

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
NETWORK CONTRACTING OFFICE (NCO) 16  
MICHAEL E. DEBAKEY VA MEDICAL CENTER (VAMC), HOUSTON, TEXAS

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
**36C25618Q9344**

**Background:** The Houston VAMC is seeking a Water Purification System / Water Conditioning system.

**GENERAL:**

Contractor shall furnish all equipment, supplies, tools, administration, supervision, and service to provide and guarantee quality of conditioned water with a minimum of two (2) megohm resistivity and meet or exceed section 3.2 of the AAMI standards at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, 2002 Holcombe Blvd, Houston, Texas, 77030-4298. This water will supply the main laboratory area on the third floor as well as Sterile Processing and Supply in the basement area.

Work shall include a site assessment of existing equipment, installation, initial training including standard operating procedures and practices, warranty and procedures for scheduled and unscheduled maintenance for a period of one year with 4 one year options. The vendor shall coordinate installation of their equipment with VA personnel. The VA will need at least two week notice prior to equipment changeover.

Vendor will provide, at no additional charge to the VAMC the following system and services:

- a. 24 hours, seven days a week with a 4 hour response time
- b. Laboratory water testing as required minimum of one per year. Not included:  
Sanitation of complete system as required by chemistry, laboratory, or plumbing departments  
Sanitation of system after any additional plumbing changes. This will be done at the expense of the VA.
- c. Consult with plumbing and/or other personnel as required.
- d. Maintain all water treatment equipment which includes replacement of all consumables, repairs and service.
- e. Minimum of one service call per week to check system operation and provide a report of same.
- f. Update system as required to provide water that meets and/or exceeds the AAMI standards for laboratories.
- g. Provide Endotoxin Testing
- h. System is to be comprised of the following equipment:

- a. Automatic 10 micron filtration system
- b. Exchangeable type carbon filters that allow greater than seven (7) minutes of contact time to insure removal of chlorine
- c. Reverse osmosis system to provide greater than 7000 gallons of treated water per day unit to be supplied with TDS meter, elapsed time meter, totalizing meter, audiovisual alarm
- d. Automatic shut down on low pressure, product line dump valve, product and waste flow indicators, and all required pressure gauges.
- e. Two (2) 14" mixed bed, portable exchange type, DI tanks for polishing prior to storage.
- f. 2000 gallons, plastic storage tank with IDG hi low, low, and low/low level controls
- g. Two (2) 30 GPM 316l stainless steel pumps to provide required flow to chemistry lab floor
- h. Two (2) 50 GPM 316l stainless steel pumps to supply "on demand" water supply to sterilizer! Washer room
- i. Three (3) 14: portable exchange type, mixed bed, DI tanks for final polishing.
- j. Two (2) 30 gpm ultraviolet lights for post treatment for bacteria control
- k. Provide bypass water in case of system failure
- l. Provide and maintain two (2) sub-micron filter housings, 316 sis construction, each holding four (4) 0.2 micron, 20" 222-seal cartridges.
- m. All eight (8) filters to be replaced annually by vendor at no additional charge.
- n. The contractor may be required to cooperate in the transition from the incumbent contractor to the new contractor.
- o. Contractor will be liable for direct damages to a facility or property due to floods or leaks caused by or related to the RO Systems provided hereunder, provided that such damages are the result of a defect in the RO System, or negligence or willful misconduct of the Contractor, and are not the result of the negligence or willful misconduct of VA Personnel. All water systems will be protected from water hammer; have required safety relief valves, vacuum breakers and leak detectors. Floors and walls will be properly sealed and sloped to adequate floor drains. Tubing, fittings, and connectors shall be constructed of inert materials, such as PVC (schedule 80), clean PEX®, PVDF, 316 L stainless steel, or polypropylene, which do not degrade the quality of DI-purified water.
- p. The Contractor shall submit invoices monthly, in arrears, covering the services performed under this contract for actual gallons of conditioned water used during the month. The contractor will provide their own metering equipment and shall provide a calibration certificate for the meter(s) annually for each year of the contract. The contractor will also provide the VA with certification from an independent laboratory annually for each year of the contract that the water quality meets or exceeds the

specifications herein.

## **5. HOURS OF DELIVERY:**

A. Normal hours of delivery are Monday through Friday from **8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, excluding holidays. All delivery shall be performed during normal hours unless requested or approved by COR or his designee.

Federal Holidays observed by the VAMC are:

New Years' Day  
Martin Luther King Day  
Presidents' Day  
Memorial Day  
Independence Day  
Labor Day  
Columbus Day  
Veterans' Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Christmas Day

## **REQUESTED RESPONSES:**

The intent of this Request for Information is to establish sources to define the procurement strategy (e.g set-aside, sole source, unrestricted) for a solicitation that VA intends to post in the near future. Interested contractors are requested to respond in accordance with the following:

1. Please respond to this RFI if you can provide the exact brand name products listed in the table in the background section above. In the response please cite your business size status.
  - a. If you have an existing GSA or VA, Federal Supply Schedule contract, please include the contract details in your response.
2. Please respond to this RFI if you can provide supplies that can be determined EQUIVALENT to the products listed in the table in the background section above. Please provide details on the proposed EQUIVALENT products such as Manufacturer Name, Part Number, and Description.
  - a. If you have an existing GSA or VA, Federal Supply Schedule contract, please include the contract details in your response.

- b. **Please note that VA is particularly interested in determining the availability of Small Business Manufacturers.** If your company is a small business manufacturer of similar items, please respond to this RFI.

**CONTACT INFORMATION AND RESPONSE DUE DATE:**

Please email all responses to [Kenny.Holestin@va.gov](mailto:Kenny.Holestin@va.gov). Please respond to this RFI no later than **May 3rd, 2018** at **1159pm CST**.

*DISCLAIMER: This RFI is issued solely for informational and planning purposes and does not constitute a solicitation. Responses to this notice are not offers and cannot be accepted by the Department of Veterans Affairs to form a binding contract. Respondents are solely responsible for all expenses associated with responding to this RFI.*