

ATTACHMENT 1 OF SOLICITATION# VA244-17-Q-1403

Defining “Comparative Evaluation”

Comparative is defined at dictionary.com as:

1. Of or relating to comparison.
2. Proceeding by, founded on, or using comparison as a method of study: comparative anatomy.
3. Estimated by comparison; not positive or absolute; relative: a comparative newcomer in politics; to live in comparative luxury.
4. Grammar. being, noting, or pertaining to the intermediate degree of the comparison of adjectives, better and more beautiful, the comparative forms of good and beautiful, and of adverbs, as nearer and ore carefully, the comparative forms of near and carefully.

Evaluation is defined by dictionary.com as:

1. An act or instance of evaluating or appraising
2. (Especially in medicine) A diagnosis or diagnostic study of a physical or mental condition.

Comparative Analysis is defined at businessdictionary.com as:

The item-by-item comparison of two or more comparable alternatives, processes, products, qualifications, sets of data systems, or the like. In accounting for example, changes in a financial statement's items over several accounting periods may be presented together to detect the emerging trends in the company's operations and results. See also comparability analysis.

What Comparative Evaluation is:

- It is the direct comparison of one quotation/offer with another in a uniform and fair manner to determine which quote/offer provides the Government what it needs, where and when as identified in the RFQ
- It is an assessment of which response is the “best” as a whole
- Once one quotation/offer is found acceptable, it is compared side by side to the remaining ones, and the “best” one is chosen

What Comparative Evaluation is not:

- It does not individually evaluate quote/offers against specified evaluation factors
- It does not assign a rating using a color, numerical, or other rating methodology
- It does not require additional evaluation to determine if minimal advantage is worth a minimal or normal price difference, but not prohibited
- It is not a low price technically acceptable (LPTA) or trade-off process