**Request for Proposal**

**For School Transportation**

**May 2025**

**No 044**

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# Disclaimer

**Confidentiality and Ownership**

This RFP, with its appendices, is both confidential and proprietary to Amel Association International, and AMEL reserves the right to recall the RFP in its entirety or in part. Suppliers cannot, and agree that they will not duplicate, distribute or otherwise disseminate or make available this document or the information contained in it without the express written consent of AMEL.

Suppliers may make this document available to those employees who have a need to know its contents in order to participate in the preparation of the response. However, Suppliers must first communicate the terms and conditions of this section to such employees.

Suppliers shall not include or reference this RFP in any publicity without prior written approval from AMEL. All responses to the Request for Proposal will become the property of AMEL and will not be returned.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing by AMEL, AMEL shall be entitled to retain and use information submitted by each supplier with regard to this RFP, including Proposal, regardless of whether such supplier is awarded the Project.

**Liabilities of AMEL**

This RFP does not constitute an offer by AMEL, but an invitation for Supplier response. No contractual obligation whatsoever shall arise from the RFP process.

**Modification/Termination of the RFP**

AMEL reserves the right, at its sole discretion, at any time to: (i) accept or decline any and all proposals from Suppliers without any explanation and whether or not such proposal(s) contains the most favorable fee or fully satisfies the express requirements; and (ii) terminate the proposed project or the supplier selection process without notice and/or explanation, without in either case incurring any liability to the suppliers and/or any other third parties.

**Proposal Expenses**

All expenses for development of Proposal and participation in the RFP, including site visits, document preparation, communications, and demonstrations, are entirely the responsibility of the supplier and will not be chargeable to AMEL. The rejection of any or all Proposals, or the termination of the RFP at any time, shall not render AMEL liable for any reason.

*Reading of this document further consents acceptance of the terms and conditions presented in this document.*

# Introduction

Amel Association International (Amel) is a Lebanese and non-sectarian NGO created in 1979. Amel works through 30 centers, 6 mobile medical units, 2 mobile education units and 1 protection unit, and for more than 40 years has supported the poorest regions of Lebanon, from Beirut and its South Suburbs to Mount Lebanon, Bekaa and South Lebanon. Amel offers accessible services for all in the following fields: food security, health, education, protection, child protection, gender-based violence, livelihood, promotion and protection of human rights, rural development

# Scope of Work

The purpose of this assignment is to seek a Transportation Supplier; this includes the provision of a list of required Services as listed in “**Appendix J**” for Supplying **School Transportation Services.**

**Locations and estimated area coverage**: From/to Saida, Old Saida, Sharhabeel, Hilaleyieh, Abra,Ain Al Helwe, Meih w meih, Salheyieh, Haret Saida, Seiroub, Saida: AL Wastani, Saida: Al Boustan, Saida: Hay Al Barrad, Ein El Deleb,Saida suburbs.**From/To**: Amel Education Center in Saida

**Estimated number of children per Cycle**: 400 Children

**Time**: 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM

**Schedule**:

Shift 1 – 200 Students: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 8 Buses (25 students per bus)

Shift 2 – 200 Students: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday – 8 Buses (25 students per bus)

The resulting contract will be valid for **5 Months**; this is known as a long-term agreement (LTA). The quantities are variable and subject to change.

# Instructions for Responding

## 3.1 Timelines

Following timelines are to be followed strictly, unless expressly revised in writing by Amel:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sr. | Step | Deadline Date |
|  | RFP Release to Suppliers | 19/05/2025 |
|  | Last date for supplier to submit his intention to bid | N/A |
|  | Submission of all queries on RFP | 23/05/2025 |
|  | Amel response to Supplier queries | 26/05/2025 |
|  | RFP closing date and time | 30/05/2025 |
|  | Supplier presentation | N/A |

## 3.2 Proposal Submission

All physical tenders shall be received in closed envelope by the “RFP Tender Name, closing date and time” and delivered / Inserted in Amel HQ tender box.

All response materials must be accurately labelled, answered in the order presented, and should include the section it addresses.

Supplier response to this RFP should cover the documents applicable for this requirement as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sr. | Document Name | Related File | Applicable for this requirement |
|  | Appendix A - Authorization Letter |  |  |
|  | Appendix B - Supplier Contact Information |  |  |
|  | Appendix C - Supplier Company Profile |  |  |
|  | Appendix D - Supplier Capabilities, Experience, References |  |  |
|  | Appendix E - Conflict of Interest |  |  |
|  | Appendix F - Technical Requirements |  |  |
|  | Appendix G - Contract Requirements |  |  |
|  | Appendix H – General Conditions |  |  |
|  | Appendix I – Special Conditions |  |  |
|  | Appendix J - Commercial Requirements |  |  |

## 

## 3.3 Technical Document

The technical document should include details of overall approach to the areas listed in the “Project Details” and “Scope of Work” along with specific solution on each of these areas, covering the conceptualization design and implementation stages. The technical document should clearly articulate the deliverables.

## 3.4 Commercial Document

The commercial document should contain the financial quote covering total price / fees / cost of undertaking the assignment inclusive of all expenses. The commercial document should indicate a price breakdown for each activity and a total Proposal for the overall project. The Commercial document shall be on a fixed price basis. No upward revision in the price would be considered.

In case of discrepancy in words and figures, the price quoted in figures will be taken as final.

# Queries on the RFP

Suppliers are encouraged to submit queries during the period reserved in the RFP timelines. All questions should be submitted through Procurement Department via email: [procurementdpt@amel.org](mailto:procurementdpt@amel.org).

The questions from all the suppliers would be consolidated by Amel Medical Department and answered collectively. To ensure that the same level of information is conveyed equally to all participating suppliers, response to a question raised by one supplier can be shared with all the other suppliers.

All communications within the context of this RFP should be strictly routed through Procurement Department via email: [procurementdpt@amel.org](mailto:procurementdpt@amel.org)

**Any communication(s) with other departments or individuals within the context of this RFP outside the above process will result in immediate disqualification of the supplier.**

# Period of Validity; Contingencies; Changes

The prices quoted as well as all other material terms in received Proposal shall be valid and binding for a minimum of 45 days after proposal submission. Proposal shall not be made contingent upon uncertain events or activity that is not within the scope of the project. Any change made to the proposal by mutual agreement of the parties shall be documented in writing and signed or initialed by representatives of both parties.

# Contract Documentation

Information contained in this RFP and the basic terms of the proposal accepted by AMEL will be incorporated in definitive contract following final selection of a supplier. AMEL will only accept changes to its standard contract in exceptional circumstances. AMEL reserves the right in its sole discretion to accept or decline any requests for amendments to its contract. AMEL also reserves the right to withdraw the RFP or condition the award on additional or different terms proposed to be included in such contract and AMEL shall not incur any obligation to supplier except as provided in the contract. Notification of award of project or acceptance of proposal, in whole or in part, shall not restrict AMEL’s discretion with regard to any terms of the definitive contract, shall not preclude AMEL from terminating the RFP or withdrawing project prior to execution of such contract, and shall not limit AMEL’s right to consider and act upon additional information that may come to its attention from any source.

# Subcontracting

Any respondent using a subcontractor should clearly mention it within his proposal, and should specify the scope of the subcontractor.

# Bank Guarantee / Performance Bond

AMEL may request the awarded supplier to provide a bank guarantee/performance bond if deemed required by the project team. The value of the Bank Guarantee/Performance bond will be decided after the completion of the evaluation process.

# Lowest Proposal

AMEL shall be under no obligation to accept the lowest or any other offer received in response to this RFP and shall be entitled to reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever. AMEL may abort the entire process at any stage without thereby incurring any liability to the affected supplier(s) or any obligation to inform the affected supplier(s) of the grounds for bank’s action.

# Further Information

AMEL may request additional data, discussion or presentation in support of the RFP. Additionally, AMEL will, if required, correspond with the references provided by the supplier to check the supplier’s credentials.

# Late Submission

Suppliers are responsible for submitting their response prior to the RFP closing date and time. Any proposal received by AMEL later than the stipulated RFP closing date and time may be removed from further consideration by AMEL.

# Evaluation

AMEL will evaluate the proposals based on the most suitable partnership. AMEL can exclude suppliers from the evaluation procedure based on the criteria as described in clause “Rejection Criteria”.

## 12.1 Technical Document Evaluation (70 %)

The technical document will be evaluated based on the following parameters:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sr. | Rating Criteria |
|  | Registration of the company |
|  | Company Profile and Previous Experience |
|  | List of drivers including Driving Licenses |
|  | List of Busses including Registration, Mechanic and Insurance Papers |
|  | Acknowledging of enclosed “Amel Suppliers Pact of Conduct -Annex 1” |
|  | Acknowledging of enclosed “CHILD PROTECTION BEHAVIOURAL PROTOCOLS -Annex 2” |
|  | Is tender form (quotation form) complete? |
|  | Documentation submitted as per bid requirements |

## 12.2 Commercial Document Evaluation (30 %)

The commercial documents of only those technically short-listed suppliers will be entertained. Amel retains the right to finally negotiate the commercials with the shortlisted suppliers to arrive at a reasonable price before awarding the contract to the selected supplier.

## 12.3 Rejection Criteria

AMEL reserves the right to reject proposals according to the following:

1. If the Supplier:
   1. Exposed his commercial offer to any individual in a way that impacts directly / indirectly the supplier selection process, or if the supplier shared his commercial offer details with any individual other than the worker from the procurement department appointed by AMEL without prior consent.
   2. Failed to submit all the requested documents as part of his proposal.
   3. Denied representative(s) of AMEL access to its premises.
   4. Is not prepared to provide AMEL representative(s) with all the documents which they deem appropriate for ascertaining the sound nature of any answers the supplier provided.
   5. Endeavored to impose additional, unacceptable commercial conditions.
   6. Failed to submit a Bank Guarantee / Performance Bond, if requested by AMEL.
2. If the commercial document:
   1. Offered pricing greatly exceed average offers.
   2. Contradicted with the technical document in any manner.
   3. Contained conditional offers.
   4. Submitted with adjustable / variable price proposal.
3. If there is a negative experience in connection with the quality and services provided to AMEL by the supplier.
4. According to the “Modification / Termination of the RFP” clause in this document.

Only proposals that are drawn up in accordance with the specified procedure for submitting shall qualify for evaluation; AMEL reserves the right to deem all other proposals inadmissible.

# Proposal Documents Outline

Supplier proposal should be structured as below and must contain the following sections with sufficient details:

**Supplier Profile Document**

1. Appendix A - Authorization letter
2. Appendix B - Supplier contact information
3. Appendix C - Supplier company profile
4. Appendix D - Supplier Capabilities and Experience
5. Appendix E - Conflict of Interest
6. Appendix F - Technical Requirements

**Technical Document**

1. Executive Summary
2. Proposed Offerings
   1. Scope of Work
      1. List and details of deliverables
      2. Any known limitations with respect to current and projected future requirements
   2. Scope of Services
   3. Solution Prerequisites
      1. Suggested
      2. Mandatory
   4. Appendix G - Contract Requirements
   5. Exclusions
3. Key Assumptions & Dependencies

**Contract Document**

1. Appendix H – General Conditions
2. Appendix I – Special Conditions
3. Appendix J - Commercial requirements

# ANNEX 1

**Code of Conduct for Suppliers and Service Providers**

***“Treat the others the way you want to be treated”***

*Amel Association International is a civil non-sectarian association, declared of public utility under Presidential Decree No. 5832 issued on 10.08.1994. It was founded in the wake of the Israeli invasion in 1978, which ravaged Lebanon and resulted in many Lebanese killed or uprooted. Amel Association International is committed to human beings, regardless of religious affiliation, political or geographical location.*

Every person who agrees to work with Amel (i.e. “Supplier” or “Service Provider”), becomes a member of our large family, and must respect the humanitarian mission of the association and pledge to uphold the principles and values of democracy, justice and equality.

**Article I**

This document is called the “Code of Conduct for Suppliers and Service Providers”.

**Article II**

1. The provisions of this Code of Conduct apply to all suppliers and service providers related to Amel Association International, to their employees, to their subsidiaries and related entities, and their subcontractors.
2. Every service provider and / or supplier must read and sign every page of this Code of Conduct, pledging to abide by all the provisions contained therein. A copy of the signed Code of Conduct will be kept on his file.
3. This Code of Conduct is based on the foundations and principles of justice, equal opportunities, transparency, accountability, professional integrity, impartiality, sincerity and determination to achieve the mission and objectives of Amel Association International.
4. Any violation of the provisions of this Code of Conduct will require accountability. Action and measures will be taken in accordance with the provisions of applicable laws and regulations.

**Article III**

This Code of Conduct aims to establish ethical standards, rules and basic principles of humanitarian work ethics, and high professional values ​​and culture.

**Article IV: General duties and responsibilities of suppliers and service providers**

1. Must perform duties and functions with honesty, integrity, accuracy, impartiality and full professional potential.
2. Refrain from any actions, practices or behavior that violate morals and good conduct, and abstain from offending or inciting against the political opinions or religious beliefs of others inside or outside the Association.

**Article V: In dealing with others**

1. Respect the rights and interest of others without exception and deal with them with respect, tact and courtesy.
2. It is strictly forbidden to express private opinions relating to religion or politics.
3. Deal with decision makers with respect and not try to gain any preferential treatment over methods of flattery, deception, nepotism, favoritism or pressure.
4. Refrain from any immoral acts, practices or behavior that violate ethics, morals and proper behavior.
5. Reject third-party pressures leading to preferential treatment.

**Article 6: In respecting labor laws and workers' rights**

1. Amel Association International expects its service providers and / or suppliers to prohibit forced or compulsory labor in all its forms.
2. Service providers and / or suppliers shall not use any form of forced or compulsory labor. Work for them must be voluntary and non-compulsory. Workers should not be required to make deposits or forced to sign debt bonds as a condition of employment.
3. Amel Association International expects its service providers and / or suppliers not to employ children below 14 years of age or under the minimum age of the end of compulsory schooling.
4. Amel Association International expects its service providers and / or suppliers not to employ persons under the age of 18 for work that, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of such persons.
5. Amel Association International expects its service providers and / or suppliers to ensure equality of opportunity and treatment in respect of employment and occupation without discrimination on grounds of race, color, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin.
6. Amel Association International expects its service providers and / or suppliers to ensure payment of wages at regular intervals, in full and directly to the workers concerned. The wages, hours of work and other conditions of work provided by service providers and / or suppliers should not be less favorable than the best conditions prevailing locally.
7. Amel Association International expects its service providers and / or suppliers to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, all health and safety standards.
8. Amel Association International expects its service providers and / or suppliers to support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights and to ensure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses. They are also expected to create and maintain an environment that treats all employees with dignity and respect.
9. Amel Association International expects its service providers and / or suppliers to have an effective environmental policy and to comply with existing legislation and regulations regarding the protection of the environment.
10. Amel Association International expects its service providers and / or suppliers to maintain business confidentiality while providing services.

**Article 7: In fighting corruption**

1. Service providers and / or suppliers are committed to prevent and fight all forms of corrupt practices, extortion, embezzlement and illegal means of profit.
2. Service providers and / or suppliers are committed not to offer or accept or request any gifts, hospitality or benefits of any kind, whether directly or through an intermediary, that may have a direct or indirect impact on the objectivity of carrying out duties or that may affect the decisions of the Association as a result of accepting such gifts.

**Article 8: Conflict of interest**

Service providers and / or suppliers are committed not to use any position, directly or indirectly, to obtain financial gain or anything of value for their benefit or the benefit of their families.

**Article 9: Fair business practices**

Service providers and / or suppliers shall avoid falling into competition involving complicity in conspiratorial bids or preferential prices or monopolistic practices in violation of competition ethics or other unfair commercial practices.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of the Company:** |  | **Name:** |
|  |  |  |
| **Signature:** |  | **Date:** |
|  |  |  |

# ANNEX 2

**CHILD PROTECTION BEHAVIOURAL PROTOCOLS**

**AMEL Association International, Lebanon, march 2019**

**AMEL ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION BEHAVIOURAL PROTOCOLS APPLY TO THE FOLLOWING SIGNATORY PEOPLE:**

Staff, contractors and consultants, volunteers, partners that have a formal/contractual relationship with Amel Association International, interns and volunteers. It applies to any person committed with Amel Association International **(is considered a child every person below 18 years old)** such as journalists and media personnel, photographers, donors, animators and visitors.

✔ Offer an inclusive and safe environment for all children with respect to cultural differences.

✔ Treat all children with respect, dignity and equality. Recognize the child with own name and never use any offensive nickname.

✔ Always talk to the child in an open environment to ensure individual conversations are in plain

view of others.

✔ Pay attention to own respect in appearance, language and actions when present with children.

✔ Plan and organise activities as a team to minimise protection risks, making sure to safeguard children’s safety and security and provide permanent supervision during any activity.

✔ Control own reactions and be accountable for own response towards a child’s behaviour. Avoid

situations where there is a risk of allegations being made.

✔ Maintain confidentiality and privacy of information related to children and their parents.

✔ Encourage participation of children as suitable to their age and level of maturity.

✔ Empower children to develop their own safeguarding capacity and discuss with them their rights and duties, adults and children’s do’s and don’ts.

✔ Encourage children to raise any concern they might have, while informing them about what they

should do if they face a problem.

✔ Follow Amel Association International's Child Protection Communication and Media Guidelines when taking photos, videos, and conducting interviews with children.

✔ Report any concerns of child abuse using Amel Association International’s existing reporting

mechanism.

Never discriminate according to the gender, nationality, race, disability and religion of the children, excluding or favouring a particular child.

Never act in ways intended to stigmatize, provoke, humiliate, insult, degrade children or perpetrate any form of emotional abuse on them.

Never use in the presence of the children offensive language and gestures that could be interpreted as insulting or provocative.

Never hold, kiss, hug or touch children in an inappropriate way.

Never provide physical assistance while using the toilet or changing clothes, unless the child is not able to perform these actions himself.

Never take a child alone in a vehicle unless it is absolutely necessary in emergency situations (with parental and managerial consent).

Never stay overnight or in the same bed/room with one child or more at any premises. Never accompany children to the residence of any staff particularly if they are alone.

Never spend time alone with a child away from others or behind closed doors.

Never develop relationships with children which could be deemed exploitative or abusive as requesting any service or favour from a child in return for protection or assistance.

Never use violence with children in all its forms whether physical, verbal, emotional or sexual. Never use threatening, aggressive or violent words against children.

Never use corporal punishment such as hitting, smacking, pushing or pulling children.

Never engage in sexual behaviour/activity with anyone under the age of 18 years regardless of the age of majority/consent accepted locally.

Never use mobile phones or social media while working with children, unless for emergencies. Never give a child personal phone numbers or communicate with him/her through social media platforms.

Never share in public children cases or discuss any confidential information about them and their families.

Never overlook any illegitimate conduct.

Inappropriate behaviour towards children, including failure to follow Amel Association International’s Child Protection Behaviour Protocols is ground for discipline including legal action.

I have read, understood and agreed on the above behavioural protocols,

Signature:

Name and Title:

Date: