

RFIs for VA257-16-B-1321 Replace/Upgrade Fire Door System

Q1. It is the contractors understanding that only 9 doors have the low voltage devices connected to them?

A1. Yes

Q2. Confirm that there is no abatement involved with this contract?

A2. No abatement should be needed for this contract unless something is discovered during the project and as long as we are not moving any pipes since that is the only thing that has ACM in these areas. However there is Lead Base Paint on the doors and jambs so this needs to be considered.

Q3. Can the Construction Superintendent also be the SSHO and CQC person on this project?

A3. Yes

Q4. There were not any fire rated tags that could be found on the existing doors and frames, so will the new frame and doors be required to be reinstalled in the same day?

A4. The project requires fire rated labels on all doors according to the NFPA. This project is to include new doors and new frames. To maintain the fire protection to the medical center each door must be demolished and new door a frame installed in one work day.

Q5. Can the VA provide the access control subcontractor?

A5. Yes

Q6. The existing terrazzo flooring in the corridors will be very difficult to match even somewhat close. Does the VA know of another product that can be used?

A6. Match the existing as close as possible. Make sharp straight even edge with the new and existing materials.

Q7. During the pre-bid it was discussed that fire rated plastic could be used as the partitions verses studs and drywall? Please confirm.

A7. 6 mil fire retardant plastic can be used to secure the work site. Plastic barrier must be labeled.

Q8. Please confirm that a compliant bid consists only of complete execution of form SF 1442.

A8. The bid consists of all requirements listed on the SF 1442 and the supporting attachments.

Q9. Does the pricing for item 0001 on “Section B – Schedule of Prices/Description” include the additional 6 doors reference on page 2 of the “Presolicitation Notice” stating “**One additional alternative: Replace 6 doors, frames and hardware in building 96**”?

A9. No, the additional alternative is item 0002 on the Schedule B.

Q10. Do we provide storage containers for our materials and equipment? If so where do we place storage containers?

A10. Yes, the contractor is responsible to provide their own storage containers. The contractor can use a portion of the empty lot next to the engineering building #55.

Q11. Temporary barricades are identified as a requirement in the RFP. Does the hospital or its supporting agency have existing barricades for the contractor to use, or do we provide our own?

A11. The contractor will need to provide the barricades on their own.

Q12. Will the Contracting Officer Representative (COR) provide examples of the types of PPE and monitoring devices that are required in the VA Project Manual?

A12. Air monitoring will not be required unless there is the present of asbestos.

Q13. Are alternates permitted for Sargent Hardware?

A13. No. Alternates are not permitted. Make sure the hardware accepts Stanley 6-pin cores.

Q14. Will a fire rating need to be maintained at all times during demolition and construction of the new door? It may take a few days to remove a door and install a new one, during which time the door will not be there to create the fire rating so will the contractor need to build a fire rated temporary wall?

A14. The contractor will be required to install one door at a time. The VA will have Interim Life Safety Measure in place before the door is replaced. The VA would like to have all the martial and labor on site before the demo is started.

Q15. Will each door need to be sealed off on both sides for infectious disease prevention?

A15. The work site will need to be closed off to through traffic. The contractor is required to use 6mil fire retardant plastic.

Q16. When we work on Hallway or corridor doors, will we need to work at night or weekends since we will be obstructing the hallways?

A16. Work will be done during normal business hour 07:00 to 16:00.

Q17. Will the VA provide the texture type and the exact finish colors needed to do touch up work around the new doors?

A17. Yes

Q18. Can the doors be painted on site in a contractor lay down area?

A18. Yes

Q19. What is the current control system for the maglocks and other door controls?

A19. Secour is the current system that the Police use for these systems and controls.

Q20. Will the VA keep the existing maglock systems for parts or should the contractor dispose of the system?

A20. The VA will reuse the existing maglock and control system.

Q21. Will the VA reprogram all of the software for the controls on the doors or will the contractor be responsible for installing the hardware and updating the VA's current software to make the new doors work properly?

A21. The VA will reprogram the door software with contractor via the VA.

Q22. Will the contractor need to install additional exit or life safety signage on or near the doors?

A22. No

Q23. Is this project sales tax exempt?

A23. Yes

Q24. If the project is sales tax exempt can the government provide a sales tax exemption certificate?

A24. Yes

Q25. Will the Government provide comprehensive written badging requirements for the project if badging is required?

A25. The VA uses the NICA Background screening process.

Q26. Where will the designated parking area be for workers accessing the construction site?

A26. Contractor parking is located in the empty field next to the engineering building #55.

Q27. Will the fire sprinkler system and/or the fire alarm system need to be disrupted during construction?

A27. No

Q28. If yes, what if any additional security measures will the government require e.g. fire watch, temporary fire alarms, adjustments to sprinkler heads, etc.?

A28. N/A

Q29. Does the Government have a fire alarm servicer that they currently work with?

A29. Yes

Q30. What is the name and contact information of the person or persons that will need to be coordinated with for security and fire alarm and suppression systems work and/or disruptions?

A30. The VA will provide this service Convergent Monte Boedeker 210-310-6227
Tyco Charles Lee 210-219-6393.

Q31. Has the work area been checked for asbestos?

A31. Yes

Q32. What is the Governments' policy if asbestos products are encountered during construction?

A32. Let the COR know and the VA's third party will test the suspected material. In the meantime the contractor will be required to move to next location and continue work until the results of the suspected material are in. If the material is not hot work will continue as normal and the contractor may request a copy of the lab report. If the material is hot then the VA has the right to remove the ACM themselves or issuing a change to the contractor to remove.

Q33. Does the Government currently have a 3rd party testing service for those items requiring testing or is the contractor free to locate and hire applicable testing firms?

A33. Please see the response to question A32.

Q34. Describe any and all tasks that may be required for this project as it relates to infectious control?

A34. Please see the attached IRCA permit.

Q35. What is the level of infectious disease control rating for this site?

A35. The ICRA class is a 3.

Q36. Will the government provide the rating document for infectious disease control?

A36. The ICRA class is a 3.

Q37. Pg. 5 of 46 under base bid it is written in 365 days to perform the date and it typed in numbers 180. Please clarify.

A37. 365 days.

Q38. Solicitation states that no onsite storage materials for laydown will be provided. The document says the government will provide material delivery. Is the government going to deliver materials from offsite location? Clarify.

A38. Please disregard the above statement in the solicitation. The above statement will not apply to the Kerrville Division.

Q39. Last sentence of Pg. 5 of 46 states all works ought to have OSHA 15. Our employees have OSHA 10, superintendents have OSHA 30. Not aware of OSHA 15. Please Clarify.

A39. OSHA 10 hour is sufficient.

Q40. Please send comprehensive badging requirements and the time frame to be granted badging.

A40. See attached badging information. Walk-ins for photos and fingerprints are from 07:30 to 0930 Monday thru Friday.

Q41. What precautions or barriers will need to be built to replace the door in the dementia unit?

A41. Due to the nature of this area we will have to work with the nursing staff as well as engineering staff to make sure we control this area as best we can. This door needs to be done in one day and as quickly as possible. We must also maintain the ICRA barriers for there are patients in this area.

Q42. Specify what kind of containment should be used at Stair Wells?

A42. 6mil fire retardant plastic.

Q43. Does the VA have any of the different types of flooring material or wall paper that will be needed to match after the new frames are installed?

A43. No, submit items currently available to match existing.