

MSU SpaceTrek continues to empower female students

Herald Report

This summer, Morehead State hosted female high school students from across the Commonwealth for a unique educational experience during the annual SpaceTrek program.

Created in 2011, SpaceTrek is a residential summer program in space systems engineering for young women entering 9th-12th grade or entering college as a first-year student.

This program introduces pre-college students to higher education opportunities and careers in aerospace while providing an immersive experience in aerospace subdisciplines like electronics, telecommunications, data analysis, and other elements of space missions.

View Gallery
"The benefit of SpaceTrek is that it helps develop within the girl the confidence to pursue these degree programs, the resilience to complete them, and the motivation to successful transition into a high-tech workforce such as aerospace



engineering," said Jennifer Carter (Class of 2002, 2008, 2010), director of the Center for STEM+eXcellence at MSU. "The benefit to the region is a population of young, trained professionals who can fulfill the economic demand of a high-tech workforce."

Dr. Ben Malphrus, executive director of MSU's Space Science Center, said SpaceTrek has also served as a valuable recruiting tool for MSU.

"SpaceTrek is a phenomenal program and our most important student recruitment activity for the Space Science Center at Morehead State University," Malphrus said. "We have a mandate to produce excellent graduates for the aerospace and defense industries, and Space-

Trek is the beginning of that pipeline."

One SpaceTrek participant who transitioned to MSU as a student and later an employee is Chloe Hart (Class of 2020, 2024). Originally from Ashland, Hart is the lead ground operator/engineer at Morehead State and attended SpaceTrek in 2015. She also serves as an instructor in the SpaceTrek program.

"I'm absolutely honored to have the opportunity to be an instructor and impact the lives of these girls through this program that impacted me so much," Hart said.

During this year's SpaceTrek at MSU, Kentucky First Lady Britainy Beshear visited SpaceTrek students and toured the Space Science Center on Wednesday,

June 13. She also examined a CubeSat created by MSU space science faculty and students, helped distribute special SpaceTrek toolboxes to program participants and helped launch a smaller CubeSat created by SpaceTrek students into the atmosphere.

When addressing a classroom of students, Beshear

said this program provides valuable skills and will benefit students whether they decide to pursue STEM-related fields or other career paths.

"The fact that you're here...even if this isn't what you ultimately go into, the skills that you're learning are going to take you wherever you want to go," she

said. "I really do believe that your generation is going to change the world, and you're going to change it for the better."

Learn about SpaceTrek by contacting the Center for STEM+eXcellence at stemxcenter@morehead-state.edu or 606-783-2300 or visiting www.morehead-state.edu/spacetrek.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District will retain a qualified engineering firm to provide preliminary scope and cost estimate, planning, design, and other required services for the Wells # 5 and # 6 Rehab Project. Sources of funding may include but are not limited to Kentucky Infrastructure Authority (KIA), American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), USDA Rural Development, and other such state and federal funding opportunities. Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District will accept Statements of Qualifications from engineering firms interested in working on this project until 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 10th, 2025. An RFQ packet containing information about the project and criteria that will be used to select the engineering firm may be obtained at www.btadd.com or by contacting Bekah Keating, Infrastructure Planner, Buffalo Trace ADD, via email at rkeating@btadd.com. Statement of Qualifications must be submitted to Buffalo Trace ADD, Attn: Statement of Qualifications Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District Wells # 5 and # 6 Rehab Project. Mailed submission should be sent to P.O. Box 460, Maysville, KY 41056; hand delivered may be dropped off at 201 Government Street, Suite 300, Maysville, KY 41056. Proposals will be ranked on the basis of written materials as set forth in the RFQ packet. Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District reserves the right to reject any and all submittals.

The solicitation for Statements of Qualifications is being conducted to fulfill state/federal funding agency procurement requirements. Attention of respondents to this RFQ is called to the following requirements: 1) Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968; 2) Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; 3) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 4) Executive Order 11246; 5) Certification of Non-segregated Facilities. All of these may be incorporated into any contract issued pursuant to this solicitation. Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages responses from all qualified firms.

Luke Bentley
Chairman

Public Notice 25-27c

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District is seeking proposals for services relating to the Wells #5 and # 6 Rehab Project. Qualifications will be taken for engineering services.

Minimum requirements include previous experience in engineering design and inspection on similar projects.

All interested persons and firms should contact Bekah Keating between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, to obtain an informational packet. Qualifications must be received to the office of Buffalo Trace Area Development District, either by mail to PO Box 460, Maysville, KY 41056, or by hand delivery to 201 Government Street, Suite 300, Maysville, KY 41056 by 4:00 p.m., Thursday, July 10th, 2025. Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District reserves the right to reject any and all Qualifications not meeting the requirements of this Request for Qualifications for Consulting Engineers.

Kentucky Relay Service for the hearing and speech impaired: 1-800-648-6056.

Attention is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed under the contract, Section 3, Segregated Facility, Section 109, Title VI, and EO 11246. Local, minority and female-owned firms are encouraged to respond.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FROM CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District is applying for federal funding for the Wells #5 and # 6 Rehab Project. Engineering services will include:

Engineering Design and Inspection

- Design and prepare cost estimate for infrastructure improvements including:
Cleaning wells by the Twin Disc Surge Method
Replacing pumps and motors
Replacing existing check valves
- Construction drawings, specifications, plans, permits, etc. as well as bid procedures and recommendations of a construction contractor; contingent upon the City securing funding to move the project forward.
- Construction inspection of the infrastructure improvements after contract award; contingent upon the project being implemented.

The engineer will be required to provide professional services, which will include: preliminary design, detailed cost estimates, preparation of bidding and contract documents, and engineering inspection/reporting during actual construction.

Procurement of said services shall be in accordance with "The Common Rule." All engineers interested in being considered for this project must submit a proposal detailing qualifications, technical expertise, management and staff capabilities, and related prior experience. The objective of the competitive process is to objectively select the firm that will provide the highest quality of service. The Water District reserves the right to interview selected firms, and the firm(s) judged most qualified will be asked to prepare a final proposal which would include fees for said services.

Exhibit I, attached to this Request for Qualifications, is the minimum qualification for the consulting engineer. These minimum qualifications have been established to assure the Community of professional expertise adequate experience to assure successful completion of the proposed project within the allocated time constraints (if applicable).

Exhibit II, attached hereto, is a rating system that will be utilized for selection of the consulting engineer. This rating system will be employed by the community to determine which proposal best meets the needs as outlined in this "Request for Qualifications".

Work to be undertaken as part of this proposed program may be subject to be undertaken in accordance with 24 CFR, Part 570; 24 CFR, Part 58; and other applicable State and Federal requirements.

Responses to this Request for Qualifications must be submitted to Bekah Keating, Buffalo Trace ADD, prior to 4:00 p.m., Thursday, July 10th, 2025. Any response not meeting the minimum requirements for consulting engineer's prior experience as outlined in this request will be rejected.

Attention is called to the requirements, as applicable, as to conditions of employment to be observed under the contract, Section 3, Segregated Facility, Section 109, Title VI, and EO 11246.

As stated previously, the Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District reserves the right to reject any and all responses submitted. If you have any questions regarding this Request for Qualifications, please contact Bekah Keating, Buffalo Trace ADD, at rkeating@btadd.com or at 606-564-6894.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District seeks funding to rehab Wells #5 and #6. The rehab shall include cleaning the wells by the Twin Disc Surge Method and replacing pumps and motors. GQWD also intends to replace the existing check valves.

EXHIBIT I SAMPLE ENGINEER'S QUALIFICATIONS

- Consulting Engineer's Minimum Qualifications

- The principal responsible for project coordination must have a minimum of three (3) years' experience with the federal/state programs.

- The engineering firm must have successfully provided engineering services for a minimum of three (3) similar type projects. The engineering firm will not be accepted if there have been any unresolved audit exceptions relative to engineering services.

- The engineering firm must submit references as to the firm's professional qualifications from a minimum of three (3) previous clients for which the engineering firm has performed work (include address and telephone number).

II. Format for Professional Qualifications

Technical qualifications for the consulting engineer shall as a minimum include the following:

- The criteria and design approach to be used in the performance of required work.

- The personnel to be assigned to the project and resumes of qualifications and experience.

- The engineer's experience in the development, design and construction of similar projects.

III. Final Selection

Final selection of the engineer will be based upon the maximum total points scored as set forth in the "Rating System" in Exhibit II.

Garrison-Quincy-Ky-O-Heights Water District reserves the right to negotiate a contract with the engineer deemed the most qualified to perform the professional services required. The Water District reserves the right to move negotiations to the second highest qualified firm if negotiations fail with the top firm.

Sealed proposals must be submitted to the Chairman and received by 4:00 p.m, Thursday, July 10th, 2025. Any proposal not meeting the qualifications set forth in this Request for Qualifications will be rejected.

EXHIBIT II ENGINEERING SERVICES SELECTION RATING SYSTEM

1.	<u>Project Engineer's Experience</u>	<u>Maximum 20 Points</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5 or more years' experience with federal/state programs	20 Points
	B. 3 or more years experience	15 Points
	C. 1-2 years experience	10 Points
	D. No experience	0 Points
2.	<u>Firm's Project Completion Background</u>	<u>Maximum 20 Points</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Completion of 5 previous, similar type projects within proposed time frame & budget	20 Points
	B. Completion of 3 projects	10 Points
	C. No projects were completed	0 Points
3.	<u>References from Similar Projects</u>	<u>Maximum 20 Points</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Respondent lists 3 previous clients with similar projects and all references give excellent response on quality of service	20 Points
	B. Respondent lists 2 previous clients	15 Points
	C. Respondent lists 1 previous client	10 Points
	D. Respondent lists no previous references	0 Points
4.	<u>Firm's Familiarity with Community's Needs</u>	<u>Maximum 20 Points</u>
	A. Firm is thoroughly familiar with Community	20 Points
	B. Firm is somewhat familiar with Community	10 Points
	C. Firm is unfamiliar with Community	0 Points
5.	<u>Minority or Female-Owned Firm</u>	<u>Maximum 5 Points</u>
	A. Firm is minority or female-owned	5 Points
	B. Firm is not minority or female-owned	0 Points
6.	<u>Small Business Firm</u>	<u>Maximum 5 Points</u>
	A. Firm is a small business	5 Points
	B. Firm is not a small business	0 Points

MAXIMUM TOTAL POINTS

90 POINTS

Statement of Qualifications submittals should be organized to address each evaluation criteria as listed above and provide references where appropriate. Brochures and similar generalized background materials may be included, but are not required.

Public Notice 25-27c