

VA260-14-R-0003
A/E and Related Professional Services
VAMCs Located in Spokane and Walla Walla, WA

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Can a structural engineering firm prime a team or does the prime need to be an architect.

Answer. The prime can be any firm that qualifies under the NAICS code 541330. To qualify, the firm's System Award Management (SAM) record must include the NAICS code 541330.

2. The solicitation contains the following, "Interested firms that meet the requirements in this announcement are invited to submit an electronic PDF application package consisting of (1) an SF330 Part I and Part II for their firm as well as for each proposed sub-consultant on the team; (2) resumes of key personnel . . ." Are the resumes identified in "(2) resumes of key personnel" the SF330 Part I, Section E Resumes?

Answer. Yes as long as this includes all key personnel including those from sub-consultant firms.

3. This is pre-solicitation. Does the VA intend to issue another solicitation after this one?

Answer. There will not be another solicitation posted to FBO. This posting is requesting submission of SF330s.

SF330s received will be evaluated and ranked from most highly to least qualified. After application of SDVOSB and VOSB preference, the most highly qualified firms (number to be determined) will be issued an RFP for pricing.

4. How many awards does the VA intend to make? Or if it's not definite, could you provide a range?

Answer. While the VA intends to award multiple contracts, until we know how many firms are satisfactorily qualified, the number – or even a range – is not possible to provide.

5. Can a larger firm be on the project team if they are not the prime, and are just a team member?

Answer. Yes, a large firm may be on the team, but the SDVOSB must be the accountable party and will hold all IDIQ and task order awards.

6. We are interested in providing services during construction of the Subject Projects. Will the Special Inspection and Materials Testing Services be solicited for separately?

Answer. The Inspection and Materials Testing will not be solicited separately. The A/E firm must have a sub-consultant on the proposed team for these services.

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7. We note that the NAICS Code listed is 541330, so does this exclude architectural firms (or firms with other NAICS codes) from being qualified for this procurement?

Answer. The firm must be qualified as being able to perform the work indicated by NAICS 541330. This NAICS code will have to be listed in the firm's SAM record for the firm to be responsive to the solicitation.

8. Does an interested firm need to be verified or certified as a Veteran Owned Small Business to compete for the new contract?

Answer. No, unless the firm wants to receive the veteran preference. Firms can self-certify as a small business.

9. In the 3rd paragraph of the solicitation VA26014R0003, "Services may involve single or multi-disciplinary teams which may include architectural, interior design, civil, electrical, landscape, mechanical (plumbing, HVAC, etc.), structural, industrial hygiene and other related services. Specialty engineering consultants may be required. Requirements will vary for each task order and will be defined in the task order scope of work."

Do you require/suggest that the company provides the service for each of the disciplines for each location in the general geographical area - Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Alaska States besides Spokane and Walla, Walla?

Answer. Firms should be able to provide all services in all geographic areas for which you request to be considered.

10. Is VA expecting a Mechanical/Electrical engineering lead or Civil/Structural engineering lead?

Answer. The VA will accept either lead.

11. Does the VA expect the type of projects to be completed under this contract to be more mechanical/electrical in nature or civil/structural in nature?

Answer. Historically, projects are mixed between the two discipline sets you mention.

12. Forgive me if I've missed it in the Solicitation, but I can't locate a time due. What time is the submittal due?

Answer. Any time on the date stated. Even if it is after hours, if the email sent date is the correct date, I'll accept it.

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13. Is each sub-consultant firm to submit a 330 Part I? If so, that will be a substantial package to submit to the VA, if for example, we have 15 subs and each has to give us a full Part I qualifications package.

Answer. Only one SF330 Part I is expected; however, there should be a Section E for each key person from the prime and all sub-consultants. Please note revision to the initial notice posted on October 17, 2013, and the modification posted on November 1, 2013.

14. We want to submit qualifications for work in all regions, not just our local area. Is this acceptable to the VA, or should we just focus on one locale.

Answer. Selecting the geographical regions is totally up to the consultant. The VA does not have a preference.

15. Is the VA looking for a submittal by an architectural firm as prime with a full complement of sub-consultants on our team?

OR

Are you looking for an engineering firm to submit as prime with architects subbing to them? If so, what engineering discipline would that be?

OR

Would each discipline submit individually?

Answer. The prime consultant must qualify under NAICS 541330, so that firm must primarily engage in engineering services. Within this NAICS code, the VA is not dictating the discipline.

The VA is looking for only one submittal package (SF330 Parts I and II) for each team. SF330 Part I Section E must be completed for each key person for the prime and all sub-consultants.