

RFIs (1<sup>st</sup> Phase)  
VA248-15-R-0863  
Amendment A00001  
March 7, 2017

1. Since all work will be performed on federal property, I assume a State of Florida contractor's license will not be required?

**Answer: Special Licensing requirements are addressed in the solicitation in paragraph 1.3.28, Special Licenses. Professional state licenses are required for design portions of Design-Build task orders, such as PE for engineering designers and Architectural license for Architects. The requirement for a General Contractor's license is task order dependent and will be addressed in each individual task order.**

2. Is that 18 MATOCS/IDIQ's or 18 contractors participating in one MATOC?

**Answer: The number of MATOCS awarded will not be determined until the Source Selection Process has been completed.**

3. Under 1.2.2.1 Technical Evaluation Factors, paragraph 1, page 9 of the solicitation states "the offeror shall submit two (2) Contractor Experience forms provided as Attachment 1". Item (3) of this section states "at least two of the projects submitted." To clarify, are offerors limited to providing only two projects, or can offerors submit additional projects for consideration?

**Answer: An amendment will be posted revising paragraph 1.2.2.1 to read "the 4 projects submitted on the "Contractors Experience" form must be valued between \$250,000 and \$10,000,000 and completed or at least 50% completed within the last five (5) years from 9 February 2017 (the release of the MATOC solicitation).**

4. We are writing you to request a variance in the requirement for the experience factor within the above referenced Solicitation. Currently, the Solicitation requires that one of the projects submitted be Design Build within the last 5 years. We would like to request that this time restriction be extended to 10 years due to the reduced number of Design Build opportunities in the post-recession years. The 5 year restriction could greatly reduce competition for the Contract and exclude otherwise qualified Contractors from participating. Please consider our request.

**Answer: An amendment will be posted revising paragraph 1.2.2.1 to read "the 4 projects submitted on the "Contractors Experience" form must be valued between \$250,000 and \$10,000,000 and completed or at least 50% completed within the last five (5) years from 9 February 2017 (the release of the MATOC solicitation).**

5. Can you please clarify how many projects are required/acceptable under 1.2.2.1 Experience? This paragraph states that, "the offeror shall submit two (2) Contractor Experience' forms..." however, It later goes on to state project requirements and implies that more than two projects are acceptable.

**Answer: An amendment will be posted revising paragraph 1.2.2.1 to read “the 4 projects submitted on the “Contractors Experience” form must be valued between \$250,000 and \$10,000,000 and completed or at least 50% completed within the last five (5) years from 9 February 2017 (the release of the MATOC solicitation).**

6. Can you please clarify how many completed PPQs are required/acceptable under 1.2.2.3 Factor 3, Past Performance?

**Answer: Two**

7. Page 4 of 85 of the Solicitation, paragraph 1.1.1.4 notes a minimum guarantee for a task order of \$1,000. Page 18 of 85, paragraph 1.3.2.1, it notes the minimum order amount of \$2,000 and this is also noted in several additional paragraphs within the solicitation. Please confirm the minimum task order amount of \$2,000.

**Answer: Page 4 of 85 refers to the “Minimum Order Guarantee (MOG) of \$1,000. Each contractor selected for award of a MATOC will be issued a MOG Task Order in the amount of \$1,000. This is not to be confused with the minimum Task Order of \$2,000. Other than the MOG Task Order of \$1,000 no other task orders will be issued for less than \$2,000.**

8. Attachment 3, Page 2 of 5 notes the return date for the Past Performance Questionnaire as “no later than 4:30 P.M. on June 22, 2016. Please review and advise on the due date for returning the Past Performance Questionnaires.

**Answer: Past Performance Questionnaires are due by the proposal due date (March 27, 2017, 4:30 pm EST).**

9. As you can see by my company's attached 2017 SAM Entity Registration, our primary NAICS codes are 238210, ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, and 541330, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES. Given that VISN-8 will be selecting up to 18 SDVOSB contractors for this MATOC, can I still submit my proposal for VA248-15-R-0863, even though the primary NAICS code listed for this MATOC is 236220, GENERAL CONSTRUCTION?

**Answer: The NAICS code for the MATOC is 236220 “General Construction”. Nothing should prevent you from obtaining the proper NAICS code as this is a self-certification process. However, please read the solicitation regarding the evaluation factors specifically “experience”. That will help you in your decision making process.**

10. To go along with question 13, as you can see from my attached Certificate of Insurance, you can see that my Professional Liability Insurance maximum level is \$2M. Thus, as I am not a General

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Contractor, I do not have Bonding or Surety coverage. Would I be able to apply as a SDVOSB contractor on this MATOC?

**Answer: In accordance with FAR Clause 52.228-15 – Performance and Payment Bonds – Construction. Contractors selected for award of a construction contract shall provide performance and payment bonds on construction contracts with a value greater than \$150,000.**

11. Once you are selected for the MATOC and task order are given, would it be require to resubmit qualifications for each task order such as: past Performance, Technical approach, Personal etc. or will be Bond and price only.

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

12. If the contractor is awarded the Task order and the original requirements mention the submission of a technical approach and this is change during the pre-con, will this be considered as a change order? Price quote and how we are to approach the job is develop using the time and quote subs give us to perform the particular job, if this is change, it may affect the completion and cost of the project.

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

13. Who will review the Technical approach?

**Answer: The Source Selection Team**

14. Instead of requesting a technical approach and progress schedule, which the majority of time is change, can this be deleted and during the pre-construction meeting with all the people affected by the construction present, the contractor develop an accurate progress schedule.

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

15. Page 13 of the solicitation (Section 1.2.5 Proposal Format) includes Tabs A through E, followed by Tab G. Tab F appears to be missing from the formatting. Please confirm the appropriate tab sequence.

**Answer: TAB G is incorrect and should read TAB F.**

16. What effect will the new budget have on future projects?

**Answer: There is no way of knowing for certain what the VA's capital budget will look like in FY18 and beyond. But, the VA does not expect it to change dramatically in either direction.**

17. What are the plans for Lake Baldwin Site?

**Answer: Lake Baldwin will continue to have outpatient functions offered. As such, there will continue to be a need for projects to maintain or renovate it based on Orlando VA's priorities.**

18. Is the process for CVE certification being fixed? Our company has had to enroll multiple times because our certification is lost or missing.

**Answer: We do not have oversight or control over Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE). Please report any problems related to this process to <http://www.va.gov/osdbu>.**

19. Some Contracting Officers are unable to view our SAM registration. I have heard it is partly due to how the company registers (Public or non-public). Some contractors prefer to setup their SAM account as non-public in an effort to reduce spam. It appears if the contractor is registered privately; the CO must sign into SAM. Can you please clarify?

**Answer: The System for Award Management (SAM) is used by contractors to register to do business with the Government. Contractors can elect to register their company either publicly or not. Contracting Officers understand that they must sign into SAM in order to view and validate both public and private registrations.**

20. Can the contractor submit Experience Modification Rate (EMR) form annually opposed to submitting one in each task order proposal?

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference but yes "can a contractor submit the Experience Modification Rate (EMR) form annually as opposed to submitting one on each task order proposal will be give very strong consideration.**

21. Does the contractor need to submit a technical approach for each task order when the approach submitted is rarely used?

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

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22. Can the contractor submit one general quality plan opposed to a unique quality plan for each task order?

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

23. Can the requirement to submit past performance questionnaire in Phase 2 be eliminated as these questionnaires were already submitted in Phase 1?

**Answer: Past Performance Questionnaires will be not required in the Phase II portion of this solicitation.**

24. How can contractors help police the “rent a vet” practice?

**Answer: Contractors should contact the Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) when they suspect a contractor is operating as a pass-through.**

25. Can bid evaluations be shortened? There have been some cases where evaluations took over three to six months to complete.

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference, but yes lengthy bid evaluations must be shortened and will be addressed during the post award conferences.**

26. Can the government provide project forecasting?

**Answer: Yes. Contractors can visit the VA’s website under “VA Forecast of Contracting Opportunities” at <https://www.vendorportal.ecms.va.gov/eVP/fco/FCO.aspx> where the VA posts potential and known requirements for each quarter/fiscal year. The information is published for planning purposes only and is not a solicitation an invitation for bids, a request for proposals or commitment by the VA to purchase products or services. Each requirement is based on the best information provided by the customer and may be revised or canceled.**

27. We are considering this opportunity as part of an SDVOSB Joint Venture (JV). The RFP states that “firms must be certified by the Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) at [www.vetbiz.gov](http://www.vetbiz.gov) at time of offer.” CVE status for our JV is currently pending approval through the VA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (VA OSDBU), as can be verified through the Vendor Information Pages. If the JV does not obtain its CVE certification by the proposal due date 3/17/2017, will the VA accept the proposal based on the fact that the JV’s SDVOSB/Managing Partner is CVE certified?

**Answer: The J/V entity must be certified by the proposal due date. This means the JV must be in CVE and have its own specific Dun and Brad Street Number (DUNS).**

28. Can you issue a new Attachment 3, Past Performance Questionnaire form or can we change the attached form to reflect the response date of March 17, 2017 in lieu of the June 22, 2016 date listed? And change page 1 to 1 of 5 in lieu of 2 of 5?

**Answer: The form will be revised.**

29. Instructions provided in 1.2.2.1 Experience request detailed bonding capacity information via Attachment 2. Please provide minimum and maximum bonding requirements for this MATOC.

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

30. 1.2.6 Submission Instructions include 1.2.6.3, “offerors may be required to submit up to three (3) hard copies.” Please clarify if these are actually required and, if so, what the due date for them is. Also, whether the due date can be met via instructions (1.2.6.1) to submit via email and then follow with hard copies?

**Answer: Three (3) Hard copies shall be submitted AND either a CD or electronic submission. Both have to be submitted on or before proposal due date of March 27, 2017.**

31. During the site visit presentation on 2/22/17, presenters provided information that task orders may fall within a \$25,000 to \$9.5 mil range. Yet, instructions to offerors in 1.2.2.1 Experience (3) limit past performance projects to a value of between \$250,000 and \$10,000,000. Will the VA consider expanding the lower dollar value range for past projects to more accurately reflect the likely value of task orders?

**Answer: The range of task orders can be as low as \$2,000 or as high as \$9,999,999.**

32. Are we required to submit a proposal for all the facilities, or can we offer on the South Florida and Puerto Rico facilities only as with our current MATOC contract?

**Answer: Please review Solicitation No.: VA248-15-R-0863 for proposal submission instructions.**

33. Will an attendees list be issued with regard to the St. Pete site visit of last Wednesday?

**Answer: Yes. Attendance list will be included in solicitation amendment.**

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34. We are looking at applying but do not have recent design build experience. I wanted to ask you if that would immediately disqualify us from consideration? We have been doing work at VA Facilities for almost 20 years, but majority of them were/are already designed. We have performed projects in the appropriate cost ranges, and can meet all other evaluation criteria.

**Answer: No you will not be disqualified from consideration because you do not have recent design build experience.**

35. We are in the process of obtaining our Florida Contractors License, but do not have it as of yet. Would we need to have this before applying for the MATOC?

**Answer: No you do not need to have a Florida's Contractor's License prior to applying for the MATOC. Please review Solicitation No.: VA248-15-R-0863 for proposal submission instructions.**

36. During the site visit, the possibility of submission being required through the vendor portal was discussed. Please confirm if submission through a vendor portal will be required. If submission through a vendor portal will be required, please provide which portal (VA, FBO, etc.) along with detailed submission instructions. If submission through a vendor portal will be required, please confirm if submission of a Compact Disc (CD) will still be required. If submission through a vendor portal will be required AND submission of a CD will still be required, please provide if the CD must arrive at the same time as the vendor portal submission or if it may arrive up to 1-2 business days following.

**Answer: The vendor portal will not be used at this time. Three (3) Hard copies shall be submitted AND either a CD or electronic submission. Both have to be submitted on or before proposal due date.**

37. For electronic submission via email, should the proposal be sent as a single PDF or as separate files for each of the Tabs?

**Answer: Single PDF.**

38. Do we need to pull permits and have a G.C. license?

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

39. Is there a Warranty on labor? How long is the warranty period?

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

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40. Is there a self-perform minimum on labor performed?

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

41. Will there be an environmental building statement that covers all HAZ MAT present?

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

42. Does the Firm Fixed Price contract include testing in the original contract and is this part of the retainage for each job/ equipment test?

**Answer: This RFI is related to the post award and will be addressed at the Post Award conference.**

43. Please advise if the government has an estimate of how many contractors will pass to the phase 2. Also please advise how the government will make the cut if adjectival ratings will be used which typically allows for only a few adjectives.

**Answer: The number of MATOCS awarded will not be determined until the Source Selection Process has been completed.**

44. Please advise if co-surety arrangement will be allowed for Joint Ventures and if so please advise if attachment 2 must be submitted by the two ventures

**Answer: The J/V entity must be certified by the proposal due date. This means the JV must be in CVE and have its own specific Dun and Brad Street Number (DUNS).**