Brand Names, etc.

Please note in relation to this tender document; where reference is made to a particular make, source, process, trademark, type or patent, that this is not to be regarded as a de facto requirement. In all such cases it should be understood that the reference in question is accompanied by the words "or equivalent".

6.22 Environmental Aspects

The Contracting Authority is committed to the principles of environmental management in its activities, and it encourages the implementation of sustainability principles in its procurement practices and throughout the delivery of all contracts.

6.23 Knowledge and Skills Transfer

It will be a condition of the contract that opportunities for the transfer of skills and/or knowledge from the successful tenderer's staff to the Contracting Authority staff will be availed of during the course of the contract or prior to the handing over of the finished work/product.

6.24 Currency and Payments

The currency and invoices in which all prices and rates shall be tendered, and which payments under the contract will be paid, shall be euro (€).

All prices and rates quoted should be on the basis of both VAT exclusive and VAT inclusive costs, clearly identifying the applicable rate of VAT.

A schedule of payments will be agreed with the successful tenderer and invoices shall be submitted in accordance with the terms agreed with the Contracting Authority.

6.25 Irish Legislation and Law

Tenderers should be aware that national legislation applies in other matters such as Employment, Working Hours, Official Secrets, Data Protection and Health and Safety. Tenderers must have regard to statutory terms relating to minimum pay and to legally binding industrial or sectoral agreements in the Contracting Authority tenders and in delivering contracts awarded to them. The contract(s) awarded on foot of this tender process will be governed by Irish law.

6.26 Anti-Competitive Conduct

Tenderers should take notice of the Competition Act 2002 (as amended, the "2002 Act"), which makes it a criminal offence for tenderers to collude on prices or any other aspects relating to this procurement competition.

6.27 Accessibility / Dignity at Work

The successful tenderer(s) shall comply with all relevant legislation relating to dignity at work. As a public body and employer, the Contracting Authority is committed to a policy of equality of opportunity for all personnel.

In line with the Disability Act 2005, accessibility requirements should be clearly stated in request for tenders / quotations where applicable. Under Section 27 of the Act the Contracting Authority is required to ensure that both the goods supplied, and services provided to it are accessible to persons with disabilities.

6.28 Withholding Tax

Where applicable, payments shall be subject to Irish 'Professional Services Withholding Tax' at the prevailing rate (currently at 20%) as laid down by the Revenue Commissioners in Ireland. Non-residents may be able to reclaim such deducted Tax from the Office of the Revenue Commissioners in Ireland, International Claims Section located currently at Government Buildings, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, Ireland (Tel: +353 (0) 67 63400).

6.29 Freedom of Information

All responses to this Request for Tender will be treated in confidence and no information contained therein will be communicated to any third party without the written permission of the tenderer except insofar as is specifically required for the consideration and evaluation of the response or as may be

required under law, including the Freedom of Information Act 2014, EU and Irish Government Procurement Procedures, or in response to questions, debates or other parliamentary procedures in or of the Oireachtas (the Irish Parliament).

Tenderers are asked to consider if any of the information supplied by them in response to this request for tenders should not be disclosed because of its sensitivity. However, any blanket or all-encompassing request for exemption from disclosure is not acceptable; tenderers must identify explicitly any such information and give relevant reasons for considering it to be economically sensitive or confidential in nature. If this is the case, tenderers should specify the information that is sensitive and the reasons for its sensitivity. The Contracting Authority cannot guarantee that any information provided by tenderers, either in response to this tender or in the course of any contract awarded as a result thereof, will not be released pursuant to the Contracting Authority's obligations under law, including the Freedom of Information Act 2014, or to those under EU and Irish Government Procurement rules. The Contracting Authority accepts no liability whatsoever in respect of any information provided which is subsequently released, or in respect of any consequential damage suffered as a result of such disclosure.

6.30 Late Payment

The Contracting Authority operates in accordance with Directive 2011/7/EU on combating Late Payment in commercial Transactions transposed into national legislation as S.I. 580 of 2012 and amended by S.I. No. 281 of 2016.

6.31 Data Protection

"Data Protection Laws" means all applicable national and EU data protection laws, regulations and guidelines including but not limited to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 ("General Data Protection Regulation" (GDPR)) on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and any guidelines and codes of practice issued by the Data Protection Commission or other supervisory authority for data protection in Ireland from time to time.

The Contracting Authority will be a Controller (where Controller has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws) in respect of any Personal Data (where Personal Data has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws) required to be provided by the tenderer in response to this Request for Tender.

The tenderer, as Controller in respect of any Personal Data provided by it in its tender, is required to confirm by way of statement in the "Declarations" section of the accompanying Tender Response Document that all Data Subjects (where Data Subject has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws) whose Personal Data is provided by the tenderer have consented to the processing of such Personal Data by the tenderer, the Contracting Authority, the Evaluation Team and the supplier of the eTenders website, for the purposes of the participation of the tenderer in this Competition or that the tenderer otherwise has a legal basis for providing such Personal Data to the Contracting Authority for the purposes of its participation in this Competition.

6.32 Responsibility of Successful Party

As a condition of award, it shall be the successful tenderer's sole responsibility to ensure they have taken account of all obligations under the Contract including factors which might arise based on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from membership of the EU.