

## **CERTIFICATION OF INTERESTED PARTIES – FORM 1295**

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### **Definitions and Instructions for Completing Form 1295**

Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District is required to comply with House Bill 1295, which amended the Texas Government Code by adding Section 2252.908, Disclosure of Interested Parties. Section 2252.908 prohibits Edinburg CISD from entering into a contract resulting from a Bid, CSP, RFP, RFQ, Inter-local Cooperative Quote with a business entity unless the business entity submits a Disclosure of Interested Parties – Form 1295 to Edinburg CISD at the time the business entity submits the signed contract. The Texas Ethics Commission has adopted rules requiring the business entity to file Form 1295 electronically with the Texas Ethics Commission.

**As a “business entity,” vendors must electronically complete, print, manually fill out Unsworn Declaration portion and sign. Once form is completed, submit with your proposals or contracts even if no interested parties exist.**

Proposers must file Certificate of Interested Parties – Form 1295 with the Texas Ethics Commission using the following online application:

[https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf\\_info\\_form1295.htm](https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf_info_form1295.htm)

- Proposers must use the filing application on the Texas Ethics Commission’s website (see link above) to enter the required information on Form 1295.
- Proposers must print a copy of the completed form, which will include a certification of filing containing a unique certification number.
- The Form 1295 must be printed and then signed by an authorized agent of the business entity.
- The completed Form 1295 with the certification of filing must be filed with Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District by including a copy of the completed form with the proposal response.
- Edinburg CISD must acknowledge the receipt of the filed Form 1295 by notifying the Texas Ethics Commission of the receipt of the filed Form 1295 no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the date the contract binds all parties to the contract.
- After Edinburg CISD acknowledges the Form 1295, the Texas Ethics Commission will post the completed Form 1295 to its website within seven (7) business days after receiving notice from Edinburg CISD.

### **Instructions to Vendors:**

1. **Read these instructions,**
2. **Go to the Ethics Commission Website** [https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf\\_info\\_form1295.htm](https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf_info_form1295.htm),
3. **Register and complete Form 1295 online - include the bid/proposal # and the contract Bid,CSP,RFQ,RFP name,**
4. **Print a copy of the submitted Form 1295 - it will have a certification # in the top right corner,**
5. **Include a copy of the completed, signed Form 1295 with the proposal response.**

### **Definitions:**

- **Interested Party:** a person who:
  - 1) has controlling interest in a business entity with whom Edinburg CISD contracts; or
  - 2) actively participates in facilitating a contract or negotiating the terms of a contract, including a broker, intermediary, adviser, or attorney for the business entity.
- **Controlling Interest** means:
  - 1) an ownership interest or participating interest in a business entity by virtue of units, percentage, shares, stock, or otherwise that exceeds 10 percent;
  - 2) membership on the board of directors or other governing body of a business entity of which the board or other governing body is composed of not more than 10 members; or
  - 3) service as an officer of a business entity that has four or fewer officers, or service as one of the four officers most highly compensated by a business entity that has more than four officers.
- **Intermediary:** a person who actively participates in the facilitation of the contract or negotiating the contract, including a broker, advisor, attorney, or representative of or agent for the business entity who:
  - 1) receives compensation from the business entity for the person’s participation;
  - 2) communicates directly with the governmental entity or state agency on behalf of the business entity regarding the contract; and
  - 3) is not an employee of the business entity.
- **Business Entity:** includes an entity through which business is conducted with a governmental entity or state agency, regardless of whether the entity is a for-profit or nonprofit entity.

### **Resources:**

#### **Form 1295 Frequently Asked Questions:**

- [https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/FAQ\\_Form1295.html](https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/FAQ_Form1295.html)

#### **Instructional Video – First Time Business User:**

- <https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/videos/Form1295/FirstLogin-Business/Form1295Login-Business.html>

#### **Instructional Video – How to Create a Certificate:**

- <https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/videos/Form1295/CreateCertificate/CreateCertificate.html>