



# Request for Proposals (RFP)

## LACI TIG25

### AI Tagging Tool Development

Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc.  
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## Introduction and Purpose

Atlanta Legal Aid Society (ALAS) seeks proposals from qualified technical consulting firms to develop and integrate an AI-based tool for the initial identification of legal authorities into the LACI Drupal-based platform. The primary goal is to assist reviewers in identifying and predicting specific legal authorities (court opinions, statutes, rules, and regulations) relevant to new documents.

Deliverables will be works-for-hire and will be further licensed by ALAS to others under AGPLv3. Should Deliverables incorporate third party works, they must be available under licenses that allow such redistribution. The vendor warrants full authority to grant these rights, ensuring no contrary IP restrictions. The tool must integrate with the Georgia LACI Drupal site on ALAS-controlled infrastructure and be portable for the broader LACI ecosystem. The solution must be designed to reside within ALAS-controlled infrastructure and integrate directly with the Georgia instance of the LACI Drupal site. The architecture should allow for future deployment across the broader LACI ecosystem upon approval. Solutions that are themselves Drupal modules that leverage the [Drupal AI infrastructure](#) will be preferred.

## Background

### About Atlanta Legal Aid Society

Founded in 1924, Atlanta Legal Aid Society (ALAS) provides free civil legal services to low-income individuals across the Atlanta metropolitan area. With over 100 years of service, our mission is to help our clients navigate the complexities of the legal system to secure justice. In recent years, ALAS has become a leader in legal technology, leveraging resources like Georgia's LawHelp website, GeorgiaLegalAid.org, and LAVA (Legal Aid Virtual Assistant) to improve the accuracy and efficiency of legal information delivery.

### Project Overview

To keep vital resources like GeorgiaLegalAid.org and LAVA up to date, we are implementing LACI (Legal Aid Content Intelligence). This software system tracks relevant legal documents and the external authorities they depend on, empowering users to efficiently manage necessary legal information updates. Because Georgia and US/federal authorities are available online, LACI can periodically check them and automatically alert editors when an underlying law changes. Conversely, when internal documents are updated, LACI prompts reviewers to ensure the cited authorities remain accurate.

Through a Technology Initiative Grant (TIG) from the Legal Services Corporation (LSC), ALAS is spearheading an expansion of LACI to:

- Monitor Georgia-specific authorities (statutes, rules, and regulations).
- Develop AI-powered tagging tools to identify legal references in internal and public documents.

- Create a web-monitoring feature to notify staff when external self-help pages require updates due to changes in the law.
- Develop a shared governance framework for sustaining the LACI ecosystem.

## The LACI Community

Originally developed by Lone Star Legal Aid (LSLA), LACI is an innovative system designed to monitor changes in statutes, regulations, and court rules. As LACI expands to multiple states—including current and future partners such as Lone Star Legal Aid, Texas Legal Services Center, Minnesota, and Idaho—it is transitioning into a true open-source community asset. ALAS recognizes that the long-term success of LACI depends on maintaining high standards for security and quality while ensuring technical tools remain accessible to the national legal aid community.

*(Note to vendors: You can learn more about LACI concepts and terminology from the informational videos published on the [[LACI YouTube channel](#)]. The LACI source code is available from our [[Git repository](#)].)*

## Scope of Work

The selected vendor will design, train, and integrate an AI-powered tagging solution into the LACI Drupal site. The solution will learn from existing data that maps legal information documents to the legal authorities relevant to the documents. Once it's trained, it will be used by LACI users who will give the tool a new document and ask which authorities are relevant to the new document. The LACI user will then have the option of accepting (true positive) or rejecting (false positive) each proposed authority, providing more training as the solution is used.

The LACI user should also be able to train the solution by giving it information about the authorities it should have suggested but missed (false negatives) for a given uploaded document.

The work includes:

- **Drupal Integration & Architecture:** Develop a Drupal module or compatible integration that allows the AI tagging tool to interact directly with the LACI document review interface. The solution must be either (1) a custom module compatible with Drupal 11, following Drupal's standard coding and security best practices, and leveraging the Drupal AI architecture, or (2) integrate with a running LACI server using the LACI REST API or an API provided by the solution. If your solution is built around the Drupal AI modules, document which provider(s) will be supported, or if you are capable of extending existing providers to support this project.
- **Extraction & Prediction:** The solution must be able to **extract** references to court opinions, URLs, and citations to regulations, court rules, and statutes, from both Federal and one relevant state jurisdiction. The solution must also be able to, based on training

data, **predict** relevant references to court opinions, URLs, and citations to regulations, court rules, and statutes, from both Federal and one relevant state jurisdiction even if the text has no relevant citations. This may be delivered as a Federal solution and a Georgia-specific solution, with instructions on how a deployer might train the state-specific solution to extract and predict references relevant to their own state.

- **Model Training:** Use ALAS’s internal Georgia materials and partner-provided datasets to train a model capable of recognizing and predicting references to court opinions, statutes, rules, and regulations from both Federal and Georgia jurisdictions. ALAS will work with vendor to identify an appropriate number of documents and respective citations for training and testing purposes. The vendor is responsible for using this data to perform the initial model training and validation.
- **Cost-Conscious Deployment:** Design an inference pipeline that utilizes an abstraction layer to minimize recurring cloud costs. Insofar as the solution uses Language Models for its processing, the solution must prioritize Small Language Models (SLMs) for high-volume, domain-specific legal tagging and implement Intelligent Model Routing. This ensures that lower-cost models (e.g., Gemini 3.1 Flash-Lite) handle routine tags, while more expensive, high-reasoning models are only invoked for low-confidence or complex legal authorities. A deployer must be able to “bring their own API keys” to the solution.
- **Standard Hosting Compatibility & AI Portability:** The solution must be fully compatible with standard Drupal hosting environments, whether managed cloud, VPS, or on-premises. To ensure long-term transportability, if the solution is provided as a Drupal module it must utilize the official Drupal AI unified API, allowing administrators to switch backend providers (e.g., Google Vertex, Azure OpenAI, or local models) via the Drupal UI without requiring code changes or architectural redesigns.
- **Data Privacy & Local Sovereignty:** The vendor must ensure that no training data is used to train third-party commercial models (e.g., OpenAI, Anthropic). All training and inference must occur within a private, isolated environment, and the final solution must be fully executable on ALAS-controlled (or approved) infrastructure without external data dependencies. This data dependency excludes approved AI models.
- **Open-Source Compliance:** All code must be delivered under the AGPLv3 or a compatible license to ensure the solution remains a permanent, transparent, and shared resource for the national legal aid community.

## Deliverables

The selected vendor will provide the following deliverables to ensure a functional solution:

- A comprehensive plan outlining the architectural approach, specifically addressing model selection (prioritizing low ongoing inference costs) and a technical map for the LACIntegration.

- Full delivery of all trained model weights and the specific source code used to generate the models.
- Audit documentation and a performance report proving that the solution has achieved the minimum F1 Score identified in your proposal in recommending relevant legal authorities within test data. Vendors should specify the expected performance of their model and are encouraged to propose architectures capable of exceeding this minimum floor.
- A fully documented custom Drupal module that integrates the AI tagging tool directly into the Georgia instance of the LACI platform.
- A reviewer interface component within Drupal that highlights suggested legal authorities (including a confidence score) and allows staff to accept or reject Authorities with a single click.
- A "human-in-the-loop" feedback mechanism that logs reviewer corrections to be used for future model accuracy improvements.
- A comprehensive maintenance and hand-over guide providing step-by-step instructions for ALAS to host, manage, and retrain the model without requiring ongoing vendor support. The maintenance guide must include a Retraining Workflow, which should be a simplified, documented process that allows ALAS staff to periodically update the model weights based on the 'human-in-the-loop' feedback logged by reviewers, ensuring the solution remains accurate as citation styles or laws evolve.
- A portable technical guide designed for other LSC-funded organizations. This document must outline the process for swapping out Georgia-specific training data for other state-level datasets, ensuring the LACI AI ecosystem is easily replicable across the national legal aid community.
- A complete open-source release package containing all project code, delivered under the AGPLv3 or a compatible license.

## Timeline

### Procurement Phase

- **RFP Issued:** April 20, 2026
- **Vendor Questions Due:** April 30, 2026
- **Responses to Questions Provided:** May 11, 2026
- **Proposal Submission Deadline:** May 29, 2026
- **Vendor Interviews (if applicable):** June 8 – 13, 2026
- **Contract Negotiation and Execution:** June 23, 2026

## Project Phase

We expect the project to start by August 1, 2026. We propose the following timeline; should you propose a different one please make that explicit in your response. The final deliverable must be tendered no later than August 31, 2027.

- **Phase 1 (Months 1–3)**
  - Specification refinement and Drupal/AI architecture design.
- **Phase 2 (Months 4–7)**
  - Model training, Drupal module development, and precision testing.
- **Phase 3 (Months 8–10)**
  - Integration into the Georgia LACI site and reviewer pilot.
- **Phase 4 (Months 11–12)**
  - Documentation, final deployment to ALAS servers, and hand-off.

## Evaluation Criteria

Each section below is given a weight for the section. Individual criteria in each section are not exclusive.

### Drupal & AI Technical Competence (35%)

- Combined expertise in Drupal module development and AI/NLP model training.
- Evaluation will focus on the vendor's ability to train a model that meets performance benchmarks while integrating seamlessly with the Drupal UI and LACI's document review workflow.

### Ownership & Sustainability Approach (25%)

- How well the vendor ensures the solution is free of proprietary dependencies and enables ALAS (and the broader LACI community) to host and maintain the solution long-term without ongoing vendor reliance.

### Methodology & Precision (20%)

- Lays out a plan to identify and achieve a relevant F1 Score.
- This includes the vendor's strategy for Intelligent Model Routing (balancing cost vs. accuracy) and the use of a provider-agnostic abstraction layer to ensure the solution works across different cloud or local environments.

### Cost Proposal (20%)

- Total firm fixed price, including the cost of transition and hand-off.
- Proposals will be judged on the transparency of the budget regarding initial development, training labor, and projected recurring cloud inference costs (not included in bid).

## Proposal Submission Instructions

Proposals must be twenty-five (25) pages or fewer, submitted in PDF format. Proposals must include:

1. **Cover Letter:** Brief introduction and authorized contact.
2. **Respondent Information:** A brief description of your company's history and qualifications for this work.
3. **Experience and Qualifications:** Descriptions of similar AI/Drupal integration projects and bios for the key personnel who will perform the work.
4. **Proposed Approach:** Describe your approach to Drupal integration, and your strategy for minimizing ongoing hosting/inference costs. Identify a minimum F1 score that your proposed solution will meet.
5. **Ownership Confirmation:** An explicit statement confirming that all code is original or properly licensed for redistribution under AGPLv3, and that the final delivery will be free of any proprietary claims or third-party encumbrances.
6. **Deliverables & Timeline:** Outline of specific deliverables and a project schedule mapped to the phases outlined above.
7. **Cost Proposal:** Please submit a single firm fixed price (FFP) bid. Payment will be made upon milestone completion. Pricing must include all overhead costs.
8. **Subcontractors:** If applicable, state the percentage of work performed by subcontractors and their qualifications.
9. **References:** At least two (2) client references for similar work performed.

### Atlanta Legal Aid's Rights

ALAS reserves the right to:

- Accept or reject any or all responses, or any part thereof.
- Waive any informalities or technicalities contained in any response received.
- Conduct discussions with respondents and accept revisions of proposals after the closing date.
- Make an award based upon various selection criteria.
- Request clarification from any respondents on any or all aspects of its proposals.
- Cancel or re-issue this RFP at any time.

- Retain all proposals submitted in response to this RFP.
- Invite some, all, or none of the respondents for interviews, demonstrations, presentations, and further discussion.

### **Confidentiality**

During the selection and project execution phases, ALAS may give you access to ALAS's confidential or proprietary information. You agree not to use this information for your or any third-party's benefit and will not disclose this information to any person who does not have a need to know.

ALAS will not under any circumstances disclose any information submitted by Respondent to any other Respondents, except the questions and answers described above. ALAS will not disclose any information submitted by Respondent to ALAS to any other parties until after the contract is finalized.

### **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)**

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and associated federal regulations may require ALAS to disclose certain documents to the public, including portions of your proposal. Generally, ALAS will not release any documents that would cause competitive harm to a Respondent or potential Respondent.

You are encouraged to label any confidential information contained in your proposal to facilitate ALAS's ability to withhold it from disclosure.

### **Questions**

Submit in writing by May 4, 2026, to Virginia O'Reilly, [vmoreilly@atlantalegalaid.org](mailto:vmoreilly@atlantalegalaid.org). Please include "RFP for LACI TIG25 - AI Tagging Tool" in the subject line.

### **Deadline**

Proposals must be received by **5:00 PM (US/Eastern) on May 29, 2026**.