



California State Teachers' Retirement System
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TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: California State Teachers' Retirement System

SUBJECT: ADDENDUM NUMBER ONE (1) TO REQUEST FOR OFFER 5604364226 FOR CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE ARCHITECTS.

The California State Teachers' Retirement System, also known as CalSTRS, issued an RFO on April 9, 2026.

The purpose of this Addendum 1 is to:

1. Provide CalSTRS responses to questions that were received in the CalSTRS Procurement office by the Written Question Submittal Deadline.
2. Extend the offer due date from April 24, 2026 to May 1, 2026 by 2:00 p.m. PT.

Prospective vendors are reminded that it is their responsibility to review the entire addendum and updated solicitation to consider these modifications when preparing their submissions.

This Addendum does affect the final file date.

Sincerely,

Ryan Zelachoski

Response to Written Questions

The following answers are in response to written questions submitted by prospective vendors regarding clarification of the intent and content of the RFO. This document provides the written responses to questions that were received via email in the CalSTRS Procurement office by the written question submittal deadline stated in the RFO.

Q.1. Is CalSTRS going to purchase the supported version of Terraform as part of this RFO?

A.1. CalSTRS is currently using the current version of Terraform.

Q.2. Would CalSTRS consider candidates who demonstrate substantial equivalent expertise through extensive hands-on AWS and/or Azure architecture experience at an enterprise scale, in lieu of holding a current certification?

A.2. One or more of the following certifications is required and cannot be substituted with hands-on experience:

- a. AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Professional
- b. Microsoft Azure Solutions Architect Expert
- c. Certified Kubernetes Administrator

Q.3. Would CalSTRS consider accepting documented equivalent experience, or a candidate actively pursuing certification, as satisfying this requirement?

A.3. The candidate must be in possession of one or more of the following certifications. Equivalent experience does not satisfy this requirement.

- a. AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Professional
- b. Microsoft Azure Solutions Architect Expert
- c. Certified Kubernetes Administrator

Q.4. Please confirm whether “public cloud platforms” refers to standard commercial cloud providers (AWS, Azure, GCP), whose services are used by departments of State of CA , or if the expectation is specifically Public Sector / Government Cloud environments such as AWS GovCloud or Azure Government?

A.4. It refers to standard commercial cloud providers (AWS, Azure, GCP), whose services are used by departments of State of CA.

Q.5. Can we request a one-week extension to the current offer due date to ensure submission of a complete and high-quality proposal?

A.5. Yes, CalSTRS will accommodate extending for an additional week with a new due date of Friday, May 1, 2026.

- Q.6. Would CalSTRS consider accepting two to four years of additional documented experience in a Solutions Architect role involving AWS, Azure, or Kubernetes, or a candidate actively pursuing one of the listed certifications, as an alternative to satisfying this requirement, or alternatively reclassifying Qualification #1 as a Desirable rather than Minimum requirement?
- A.6. The candidate must be in possession of one or more of the following certifications. Equivalent experience does not satisfy this requirement.
- a. AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Professional
 - b. Microsoft Azure Solutions Architect Expert
 - c. Certified Kubernetes Administrator
- Q.7. Would CalSTRS consider accepting demonstrated experience on at least two large-scale enterprise IT infrastructure projects for a California state entity of comparable size and complexity in lieu of, or in combination with, the ten-year experience threshold in Qualification #5?
- A.7. Demonstrated experience in lieu of (at least) 10 years of experience listed in the minimum qualification #5 will not be accepted.
- Q.8. Would CalSTRS consider amending Desirable Qualification #3 to include "or demonstrated similar experience" to account for comparable technologies beyond Docker and Kubernetes specifically?
- A.8. No, experience in Docker and Kubernetes is required.
- Q.9. Would CalSTRS consider amending Desirable Qualification #7 to recognize equivalent tools and industry best practices alongside Tanium, allowing candidates to demonstrate server patching, update management, and configuration management competency through comparable means?
- A.9. We will accept any experience using automated enterprise tools for server patching, stability, and compliance.
- Q.10. Is CalSTRS willing to extend the due date by one week?
- A.10. Yes, CalSTRS will accommodate extending for an additional week with a new due date of Friday, May 1, 2026.