



ACEC Member Firm:

The ACEC Research Institute is currently engaged in updating the Qualifications-Based Selection study completed in 2009. Today, a decade later, this report is being updated as QBS comes under increasing pressure in multiple states. The issues and concerns that initially prompted the 2009 study remain with us and continue to broaden. The original authors of the study, Professor Paul Chinowsky from the University of Colorado Boulder and Professor Gordon Kingsley from Georgia Tech, are once again leading this effort. As part of this update process, we are asking for your assistance.

To effectively update the original study, we need to collect a broad group of project examples that can be analyzed to determine the use of QBS, the apparent effectiveness of QBS, and how QBS fits into current procurement policies. This group of projects ideally will cover multiple sectors, multiple geographic regions, and multiple cost levels. For this reason, we are requesting assistance from ACEC member firms to identify potential projects that can be used in the study.

A survey link included with the email you have received allows you to make project nominations. **We are looking for nominations by September 25.** To maintain consistency with the original study, we are looking for projects with the following characteristics:

- a. Projects should have been completed within the past 10 years and let to construction.
- b. Projects can be from any sector as indicated in the form.
- c. Projects could have been conducted under a QBS contracting process or non-QBS system (such as design/build or a low-bid process). We are looking for both so comparisons can be drawn in terms of effectiveness.
- d. Firms should ideally nominate more than one project, a QBS-based project and a non-QBS project if possible. The projects nominated should represent a range of outcomes in terms of project cost, project quality, schedule, and project completion. Ideally there should be cases that represent three groups: good cases where everything went well in terms of costs, quality, schedule, and completion, as well as projects that were average and below average in terms of these outcomes.
- e. Projects should be nominated where the project participants from a firm are still available for follow-up questions if appropriate.

Once all the project nominations are received, the team will review the nominations and get back to the nominators if additional information is required. A limited group of projects will be chosen for use as in-depth case studies at the conclusion of the project nomination process. **All information submitted by firms will be strictly confidential and viewed only by the research team. No individual firms or project information will be highlighted in the study without the firm's permission.**

We thank you for considering this request. Building a project database is the foundation of this effort and we need your assistance to build a database that will lead to a successful project completion. All ACEC member firms will be receiving a copy of the QBS report upon its completion.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Chinowsky at paul.chinowsky@colorado.edu

Sincerely,

Paul S. Chinowsky