



## FBO – Remote Controlled Aircraft Tug RFB

The Tri-Cities Airport Authority (TCAA) (Owner) is soliciting bids from qualified dealers to supply one (1) Remote Controlled Aircraft Tug for the Airport Operations department. Bids will be received until 2:00 PM, Local Eastern Time, on May 15, 2026 at the Tri-Cities Airport, Blountville, TN in the Main Terminal Building Board Room 301.

Copies of this Request for Bids (RFB) will be available on the Airport's website at <https://flytri.com/business/about-tcaa/construction-development/>.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, to waive any/all informalities and technicalities in the bids received, to the extent permitted by applicable law, and to accept any bids which, in its sole discretion, is in the best interest of the Owner, if permitted by applicable law. All bids must comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws.

Bids are required to remain open for acceptance or rejection for a period of ninety (90) days after bid opening. The Owner will notify the successful bidder with a written, Notice of Award, no later than thirty (30) days after TDOT State Grant Approval. If the Owner and apparent successful bidder cannot determine a date to furnish the required equipment, within ten (10) days after the Notice of Award is issued and has been received, the Owner may annul the bid.

### **Bidding Instructions**

Bids must be submitted by email to Erick Lanier, FBO Manager, at [elanier@flytri.com](mailto:elanier@flytri.com) with a subject heading of "FBO – Remote Controlled Aircraft Tug RFB", or by mail to the address listed below with the vendor name and project title on the exterior of the envelope. A contact name, along with their email and phone number, must be included in each bid.

Bids must be in lump sum amount containing all associated costs, including shipping, and exclude all taxes. In addition to the lump sum amount, bids should also include a detailed cost breakdown of all associated costs. The TCAA is a tax exempt entity with the selected bidder being provided with a copy of the TCAA State of Tennessee Government Certificate of Exemption.

Please contact Erick Lanier, FBO Manager, at [elanier@flytri.com](mailto:elanier@flytri.com) with any questions.

Mailing Address:

Tri-Cities Airport Authority  
Attn: Erick Lanier  
2525 Highway 75, Suite 301  
Blountville, TN 37617



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### RFB Schedule

The estimated cost will require the TCAA’s board to approve the purchase at the June 25<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Below is an outline of the anticipated schedule for this RFB.

ACTIVITY	DATE
RFB Issue Date	Thursday, April 30, 2026
Submission Due Date	Friday, May 15, 2026 – by 2:00 PM
Awarded Bidder Notified	Monday, May 18, 2026
TCAA Board Approval	Thursday, June 25, 2026
TDOT State Grant Approval	July 2026
Notice of Award Issued	Following Approval of TDOT State Grant

*Note: All times are in Local Eastern Time*

### Delivery and Acceptance

Delivery shall be made to the mailing address listed in the “Bidding Instructions” section of this RFB. A pre-delivery inspection must be conducted and confirmed by the manufacturer or dealership. A representative from the TCAA must be present at the time of delivery and delivery arrangements shall be made prior to delivery.

No item shall be accepted without all supporting documentation having been completed and delivered with the unit, such as warranty documents, odometer or hour statement (if applicable), owner operating instructions, manuals and invoice.

### Specifications

#### *General Requirements*

1. All specs are to be like or similar on bids.
2. Ability to tow/maneuver aircraft sized up to a Gulfstream G650 or similar.
3. Battery powered.
4. Ability to be towed or transported to various ramp locations.
5. Training provided by manufacturer.

#### *Warranty & Service*

1. Standard manufacturer’s warranty.
2. Ability to be serviced on site by airport maintenance team.