Notice Inviting Expression of Interest for engagement of Chartered Accountant Firms for Internal Audit of various units of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) [Announcement No EOI/IA/2024-25 Dated 05/07/2024]

ICAI is inviting applications from eligible Chartered Accountant firms for engagement as Internal Auditor for its various units i.e. Head Office, Regional Councils, Decentralized Offices and Branches (Details whereof are given at *Annexure* – "A" hereto) for the financial year 2024-25.

A. Eligibility Criteria:

1. Basic Criteria:

S. No.	Categories		Basic Criteria		
1.	Head Office	≻	Firm with a minimum of 7 full time partners of which at least 3 should		
			be FCAs.		
		≻	Firm's standing should not be less than15 years as on 01/04/2024.		
		≻	The firm should have minimum Statutory Audit experience of 10 years		
			as on 01/04/2024 in public sector undertaking / banks.		
		≻	At least one partner should have an association of 10 years or more with		
			the firm and at least 3 partners of the firm should have an association of		
			5 years or more as on $01/04/2024$ with the firm.		
		≻	The firm should have Head Office at any place where the Regional		
			Office of ICAI is located.		
		≻	Firm should have an office at Delhi-NCR region.		
2.	Regional Councils	≻	Firm with a minimum of 4 full time partners of which at least 2 partners		
	& Decentralized		should be FCAs.		
	Offices	≻	Firm's standing should not be less than 10 years as on 01/04/2024.		
		≻	The firm should have minimum Statutory Audit experience of 5 years as		
			on 01/04/2024 in public sector undertakings / banks branches.		
		≻	At least two partners should have a continued association of 5 years or		
			more as on $01/04/2024$ with the firm.		
		≻	Head Office of firm should be located at the concerned district/city.		
3.	Branches	≻	Firm with a minimum of 3 full time_partners of which at least 1 partner		
			should be FCA.		
		≻	Firm's standing should not be less than 7 years as on 01/04/2024.		
		≻	The firm should have minimum Statutory Audit experience of 5 years as		
			on 01/04/2024 in public sector undertakings / banks branches.		
		≻	Head Office of firm should be located at the concerned district/city.		

- 2. *Qualifications*: The Chartered Accountants Firm shall not be eligible to apply if:
- The partner of the firm is / has been a member of Central Council/ Regional Council / Branch Managing Committee of ICAI during the current year and immediate past four years.
- The partner of the firm is a member /co-opted member / special invitee of any committees of ICAI constituted at Central / Regional / Branch level.
- The firm or any of its partners has any pecuniary or other interest in the ICAI such as faculty, examiner, observer, technical reviewer etc.
- The Chartered Accountants Firm or any of its partners has been declared guilty of any professional and/or other misconduct under the provisions of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 during the current year and / or immediate past five years.
- There are proceedings pending against either of the partners or the firm with respect to professional matters of conduct.
- The audit firm is associated with any foreign audit firm.

Declaration:

The applicant while expressing their interest shall be required to submit a declaration that they do not suffer from any of the above disqualifications and the details furnished in this regard are true and correct. Any incorrect information furnished will lead to rejection of the application.

B. Scope of Work:

The auditor shall review the existence and effectiveness of control system(s) and report on the adequacy of those controls, as well as deficiencies, if any. The primary focus shall be on propriety aspect in addition to authorization, internal control, reconciliation, recording, safeguarding and valuation aspects.

The key objective of the internal audit is to ensure the following at ICAI:

- orderly and efficient conduct of Institute's working,
- the transactions and decisions taken by the authorized persons reflect the highest sense of propriety and governance,
- adherence to Institute's policies,
- the safeguarding of its assets,
- the prevention and detection of frauds and errors,
- the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records and statutory compliances,
- the timely preparation of reliable financial information.

Detailed scope of audit shall be shared at the time of engagement.

The audit report shall be submitted on half yearly basis within one month from the close of the respective period.

C. Audit Fee: The payment for the said assignment shall be as specified in Annexure – "A" hereto. The fees shall be inclusive of out-of-pocket expenses. No TA/ DA or out of pocket expenses shall be paid. However, the fees shall be exclusive of GST and shall be paid on submission of final audit report.

S. No.	Criteria	Points				
1.	Status of Peer Review	5 points, if firm is holding valid Peer Review Certificate.				
2.	Points for full time CA partners (Only upto 20 full time CA partners in terms of their seniority as per their association with the firm/LLP)					
2(a)	Full time FCA Partners	5 points each	The first 5 full time CA partners will get the points mentioned in the adjacent column and remaining 15 full time CA partners will get half of these points			
2(b)	Full time ACA Partners	3 points each				
2(c)	Points for association of full time CA partners with the same	3 points for each full time CA partner above 15 years.				
	firm/LLP (considered with reference to the Formation Date or actual joining date of CA	2 points for each full time CA partner above 10 years and upto 15 years.				
	partner whichever is later)	1 point for each full time CA partner above 5 Years and upto 10 Years				
3.	Pointsforfulltime CA Employees(Only 20 full time CAemployees will be awardedpoints)	One point each for 5 full time CA employees and half point each for remaining 15 full time CA Employees				
4.	Year of establishment	1 point for every calendar year - Maximum 15.				

D. Selection Criteria: The applicant shall be shortlisted based on below point based system:

E. Other Terms & Conditions:

1. Interested Applicants which meet the pre-qualification criteria may furnish their Expression of Interest at the following link:

https://forms.office.com/r/9d9WbQd4TN

- 2. There shall be no fee for the application.
- 3. The application for the said assignment shall be accepted only through the above link and should be submitted latest by 20/07/2024 up to 1800 hours.
- 4. Queries, if any, in this regard may be sent to <u>internal.audit@icai.in</u>. Any communication other than email will not be entertained. The last date for receipt of queries regarding submission of expression of interest is 15/07/2024 up to 1800 hours.
- 5. The application shall remain valid for 90 days from the last date of submission of applications.
- 6. Any amendment / corrigendum / clarification to the EOI will be posted on the website of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, i.e. www.icai.org.
- The ICAI shall not be liable for non receipt/late receipt of any of the applications for this Expression of Interest.
- 8. The ICAI reserves the right to reject any of the applications or whole process without assigning any reason at any time and may call for any other details or additional information from any of the applicants/members at its own discretion. Non submission of details sought for will render the firm ineligible for the assignment. In this regard, the decision of ICAI shall be final and binding on all the applicants.
- 9. The decision of the Audit Committee of ICAI shall be final as regard to selection of the firm out of the applications so received.
- 10. Incomplete applications shall be summarily rejected.
- 11. Audit shall be conducted by appointed firm only and shall not be allowed to sublet the audit assignment.
- 12. The auditor shall maintain confidentiality of information obtained during the course of audit.
- 13. The engagement of the auditor shall terminate on acceptance of the Internal Audit Report for the half year ended 31.03.2025, by ICAI. However, ICAI may terminate the engagement of the auditor, at any time, without assigning any reason. In such cases, the firm shall not be eligible for any remuneration.
- 14. In case of any dispute or difference arising out of or in connection with any of the term and condition of this Notice / Engagement Letter issued to the selected Auditor, in the first instance, the parties shall try to resolve the issue by mutual consultation, failing which the same shall be referred to the sole arbitrator to be appointed mutually by both the parties. The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof, shall apply to these arbitration

proceedings. Arbitration proceedings shall be held at Delhi and the language of the arbitration proceeding shall be in English. The arbitral award shall be final and binding upon both the parties. All arbitral awards shall be in writing and shall state the reasons therefor. The cost of arbitration shall be borne by both the parties equally.

- 15. Subject to the arbitration clause as mentioned above, the Courts at Delhi/New Delhi shall have the exclusive jurisdiction to try any suit in the matter.
- 16. Detailed profile of the firm and declaration with respect to para 2 of *Eligibility Criteria* be mailed at <u>internal.audit@icai.in</u>.

S. No.	Region	Unit Name	Audit Fees
1	НО	Head Office	Rs.5,00,000/-
2	Regional Council	CIRC & CRO	Rs.1,14,000/-
3	/ Decentralised	NIRC & NRO	Rs.1,14,000/-
4	Office / COE	COE-Hyderabad	Rs.99,000/-
5		Bhilwara	Rs.66,000/-
6		Ghaziabad	Rs.83,000/-
7		Indore	Rs.99,000/-
8		Jaipur	Rs.1,32,000/-
9	Branches of Central Region	Kota	Rs.66,000/-
10	Central Region	Patna	Rs.66,000/-
11		Raipur	Rs.66,000/-
12		Ranchi	Rs.66,000/-
13		Udaipur	Rs.66,000/-
14	Branch of Eastern Region	Guwahati	Rs.66,000/-
15	Branches of	Hisar	Rs.66,000/-
16	Northern Region	Ludhiana	Rs.66,000/-
17		Chengalpattu	Rs.83,000/-
18		Guntur	Rs.66,000/-
19	Branches of	Mangalore	Rs.66,000/-
20	Southern Region	Hyderabad	Rs.1,32,000/-
21		Trichur	Rs.66,000/-
22		Visakhapatnam	Rs.66,000/-
23		Nagpur	Rs.99,000/-
24	Branches of	Rajkot	Rs.66,000/-
25	Western Region	Surat	Rs.1,10,000/-
26		Vadodara	Rs.99,000/-

List of the units for which applications are sought for