

Question & Answer's
RFP VA101V-15-R-0286
IT Accelerated Learning Programs
3/5/15

- Q1. Will the Training Provider or the Veteran's Administration provide the classrooms required for the Information Technology Accelerated Learning Programs (IT ALP)? If the answer varies by City, please specify.
- a. If the VA will provide the classrooms, what is the maximum student seating capacity likely to be available per classroom -- assuming adequate space for each student to have one computer and one (or preferably two) computer monitors?
 - b. If the VA will provide the classrooms, will the classrooms have adequate consistent bandwidth for all students to simultaneously run remotely hosted technical training labs without significant delays that could impact the time required to complete classes? Please specify approximate minimum bandwidth capacities / availabilities if unsure. If bandwidth capacities / availabilities vary by city, please provide details.
 - c. If the VA is providing the classrooms, will the VA also be providing the location and/or equipment necessary for students who are attending training remotely?
- A1. The VA will not provide classrooms for the ALP. All facilities shall be provided by the contractor.
- Q2. If the Training Provider is providing the classrooms, are there requirements for the proximity of these classrooms to the relevant military installations?
- A2. There are no location requirements other than those described in the RFP.
- Q3. Will the Training Provider or the Veteran's Administration provide the computers or laptops required for the IT training -- assuming the classrooms must be equipped with one computer or laptop per student? If the answer varies by City, please specify.
- a. If the VA will provide the computers or laptops, what are the minimum computer specifications? If the answer varies by city, please specify.
- A3. All equipment, materials, and supplies necessary to complete the program shall be provided by the contractor.

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- Q4. Will Transitioning Service Members be granted leave from their current duties during the timeframe of the IT ALP program, or should the Training Provider assume that some students will have less than full-time availability during the IT ALP Program when planning training schedules?
- A4. Assume that some students may have less than full-time availability.
- Q5. Is there a minimum or maximum number of hours per week or per month that the VA prefers (or requires) students to be in class?
- A5. No.
- Q6. Is the assumption of the government that vendors will have a physical presence in the "geographical areas of need" as it relates to job placement services or will vendors have access to physical locations of where the VA has regional offices?
- A6. Contractors are not required to have a physical presence in the geographic areas of need. Contractors will not have access to VA Regional Offices.
- Q7. What is the government expectation of the offeror providing IT equipment for the training?
- A7. All equipment, materials, and supplies necessary to complete the program shall be provided by the contractor.
- Q8. Is the offeror expected to provide IT equipment for the training if done on f2f mode across the geographic areas listed?
- A8. Yes. All equipment, materials, and supplies necessary to complete the program shall be provided by the contractor.
- Q9. Can we assume the veterans have basic Internet connectivity and IT equipment (for online training)?
- A9. No. All equipment, materials, and supplies necessary to complete the program shall be provided by the contractor.
- Q10. If necessary, will the government provide the veterans with the resources (e.g., computer, cell phone) they need to complete the training and search for a job?
- A10. No. All equipment, materials, and supplies necessary to complete the program shall be provided by the contractor.

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- Q11. Will the Government consider adding an oral presentation as a part of the evaluation process?
- A11. Oral presentations will not be conducted. Evaluations will be made based on the offers submitted.
- Q12. Will the Government extend the response due date by 7 days?
- A12. No.
- Q13. The pricing worksheet requires a price for an estimated quantity of 200 – is this a FFP for that quantity or will the VA be ordering services based on a single veteran?
- A13. Quantities are estimated only. Task Orders will be issued in accordance with RFP Section B.4. Veterans will be referred individually as identified.
- Q14. Understanding and implementing a robust program requires management and startup costs – will the Government consider a milestone payment for this purpose?
- A14. No. Payments will be made in accordance with the price schedule and RFP Section B.4.
- Q15. I also understand that some startups would be required to subcontract with certain business, giving them 30% of the award.
- A15. Please refer to RFP Section C.7, E.8, and E.15(4)(a). VA is required to give preference to Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business/Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB/VOSB). Offerors who are SDVOSB or VOSB or offerors who propose to sub-contract with SDVOSB/VOSB's will be given credit under the Veterans Involvement sub-factor. Offerors will not be penalized for not being an SDVOSB/VOSB or for not proposing to subcontract. The evaluation criteria is clearly explained in RFP Section E.15(4)(a).
- Q16. It's come to my attention that the RFP for the veterans program may prevent the startups at the round table from applying, because it requires previous federal contract/VA experience.
- A16. Please refer to RFP Section E.15(6). The Past Performance requirements are clearly explained. The Government is required to evaluate offeror Past Performance however, offerors will not be penalized for not having relevant Past Performance information. Offerors who do not have experience providing same/similar services will be rated "neutral" and said rating shall not affect the offeror's eligibility for award.