

Addendum to 52.212-2 –Evaluation of Commercial Items

- a. **BASIS FOR CONTRACT AWARD:** This acquisition will utilize the Lowest Priced Technically Acceptable (LPTA) procedure to make a best value award. A decision on the technical acceptability of each offeror's quotations will be made. For those offerors which are determined to be technically acceptable, award will be made to that vendor with the lowest overall price. While the Government will strive for maximum objectivity, the technical go/no go process, by its nature, is subjective; therefore, professional judgment is implicit throughout the evaluation process. The Government intends to make an award based on the initial quotations. If further questions are required, the contracting officer may contact the offeror or offerors. Award will be made to the responsible offeror whose quotation conforms to all solicitation requirements, such as terms and conditions, representations and certifications, technical requirements, and also provides the best value to the Government based on the results of the evaluation described in paragraph (b) below.

(b) The LPTA evaluation process will be accomplished as follows:

- (1) **Technical Acceptability.** Each offeror's technical quotations will be evaluated to determine if the offeror provides a sound, compliant approach that meets the requirements of Part 5 of the Performance Work Statement and demonstrates a thorough knowledge and understanding of those requirements. An evaluation rating of Technically Acceptable / Non-Acceptable will be assigned upon completion of the technical quotations evaluation. If an Offeror receives a technical rating of "Non-Acceptable" they will not be considered for award.

PAST PERFORMANCE:

Using no more than 3 references provided and the data Independently obtained from other Government and commercial sources, the Government shall assess the offeror's ability to perform the effort described in this Request for Quote (RFQ). The assessment process will result in an overall technical rating of Acceptable / Non Acceptable or Neutral / Unknown. Offerors with no relevant past or present performance history shall receive the rating "neutral or unknown", meaning the rating is treated neither favorably nor unfavorably.

In evaluating past performance, the Government will evaluate the quality and extent of offeror's experience deemed relevant to the requirements of this RFQ and reserves the right to give greater consideration to information on those contracts deemed most relevant to the solicited requirements.

The Government may consider: Quality of Work Performance (offeror's record of conforming to PWS, providing quality service, and the quality and efficiency of handling invoices and billings); Timeliness of Performance (offeror's ability to meet contractual performance schedules); Customer Satisfaction (the degree of satisfaction among the offeror's customers).

- (2) **Price:** The offeror's Price quotations will be evaluated by CLIN and the offerors with the lowest overall Price will be ranked accordingly.

- a. The Pricing Schedule must be completed for all line items and all option years and will be evaluated as to completeness and reasonableness.

An offeror's quoted prices will be determined by multiplying the quantities identified in Schedule of Items by the quoted unit price for each Contract Line Item Number (CLIN) to confirm the extended amount for each. Then, all CLINs across the Base and all Option Years will be totaled to arrive at a Total Estimated Schedule Price. This Total Estimated Schedule Price will be used in the evaluation.

The offeror with the lowest Total Estimated Schedule Price represents the best value for the Government.

- b. The VA intends to award without discussions. As such, Offerors are admonished to submit all information requested and to provide their best possible pricing up front.
- c. Options. The Government will evaluate offers for award purposes by adding the total price for all options to the total price for the basic requirement. The Government may determine that an offer is unacceptable if the option prices are significantly unbalanced. Evaluation of options shall not obligate the Government to exercise the option(s).
- d. A written notice of award or acceptance of an offer, mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful offeror within the time for acceptance specified in the offer, shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party. Before the offer's specified expiration time, the Government may accept an offer (or part of an offer), whether or not there are negotiations after its receipt, unless a written notice of withdrawal is received before award.
- e. If adequate price competition is not obtained or if price reasonableness cannot be determined using price analysis of Government-obtained information, additional information in accordance with FAR 15.4 may be required to support the proposed price.
- f. **Balance:** In addition, offerors are cautioned against submitting an offer that contains unbalanced pricing. Unbalanced pricing exists when, despite an acceptable total evaluated price, the price of one or more contract line items including the Basic ordering period and out-year ordering periods, is significantly overstated or understated as indicated by the application of analysis techniques. The Government will analyze offers to determine whether there are unbalanced separately priced line items or sub-line items. Prices submitted will be compared and evaluated to assure that a logical progression exists as related to price and quantity changes within each offeror's response to the pricing structure in the line items. Offers that are determined to be unbalanced may be rejected if the lack of balance poses an unacceptable risk to the Government.

(End of Addenda)