

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

**Justification and Approval (J&A)
For
Other Than Full and Open Competition (>\$150K)**

Acquisition Plan Action ID: VA243-15-AP-3525

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 3: VA NY/NJ Veterans Healthcare Network.

PR Reference Number: 526-16-1-045-0005

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

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Integrated Service Center (VISN) 3 requires an existing commercial off the shelf web based product that provides Clinical Research titles, Consumer titles as well as Health Administrative titles which can be found when searching by the host product.

This shall be awarded a new contract with a base and four option years as the current contract is place will expire on December 31,2015.

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

This Knowledge-Based Product will be made available through the VISN 3 Digital Library Website for searching both its title and content for all staff having a health related topic which they desire to know more about the subject matter or need to become better informed about to care for our patients. Clinical staff includes nurses and allied health in addition to physicians, residents, medical students and medical researchers. Administrative staff includes any support staff to the VISN 3 facilities. Locations will include primary facility addresses along with the facility's CBOCs and Vet Centers.

The subject matter fields covered will include the International Medical field, Nursing field, and Health Administrative (Management and Personnel) field. The search engine must be able to search the Medline database and it should emphasize online full text titles for 2,113 of the 5,623 journals currently indexed in EBSCO's MEDLINE database providing current up to date access and making available at least the last 5 years of coverage at a minimum. The package is to consist of EBSCO Host's other databases which will cover the needs of Health Administrative as well as Nursing staff. *The Health Business Elite* database, is to provide full text support in the Administrative area of our Bronx VA facility and *the Nursing and Allied Health* database is to supplement the nursing titles not supplied through the VA Library Network (VALNET) subscriptions or other JJP subscriptions.

Estimated Value:

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2. PROJECT MANAGER	Period of Performance			
	FROM		TO	
	Jan. 01, 2016		Dec. 30, 2016	
DESCRIPTION OF COST ELEMENTS				
1. DIRECT LABOR (List Labor Categories)	ESTIMATED HOURS	RATED PER HOUR (\$)	ESTIMATED COST (\$)	TOTAL ESTIMATED COST (\$)
	Bed count (2234)	% Bed 1%		
VA New York Harbor HealthCare System- Manhattan/Brooklyn Campus	476	.2130	\$0.00	21,058.79
James J. Peters VA Med Center	325	.1454	\$0.00	14,664.71
NORTHPORT VA MED CENTER	255	.1141	\$0.00	11,704.14
VA NEW JERSEY HCS (East Orange/Lyons)	867	.3880	\$0.00	33,052.76
VA HUDSON VALLEY (FDR, CastlePoint)	311	.1395	\$0.00	14,106.6
			\$0.00	94,587.00

Each period of performance requires an IGCE – (base award, and all option periods require an IGCE)

Base year: \$ 94,587.00

Option year IGCE (approx. 3% increase)

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Option Year #1: January-December, 2017	\$ 97,425.00
Option Year #2: January-December, 2018	\$ 100,348.00
Option Year #3: January-December, 2019	\$ 103,358.00
Option Year #4: January-December, 2020	\$ 106,459.00

Total Contract Value: \$502,177.00

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

- (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 FAR 6.302-5;
- () (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):

Market research that was performed determined that Ebsco Health was the only source capable of providing this service at this time as they are the owners of the database and software at this time.

- a. **Only One Responsible Source (FAR 6.302-1)** – EBSO INDUSTRIES is the only firm capable of providing the requested services described in Section III above without the Veteran's Health Administration as the required databases are only available through EBSO INDUSTRIES at this time.

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

Sources Sought Synopsis:

An RFI (VA243-15-N-1231) was posted through GSA E-buy and a special notice was posted through FBO notifying all capable vendors that VA NY/NJ Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN3) intends to negotiate a sole source procurement with EBSO INDUSTRIES for subscriptions to their exclusive medical databases (ex. CINAHL, Psych. & Behavioral Sciences, Medline, Cochrane, and Business & Full text elite) as well as the full-text online journals offered with these databases for use by the multiple VA Medical Centers of VISN3. No responses were received from any capable vendors.

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

The contracting officer anticipates that the cost for this service will be considered fair and reasonable based on the current contract that will expire in December. The technical evaluation factors for this project are:

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- 1) Technical –
The ability for the vendor to provide access to the Medline, HaPI and JBI medical databases
- 2) Past Performance
- 3) Price

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

As described in Section VI above, market research, in accordance with FAR Part 10, was conducted by synopsis of the proposed acquisition, advising industry of the pending acquisition and soliciting inquiries from interested parties. An RFI (VA243-15-N-1231) was posted through GSA E-buy and a special notice was posted through FBO notifying all capable vendors of the project requirements. No responses were received from other qualified sources

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

This database is proprietary in nature and is not available from an outside vendor, therefore it requires a sole source procurement strategy.

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:

Unfortunately, as the facility requires access to this specific database, as long as this is specific to EBSCO there is no way possible to promote competition.

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.



Name: Judy Steever
Title: Librarian
Facility: Bronx

12-2-15

Date

13. Approvals in accordance with the VHAPM, Volume 6, Chapter VI: OFOC SOP.

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

Name: Nicole Howerton
Title: Supervisory Contract Specialist

Date

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Facility: Bronx

- b. **Director of Contracting /Designee (Required \$150K and above):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

Name: Cherie Widger-Kresge
NCO 3 Director of Contracting
Facility: Buffalo, NY

Date