

RFIs
VA248-15-R-0863
Amendment A00003
March 23, 2017

1. There are no instructions for page formatting. Are there any restrictions on page formatting?

Answer: Please review Paragraph 1.2 Proposal Evaluation Basis for Award & Submission Instructions for page formatting instructions.

2. If the prime contractor has a teaming agreement in place with a subcontractor, can the subcontractor's project experience be submitted?

Answer: In accordance with FAR Part 9.603, the Government will recognize the integrity and validity of contractor team arrangements; provided, the arrangements are identified and company relationships are fully disclosed in an offer or, for arrangements entered into after submission of an offer, before the arrangement becomes effective. The Government will not normally require or encourage the dissolution of contractor team arrangements.

3. On page 13 of 85, I believe the last bullet point should include 1 which would be the Attachment 2 Contractor Surety Limitations as a Sub Factor to Factor 1 - Prime Contractor Experience Forms?

Answer – Please review section 1.2 Proposal Evaluation, Basis for Award & Submission Instructions.

4. Under Technical Evaluation Factors – Phase I Performance Capability – Experience, Page 9, Item 5, At least one (1) project must identify both or either of the following Experience Categories: Is the Government asking for this experience from our Designers or is this directed to any Design Firms that may be proposing on the MATOC?

Answer: I am not sure what you are asking so I recommend re-reading paragraph 1.2.2.1 – EXPERIENCE – review paragraph 1.2.2.1 EXPERIENCE and re-read paragraph 1.2.2.1 EXPERIENCE to answer your question.

5. Are the PPQs/CPARs, JV/Teaming agreements, Table of Contents, etc. included as part of the proposal response limit of 40 pages?

Answer: The sentence “Offerors shall limit proposal to no more than 40 pages” shall be deleted from paragraph 1.2.2 Technical Evaluation Factors – Phase 1.

6. Please define the term “design staff”. When defining the term please indicate whether it relates to: (1) design personnel that are part of a prime contractor’s full-time staff; (2) design personnel whose services are sub-contracted by the prime contractor; or (3) design personnel that are both employed by the prime contractor full-time & sub-contracted by the prime contractor. (Solicitation Notice/Document; Factor 1, Sub-Factor 3; Page 10 of 85)

Answer: Describe your design and construction staff and how they will respond to the requirements of this multi-discipline contract. How will your “team” address the requirement and come up with a solution to the requirement.

7. Please define the term “construction staff”. When defining the term please indicate whether it relates to: (1) construction personnel that are part of a prime contractor’s full-time staff; (2) construction personnel whose services are sub-contracted by the prime contractor; or (3) construction personnel that are both employed by the prime contractor full-time & subcontracted by the prime contractor. (Solicitation Notice/Document; Factor 1, Sub-Factor 3; Page 10 of 85)

Answer: Describe your design and construction staff and how they will respond to the requirements of this multi-discipline contract. How will your “team” address the requirement and come up with a solution to the requirement.

8. Please identify how the term “key personnel” differs from the terms “design staff” & “construction staff”. (Solicitation Notice/Document; Factor 1, Sub-Factors 2 & 3; Page 10 of 85)

Answer: An example of a “Key Personnel” is the SDVOSB owner who would be involved throughout the life of the MATOC and involved in the execution of each task order awarded to the MATOC contract holder. However, it’s conceivable that your key personnel can also be your design and construction staff. It’s a business decision on your part.

9. Please identify if the selection/identification of “key personnel” is to: (1) be limited to only full-time personnel that are directly employed by the prime contractor; or (2) include individuals identifying with both the prime contractor’s full-time personnel & those who consistently work with the prime contractor via sub-contractor agreement. (Solicitation Notice/Document; Factor 1, Sub-Factor 2; Page 10 of 85)

Answer: It’s your determination as to who your key personnel are. The expectation is that your key personnel will be involved in the execution of each task order awarded to the MATOC contract holder.

10. Assuming those identified as “key personnel” in Factor 1, Sub-Factor 3 include both design & construction personnel, please identify how the “description” of the design & construction staff relating to Factor 1, Sub-Factor 3 differs from identifying the duties & responsibilities of “key personnel” in Factor 1, Sub-Factor 2. (Solicitation Notice/Document; Factor 1, Sub-Factors 2 & 3; Page 10 of 85)

Answer: It's your determination as to who your key personnel are. It's conceivable that your key personnel can be your design and construction staff. It's a business decision on your part.

11. The Phase 1 Proposal Format List on Page 13 of 85 & Page 14 of 85 skips "Tab F". Provided this observation, can the VA identify if Tab G should become Tab F? (Solicitation Notice/Document; 1.2.5 Phase I Proposal Format; Page 13 of 85 & Page 14 of 85)

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

12. The Contractor Experience Form requirements identified on Page 9 of 85 imply that only "two (2) Contractor Experience' forms provided as Attachment 1" are to be included within an Offeror's Phase I Technical Proposal; however, Contractor Experience Form Standard No. (3) on Page 9 of 85 includes the phrase "at least two (2) of the projects" in its language. Provided the cited language could be understood as a need to include more than two (2) Contractor Experience Forms within Factor 1 of an Offeror's Phase I Technical Proposal, would the VA be able to clarify the minimum & maximum number of Contractor Experience Forms that are needing to be included within the Phase I Proposals that Offerors are developing for this Procurement. (Solicitation Notice/Document; 1.2.2.1 [Factor 1] Experience & Contractor Experience Form Standard No. (3); Page 9 of 85)

Answer: A Contractor Experience Form shall be submitted with each project identified by contractor as indicating experience.

13. Contractor Experience Form Standard No. (4) on Page 9 of 85 identifies an Offeror must use a Contractor Experience Form to include at least one (1) design/build project that was performed/completed "at a healthcare facility". Provided this, can the VA please clarify if the term "healthcare facility" is to be understood as: (1) a specific building where patient occupancy/treatment occurs; -or- (2) a support building (energy plant, administrative, police service, landscaping, etc.) found on/at a medical campus/medical center that is intended to support the building(s) on/at the campus/facility whose primary function allows for patient occupancy/treatment; -or- (3) both (1) & (2)? (Solicitation Notice/Document; 1.2.2.1 [Factor 1] Experience & Contractor Experience Form Standard No. (4); Page 9 of 85)

Answer: A healthcare facility in general is any location where healthcare is provided.

14. Please clarify the language relating to Factor 2, Sub-Factor 5 & Factor 2, Sub-Factor 6. Clarification is being requested because the language provided for these two (2) Sub-Factors appear to both request the Offeror to provide a response to how his/her Construction Firm intends to provide construction services that are in compliance with the design deliverables (design, specifications) that have been produced either in advance of a Bid/Build (B/B) Task Order or during a Design/Build (D/B) Task Order. (Solicitation Notice/Document; Factor 2, Sub-Factors 5 & 6; Page 10 of 85)

Answer: I am not sure what you are asking so please re-read paragraph 1.2.2.2 FACTOR 2 – QUALITY CONTROL – review paragraph 1.2.2.2 FACTOR 2 – QUALITY CONTROL and re-read paragraph 1.2.2.2 FACTOR 2 – QUALITY CONTROL to answer your question.

15. Please define the term “project plans” as it relates to Factor 2, Sub-Factor 5. Clarification is being requested because the Offeror is not able to conclude if the VA’s use of the term relates to: (1) the design drawings that are produced for a task order -or- (2) the work plans (project management plan, safety plan, quality control plan, etc.) a prime contractor prepares & submits to execute services necessary for completing a B/B or D/B Task Order. (Solicitation Notice/Document; Factor 2, Sub-Factors 5; Page 10 of 85)

Answer: Please read paragraph 1.2.2.2 FACTOR 2 – QUALITY CONTROL – review paragraph 1.2.2.2 FACTOR 2 – QUALITY CONTROL and re-read paragraph 1.2.2.2 FACTOR 2 – QUALITY CONTROL to answer your question.

16. Attachment 4 is requesting information regarding Subcontractor/Teaming Partner Information and Consent Form: Is this document intended for formal partnering/Teaming agreements in order for the VA to specifically identify those teams and responsibilities or is the VA intending for the Prime bidders of the MATOC to provide these forms for each of the subcontractors (No Partnering or Teaming Agreements; strictly prime contractor/subcontractor relationship) they intend to utilize or could potentially utilize during the course of the MATOC. (For subcontractors this appears to be pertinent to specific task orders or seed project).

Answer: The document is intended for formal partnering/teaming agreements in order for the VA to specifically identify those teams and responsibilities.

17. Regarding the past performed work requirement (Page 9 of solicitation, 1.2.2 Technical Evaluation Factors- Phase 1, subsection 1.2.2.1 Experience), it was mentioned several times during the site visit to “put your best foot forward”. Does this mean a contractor can submit highly-rated design build work outside of the healthcare setting and be considered qualified?

Answer: I am not sure what you are asking. Please read and review paragraph 1.2 PROPOSAL EVALUATION, BASIS FOR AWARD & SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS AND Amendment A00001 that was posted on 7 March 2017 for answers to your question.

18. The solicitation page 11 of 85, regarding use of Attachment 4, Subcontractor/Teaming Partner Information and Consent Form, states that Attachment 4 “must be completed by each major subcontractor/teaming partner identified in offeror’s proposal.” Page 13 of 85, under Tab E –

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Past Performance, states that offerors are to include Attachment 4 “if applicable.” If a major subcontractor is identified in the narrative, but was not involved in one of the two projects cited as experience in Factor 1, must that subcontractor submit a consent form?

Answer: Yes. The document is intended for formal partnering/teaming agreements in order for the VA to specifically identify those teams and responsibilities and if the team agreement partner is being used for past performance information.

19. The solicitation, page 8 of 85, “Performance Capability,” states that “Performance Capability consists of three factors listed as experience, quality control, and past performance,” and that “offerors shall limit proposal to no more than 40 pages.” 1) Please confirm that Tabs A, B, and G are excluded from the page limitation. 2) The number of pages required to respond to Tab E: Factor 3 – Past Performance may widely between offerors; CPARS for two projects would run a minimum of 6 pages vs. Past Performance Questionnaires which are to be sent directly to the VA point of contact; the Subcontractor/Teaming Partner Past Performance Information and Consent Forms, while only one page each, would still impact the page count according to the number of subcontractors/teaming partners. Would the VA consider excluding Tab E from the limitation of 40 pages?

Answer: The sentence “Offerors shall limit proposal to no more than 40 pages” shall be deleted from paragraph 1.2.2 Technical Evaluation Factors – Phase 1.

20. Attachment 3, Past Performance Questionnaire, states that “clients shall directly return the cover sheet and questionnaire to Jose Delgado at e-mail address jose.delgado3@va.gov no later than 4:30pm on June 22, 2016.” The quote is from page 1 (cover sheet), but the same date occurs on page 2. What is the correct submittal date?

Answer: Please review Amendment 0001 for the correct submittal date.

21. Attachment 5, EMR form asks that the OSHA 300 & OSHA 300A forms for the relevant years be attached. Please confirm that these forms are required and that they do not count against the proposal 40-page limit.

Answer: Please review Solicitation VA248-15-R-0863 paragraph 1.2 Proposal Evaluation, Basis for Award & Submission Instructions for guidance to your question. The sentence “Offerors shall limit proposal to no more than 40 pages” shall be deleted from paragraph 1.2.2 Technical Evaluation Factors – Phase 1.

22. Attachment 2, asks "What is the contractor's rating?" It is unclear to our Surety what rating system is being referenced. Can you please clarify what the rating system or intent is?

Answer: The rating system would be internal to each individual surety. The intent of the question is how does the surety rate the risk associated with providing bonding to your firm.

23. Can two (2) SDVOSB companies have the same team partner for the subject MATOC?

Answer: In accordance with FAR Part 9.603, the Government will recognize the integrity and validity of contractor team arrangements; provided, the arrangements are identified and company relationships are fully disclosed in an offer or, for arrangements entered into after submission of an offer, before the arrangement becomes effective. The Government will not normally require or encourage the dissolution of contractor team arrangements. There is nothing in the FAR that prohibits 2 (or more) SDVOSB companies have the same teaming partner for the subject MATOC. The selection of a teaming partner for your company should be independent of other SDVOSB companies.

24. With the release of Amendment A00001, the PPQ form was revised. If our client has already completed and submitted a PPQ on the original form, will these be accepted or do we need to have them revise and resubmit?

Answer: If the client has already completed and submitted a PPQ on the original form you do not need to submit the revised form.

25. Will an Amendment A00002 be released that revises the new proposal requirements as outlined in the Responses to RFI's included with Amendment A00001 (ex. RFI response number 3)?

Answer: Amendment A00002 was released March 21, 2017.

26. RFI answers for Questions #3, 4, & 5 mention an upcoming revision of paragraph 1.2.2.1 to read "...4 projects". Please clarify that Factor 3 Past Performance PPQs/CPARs should be submitted for each project submitted under Factor 1, i.e. (4) total PPQs/CPARs.

Answer: Yes for each project submitted under Factor 1 there should be an accompanying PPQ/CPARS.

27. Paragraph 1.2.2.1 has multiple sub-sections. Is it correct that all other sections included in this paragraph will remain as listed? (I.e. the amendment will not replace paragraph 1.2.2.1 in its entirety)

Answer: Yes

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28. Question #6 asks how many PPQs are require/acceptable under 1.2.2.3 Factor 3, Past Performance. The answer was “two.” If four “Contractors Experience” forms will be required under a forthcoming amendment, are four PPQs (or CPARS) required under Past Performance?

Answer: Yes for each project submitted under Factor 1 there should be an accompanying PPQ/CPARS.