

Design-Build Team Selection for Interdisciplinary Engineering Building

Premise: Owner will select the builder first via the statute-driven RFQ & RFP process, and then work collaboratively with the selected builder to then select the design architect and all other team members.

Architect Selection Process:

- Owner will publish notice of intent to develop a “long list” of architects to be considered and request letters of interest. Letters of interest will be limited to one page and must include the firm’s website.
- Concurrently, the Owner will develop a draft ‘long list’ of potential architects. Once selected, the design builder will be consulted regarding the long list and given the opportunity to suggest additions or deletions.
- The Owner and the design builder will collaborate on an RFQ to be issued to candidate firms. The RFQ content should include information the design builder wants to convey, as well as information important to the University, including a focus on the experience of the firm and proposed team members, with an emphasis on past work in a collaborative delivery model and on design excellence.
- The design builder will send the RFQ to firms on the final ‘Long List’.
- A selection committee comprised of the design-builder, and UW representatives will review and rank the RFQ responses to arrive at a short list of, ideally, three firms.
- Short-listed firms will be given additional questions to address during a visit by the selection committee and the design builder to the firm’s office. The office visit will focus on how they work in a collaborative delivery model to achieve project goals and design excellence. The office visit will not be scored or ranked, but will inform the eventual decision.
- The design builder and the Owner may choose to invest in collaborative exercises between the design builder and candidate firms to better inform all parties on the candidate firms’ capabilities, compatibility, and approach to collaboration. The collaborative exercises may be in addition to or instead of the office visit, as agreed between the Owner and the design builder.
- The short-listed firms will be interviewed by the University’s Architectural Commission. The design builder and selection committee will share their observations regarding the firms, after which the Commission will provide a recommendation of a firm to be selected.
- The design builder will have a right of refusal regarding the Commission’s recommended firm.