



NEBRASKA STATE FAIR
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

FOR

PRODUCTION for
FAIRGROUNDS WIDE (Excluding Mainstage) & AKSARBEN STOCK SHOW
2026 – 2028

Issued by:
Nebraska State Fair
PO Box 1387
Grand Island, NE 68802

January 10, 2025

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Section 1. RFP Timeline

The Request for Proposal timeline is as follows:

	Date
Request for Proposal Issuance:	January 13, 2025
Q&A Session for Potential Talent Buyers:	January 21, 2025, at 1:30 PM Central Time
Request for Proposal Due Date:	February 14, 2025
Meetings with Potential Candidates as Needed:	February 24-28, 2025
Award:	March 14, 2025

Zoom Link for Q&A Session:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3083853928?pwd=XrQGJ40MDhpiOia8OP3fqBX7Lrm44V.1&omn=88246617729>

Meeting ID: 308 385 3928

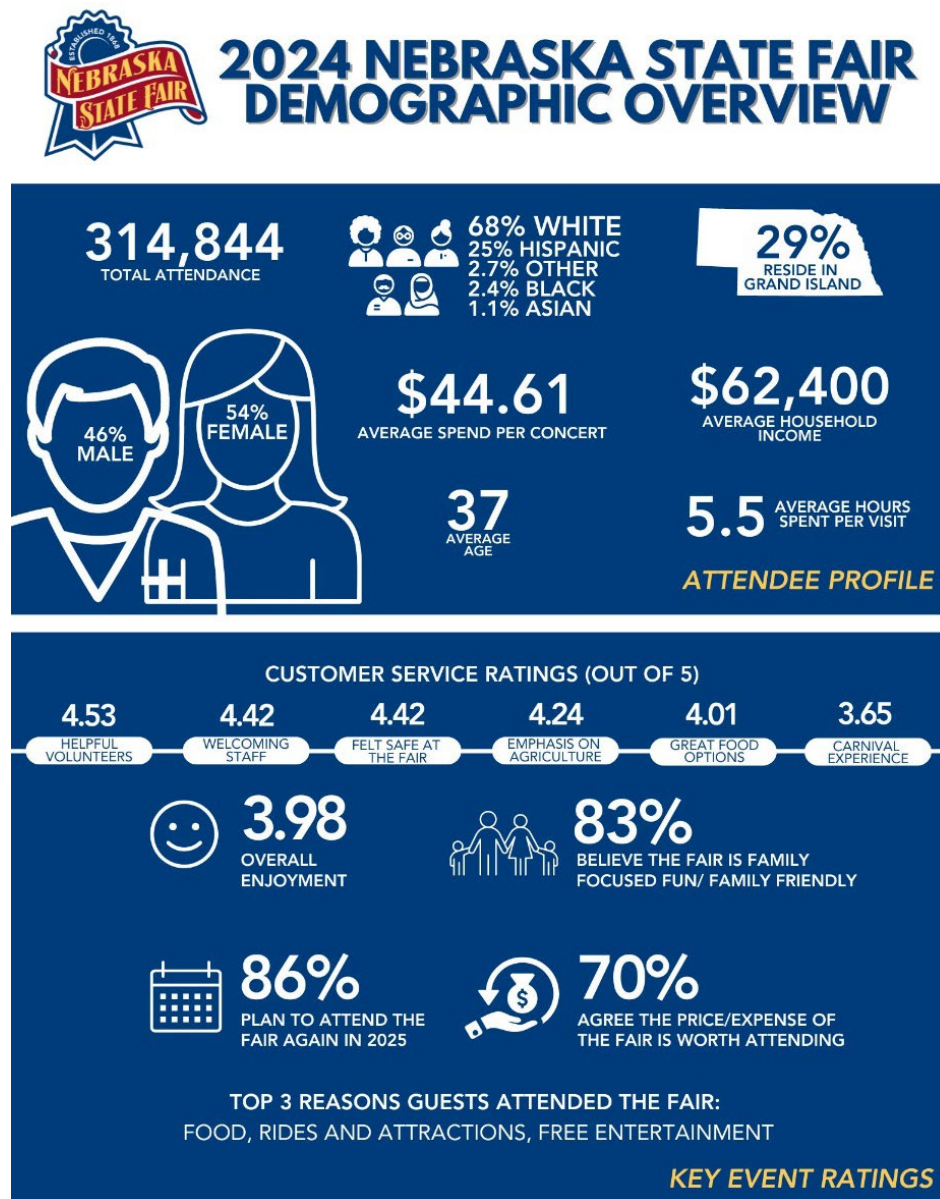
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Section 2. Introduction and Background

Nebraska State Fair (NSF) is seeking a qualified full-service production agency to provide labor, staging, audio, and lighting fairgrounds wide for the Nebraska State Fair and Aksarben Stock Show with the exclusion of the National Acts which is outlined in a separate RFP.

About Nebraska State Fair: Nebraska State Fair, entering its 156th year in 2025, is an event held at Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska. The regional event is the largest in Nebraska, drawing an average of 300,000 patrons each year since moving to Grand Island in 2010. Concerts, livestock shows, Wade Shows Carnival, dozens of free grounds acts and 4-H and FFA shows are all a part of this 11-day-long event ending on Labor Day.

Demographics:



Section 3. Instructions

- I. Review the RFP carefully.
- II. RFP questions should be directed by e-mail to Karli Schulz at kschulz@statefair.org
- III. Interpretations, corrections, revisions, and amendments to this request for proposal shall be issued to all RFP recipients in the form of written addenda.
- IV. Proposals are due by hand delivery, mail or e-mail February 14, 2025, at 5:00 PM to:

Physical Address:	Mailing Address:
501 E Fonner Park Road, Suite #200	PO Box 1387
Grand Island, NE 68801	Grand Island, NE 68802
E-Mail: kschulz@statefair.org	

Section 4. Overall Scope

- I. **Terms:** The contract will become effective September 2, 2025, through September 30, 2028, with the option for an additional two (2) year term.
- II. **Other Promoters:** Any other promoters facilitating business with NSF and AKSS, including Fonner Park and its partners, or the Grand Island Livestock Complex Authority and its partners, shall not be bound by any agreement made as the result of this request for proposal.
- III. **Agreements Made:** NSF may accept a proposal as written by issuing a written agreement with the selected buyer. This agreement will be signed by both parties.
- IV. **Exceptions:** Any exceptions to any piece of this RFP shall be noted on the Proposal Addendum, Attachment A, and submitted.
- V. **Contracts:** To be executed between NSF and contracted vendor. All contracts shall be executed by the NSF Entertainment and Events Director or Executive Director.
- VI. **Responsible Parties:** Final decisions regarding production needs will remain with the Nebraska State Fair director team, in cooperation with Executive Director.
- VII. **Onsite:** This contract will require contracted vendor to have onsite support for all show days.

Section 5. Conditions

- I. **Laws:** Terms and provisions of this solicitation and any agreement resulting from this shall follow any governing law applicable to this process. Any litigation or actions in connection with this proposal and subsequent award shall be instituted in the appropriate Nebraska courts.
- II. **Assignment:** Any contract resulting from this solicitation may not be assigned, transferred, or delegated in whole or in part by the production agency, without the prior written consent of NSF.
- III. **Termination:** NSF may terminate any agreement made as a result of this process at any time that the agency fails to carry out the provisions under the agreed-upon terms.
 - a. Upon termination, NSF shall provide written notice within 10 days of termination. Any monies owed to NSF shall be due within 30 days of written notice, and vice versa.
- IV. **Indemnification:** NSF hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless *Awardee*, as well as their agents, representatives and directors from and against any loss, damage or expense associated with a claim arising out of the negligence of NSF. *Awardee* hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless *NSF* for any loss, damage or expense associated with a claim arising out of the negligence of the *Awardee*.
- V. **Insurance:** NSF shall maintain, comprehensive general liability insurance in the amount of no less than One Million Dollars per occurrence from an A- or better rated carrier. This policy shall name the Awardee and their agents, representatives and directors as additional insured as it pertains to the negligence of the NSF. Awardee shall maintain, comprehensive general liability insurance in the amount

of no less than One Million Dollars per occurrence from an A- or better rated carrier. This policy shall name the NSF, and their agents, representatives and directors as stated in Addendum C as additional insured as it pertains to the negligence of the Awardee.

- VI. **Retention of Rights:** The Awardee shall not have any rights to use the name, logos, trademarks or copyrights of NSF outside of the purposes of promotion related to NSF, without written permission.
- a. NSF reserves the right to not award this offer to any vendor based on any reason.

Section 6. Proposal

I. General Information

- a. List the following:
 - i. Company Name
 - ii. Company Info:
 - Physical Address
 - City, State, Zip
 - Phone
 - Email
 - Contact Name of Person Responsible for this RFP
 - Title
 - Phone
 - Email
- b. Provide a Letter of interest
- c. Provide a list of similar clients.
- d. Provide three (3) references of clients from your CURRENT roster. Listed references may be called upon as reference/verification of services.

II. Scope

- a. Agency will provide NSF with equipment and services for grounds wide production. The final schedule of equipment and services will be determined by the final dates and times of each event/performance.
- b. Equipment must be of the finest quality and shall consist of state-of-the-art technology in good working order.
- c. Any additional sound, lighting, or backline required by an artist will be negotiated at the time the additional equipment is required.
- d. Agency will be responsible for travel and overnight accommodations for their staff. NSF will cooperate with making lodging arrangements.
- e. Required Gear, Equipment and Labor: See Attachment 1
- f. Example Sound Needs by location: See Attachment 2
- g. Labor Work Periods: Production Agency will provide all equipment and labor for unloading, set-up and teardown, as well as on-site assistance throughout the entirety of the Fair.

III. Bid

- a. Bid should include pricing for all stages and sound locations listed in Attachment 2.
- b. Must include a list of sound, stage, and lighting equipment to be included.
- c. Must include cost of labor for all necessary areas.
- d. Machinery Needs: NSF will provide machinery such as a Forklift, Boom Lift, Telehandler as able. Please include the machinery you may need.
- e. Will vendor guarantee in (a) above that pricing shall 1.) not increase over the life of the agreement, or 2.) guarantee price increases will not exceed a set percentage per year or a set percentage over the life of the agreement?
- f. List any other fees or changes in Addendum B.

Section 7. Evaluation of Proposal

- I. Evaluation of all proposals shall be performed by NSF officials. Evaluation shall be based on, but not limited to, the following criteria in no particular order or weight. Firms with previous Fair experience will be scored accordingly.
 - Complete bid
 - Proven ability and experience
 - Total package price
- II. Evaluation committee shall consist of:
 - Jaime Parr, Executive Director
 - Karli Schulz, Entertainment and Events Director
 - Vaughn Sievers, Agriculture Director
 - Nebraska State Fair Board Events Committee

Section 8. Certification

Include this form with your proposal

Name of Company _____

Physical Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Contact Name of Person Responsible for RFP _____

Title _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Manager Name (If different from above) _____

The vendor representative hereby certifies by signing below that this proposal is genuine and is made under no false pretenses.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Proposal Addendum – Attachment A

Equipment must be of the finest quality and shall consist of state-of-the-art technology in good working order.

Production Manager: Grounds wide contact on-site/on-call 24 hours a day during the duration of the Nebraska State Fair. This person will serve as the main contact for all departments and will oversee determining labor needs for load in, set-up, show times, strike, and who to dispatch when needs arise.

Party Pit Stage

- Stage
 - Stage Line SL250 Mobile Stage – 32' x 24' or similar
 - 12' x 8' wings
 - 2 sets of stairs
- Audio
 - Twelve (12) Speakers (EV XLC or similar)
 - Eight (8) Subwoofers (EV X-Sub or similar)
 - Six (6) Monitors (Turbosound TFM 152-an Wedges or similar)
 - Variety of mics (Shure, AKG, Beyer or similar) with stands
 - All necessary cables and snakes
 - (2) Audio Technicians
 -
- Lighting
 - DS Basic Par Wash 2 Color or similar
 - US 4 Elation 5r Extreme or similar
 - Eight (8) Moving Profile Fixtures
 - Console (Hog 4 or similar)
 - Necessary trussing and lifts
 - Lighting Technician
 - All necessary feeders, sandbags, cables, tarps, ropes, etc

Family Fun Zone Stage

- Stage
 - 36' x 32' x 3' stage
 - 32' x 32' roof
 - 2 sets of stairs
- Audio
 - Twenty (12) Small Formate Line Array Speakers (NEXO 805 or similar)
 - Eight (8) Subs (NEXO 212 or similar)
 - Six (6) Monitors (Mackie 450 or similar)
 - Console (Yamaha TF-5 or similar)
 - Variety of mics (Shure, AKG, Beyer or similar) with stands
 - One (1) Computer ¼ Hookup
 - All necessary cables and snakes
 - Audio Technician
- Lighting
 - Sixteen (16) LED Pars
 - Basic Lighting Console

Sustainability Pavilion

- Audio
 - 4-QSC K12
 - 1-Yamaha TF-Rack
 - Computer Hookup
 - 2 Wireless Microphones-Handheld and Lav
- Lighting:
 - 8 LED Pars
 - Basic Lighting Console
- Technician

Earl May Stage

- Audio
 - Two (2) Speakers (QSC KW153 or similar)
 - Two (2) Subwoofers (QSC KW118 or similar)
 - Two (2) Monitors (QSC K10 or similar)
 - Console (Yamaha TF-Rack or similar)
 - Variety of Microphones, 1 Computer ¼ Hookup
- Lighting
 - 8 LED Pars
 - Basic Lighting Console
- Technician

Fairgrounds General

- Variety of Speakers and microphones for one-off-ground events.
- Truss Arch for Ag Photo Backdrops
 - Six (6) 12 x 12 Corner – 6-Way
 - Nine (9) 12 x 12 Truss – 10'
 - Six (6) Tower Base Plates – 3'
- Main Entrance Truss System
 - Sixteen (16) Video Panels (Blizzard GT3 XL 3 Mil or similar)
 - Video Processor and Ability to schedule and play content



- Grand District Archway
 - Eighteen (18) Video Panels (Blizzard GT3 XL 3 Mil or similar)
 - Video Processor and Ability to schedule and play content
 - Six (6) 20 x 20 HD Spigot Box Truss – 10'
 - Two (2) Tower Sleeve Block 20 x 20 – 12" Tower
 - Two (2) 12 x 12 Tower – Leveling Base
 - Eight (8) 12 x 12 Tower – Base Stabilizer
 - Four (4) 12 x 12 Truss – 10'

Labor

- Please indicate hourly rates for the following:
 - Stagehand
 - Steward
 - Audio Technician
 - Lighting Technician
 - Production Manager
- Festoon Lighting (owned by Fair)
 - Labor to hang approximately 4,000 feet of festoon lighting
 - Approximately 25 hours of labor
- Main Entrance Truss System
 - Please include the rate for building main entrance truss system. All materials are stored on the Fairgrounds.

Staffing For the Following

Operating and maintaining all NSF owned equipment including:

- Five (5) large permanently installed Video Walls
- 20 TVs (deploy and maintain throughout Fair)
- Maintain 28 channels of internal wireless microphone
- Maintain eight (8) buildings of installed audio
- Maintain and operate all grounds-wide PA

Livestock Buildings

- One (1) full-time staff member to handle video and audio needs
 - Will facilitate live events in show rings and help connect streaming vendor to house network.
- Responsible for video system in Birthing Pavilion, Video Cameras, Livestreaming, and audio systems integrated into the buildings

Live TV Support

- Provide Live TV support to three (3) bars to include 28 TV's and sound systems in each for background music and game broadcasts
- Vendor will be required to make sure all Husker Games are on and viewable on all screen's campus wide

Aksarben Stock Show

- Provide one (2) full-time staff member(s) to facilitate live events in show rings and help connect streaming vendor to house network.
- Operate and maintain Five (5) large permanently installed Video Walls
- Provide Live TV support to One (1) bar, ensuring all Husker Games are on and viewable.
- Provide Purple Banner Night Production
 - Four (4) Fog Jets
 - Rigged lighting package
 - Previous Package has included:
 - Ten (10) SixPar 200
 - Twelve (12) Elation Proteus Rayzor 760
 - Four (4) Elation Proteus Lucius
 - Three (3) Elation Proteus Rayzor 760 Quad Case
 - One (1) LED Package
 - Two (2) Lycian 1.2K Follow Spots
 - Eight (8) Elation Protron Eclipse
 - One (1) Rigging Package
 - Eight (8) Chain Hoist (CM) – ½ Ton – 60 ft.
 - Truss “A” for exhibitors to walk through



- System Technician
- Lighting Programmer
- Truss Arch for Backdrop (can be left up from Fair)

Proposal Addendum – Attachment B

EXCEPTIONS TO PROPOSAL AS NOTED.

The following exceptions to this request for proposal are listed as such:

RFP ITEM NUMBER	COMMENTS
_____	_____
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Print Name

Signature

Date

Proposal Addendum - Attachment C

INSURANCE

Talent Buyers submitting a proposal are required to make evident certificates of the following minimum coverage. Such certificates shall be included with the proposal:

- Workers Compensation Insurance meeting the statutory requirements of the State of Nebraska.
- Employers' Liability Insurance providing limits of liability in the following amounts:
 - a. Bodily injury by accident: \$100,000 each accident
 - b. Bodily injury by disease: \$500,000 policy limit
 - c. Bodily injury by disease: \$100,000 each employee
- Commercial General Liability insurance providing limits of liability in the following amounts, with aggregates applying separately on a "per project" basis:
 - a. General aggregate: \$2,000,000
 - b. Product/completed operations aggregate \$2,000,000
 - c. Personal and advertising injury liability \$1,000,000
 - d. Per occurrence \$1,000,000
 - e. Fire legal liability \$50,000
 - f. Automobile \$1,000,000

If the Awardee does not carry its own required insurance coverage or fails to return proof of such ay the due date, Nebraska State Fair may at its option obtain through an insurance carrier the necessary coverages noted by this agreement. The expense of this coverage will be billed to the Awardee.

Nebraska State Fair Board, Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, The Hall County Livestock Improvement Association, and the City of Grand Island shall be listed as additional insured at no cost to the Nebraska State Fair.

LIABILITY

The Awardee agrees to hold Nebraska State Fair Board (legal entities, employees, board members and thereof) harmless from any liability, cost or expense in connection with or growing out of any claim whatsoever for injury, loss or damage to person and/or property at activities involved with this agreement in or upon the Fonner Park/Nebraska State Fair premises, its facilities and appurtenances OR upon the hotel premises, facilities and appurtenances including any transportation of persons, property or items in any way related to Nebraska State Fair.

I acknowledge that I have read the above insurance and liability requirements and acknowledge my organization's responsibility as such.

Print Name

Signature

Date