

# **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

## **Justification and Approval**

**For**

### **Other Than Full and Open Competition**

**1. Contracting Activity:**

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Program Contracting Activity Central (PCAC)  
6150 Oak Tree Blvd. Suite 300  
Independence, Ohio 44131

**2. Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:**

The Department of Veterans Affairs Program Contracting Activity Central (VA-PCAC) intends to execute a purchase order to The American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) for a 10'x10' booth space rental to allow Veterans Health Administration (VHA) recruiters to attend the Midyear Clinical Meeting (ASHP MCM) conference.

**3. Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:**

a) **Description of Services:** The ASHP MCM is the largest gathering of pharmacists in the world. With its focus on improving patient care and medication safety, the meeting is attended by more than 20,000 pharmacy professionals. For decades, MCM has provided pharmacy practitioners a value-packed venue for updating their knowledge, enhancing their skills, and learning about the latest career recruitment and placement services. Attendees include military senior leaders with the knowledge, skills, and experience perfectly suited for the difficult-to-fill VA pharmacy leadership vacancies. Further, the booth space will act as a catalyst for VHA recruiters to meet face-to-face with prime candidates to facilitate their potential transition into VA pharmacy leadership positions.

b) **Estimated Dollar Value:** \$3,800.00

c) **Period of Performance:** December 8, 2013 – December 12, 2013

**4. Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:**

38 U.S.C. § 8127(c), Veterans First Contracting Program, as implemented by FAR 6.302-5, Authorized or required by statute.

- (X) (1) Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;  
( ) (2) Unusual and Compelling Urgency per FAR 6.302-2;  
( ) (3) Industrial Mobilization, Engineering, Developmental or Research Capability or Expert Services per FAR 6.302-3;  
( ) (4) International Agreement per FAR 6.302-4

- ( ) (5) Authorized or Required by Statute 38 U.S.C. § 8127(c), Veterans First Contracting Program
- ( ) (6) National Security per FAR 6.302-6;
- ( ) (7) Public Interest per FAR 6.302-7;

5. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):**

American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) is the sole sponsor of the MCM. All registration and procurement of space must be made through them. Therefore, no other sources are available to host the MCM. Further, this conference is unique as this is the only national conference of its kind that is dedicated to active duty pharmacists transitioning to civilian life. These Veterans are ideal for recruiting critically needed pharmacy managers for VA. Since VA continues to have difficulty recruiting and/or retaining pharmacy managers, this event has the potential of a significantly positive Return on Investment for VA, VHA, and Veterans receiving care from VA. To ensure VHA recruiters have the greatest possible chance in attracting the highest quality pharmacists to provide care to Veterans receiving healthcare through the VA, it is vital that VHA recruiters attend this conference.

6. **Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:**

American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) is the sole sponsor of the MCM.

7. **Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:**

No award shall be made until the Contracting Officer determines the price to the Government to be fair and reasonable. This determination will be based on a comparison of current contract pricing, the Independent Government Cost Estimate, or other information made available consistent with Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 13.

8. **Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:**

On September 25, 2013, a search was conducted on the ASHP website to verify that ASHP in fact is the sole provider of the MCM.

A VetBiz search was conducted on September 24, 2013 using North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code: 813910.

9. **Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:**

This requirement has received the requisite conference approval prior to the package being submitted to contracting.

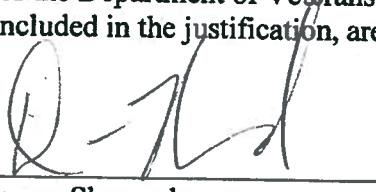
10. **Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:**

N/A

11. **A Statement of the Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition before Making subsequent acquisitions for the supplies or services required:**

If VHA intends to be afforded the opportunity to recruit high quality pharmacists, it is imperative that VHA recruiters continue to attend the ASHP MCM conference.

12. **Requirements Certification:** I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a Bona Fide Need of the Department of Veterans Affairs and that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in the justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darren Sherrard  
Associate Director for Recruitment  
Marketing  
Workforce Management and Consulting Office

10/1/13  
Date


13. **Approvals in accordance with FAR 6.304**

- a. **Contracting Officer's Certification (required):** I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas Sparks  
Contracting Officer  
Program Contracting Activity Central

9/26/13  
Date

- b. **NCM/PCM (Required \$3K and above):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Dahmen  
Program Contract Manager  
Program Contracting Activity Central

9/26/13  
Date