

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

Question:

What is the difference between the two notices - Solicitation #s: 36C25719Q1330 / 36C25719Q1134

Response:

The two RFQs are two different solicitations, for different locations. Solicitation 36C25719Q1330 was amended on 9/23/2019 to correct the solicitation number within the combined synopsis/solicitation verbiage (line ii was corrected to read as: 36C25719Q1330).

Question:

Can you tell me if these services are currently being performed by a contractor? If so, can you please provide the incumbent name as well as the contract number?

Response:

Yes, the requested services are currently being performed by contractor Quest Diagnostics Clinical Laboratories, Inc. Network Contracting Office 17 has placed task orders from Quest's Western States Network Consortium (WSNC) Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) VA260-17-A-0035, referencing VA National Acquisition Center (NAC) contract number V797D-70090 for previous acquisitions.

Question:

How much was spent on this contract in the last fiscal year?

Response:

Expenditures in fiscal year 2018 were approximately \$427,028.11

Clarification:

The utilization (Exhibit A, Price List) described in the RFQ is not a reflection of the performance of past testing services. The requesters description of the RFQ utilization is "to encompass all testing that Quest offers. Some tests are low because they are only used for rare cases."

Question:

Regarding document 36C25719Q1134, Section C – Contract Clauses (page 13); FAR 52.232-37 – Multiple Payment Arrangements, is incorporated into the addendum of FAR 52.212-4. Please clarify the applicability of FAR clause 52.232-37 to this solicitation and the resulting contract.

Response:

FAR Clause 52.232-37 is mandated for the solicitation and resulting contract per the prescription at FAR 32.1110 (e): "If the contract or agreement provides for the use of delivery orders, and provides that the ordering office designate the method of payment for individual orders, the Contracting Officer shall insert, in the solicitation and contract or agreement, the clause..." NCO-17 anticipates the resultant contract to be either a blanket purchase agreement (BPA) or an indefinite-delivery contract, where individual annual task orders will be placed (in order to

provide annual appropriated funding during the long-term contract or agreement). NCO-17 will include in the resultant contract or agreement not to allow any other agency or organization to place orders against it.

Question:

Can bidders add columns to Exhibit A – Price List, so that they may include additional information (i.e., vendor test code, vendor test name)?

Response:

Yes, additional information can be added in new columns; however, Network Contracting Office 17 requests that the offer price list details, from the subline item number to the extended price column, can be viewed on the same page (i.e., offers provided in MS Excel can allow additional columns to be hidden, or MS Word or PDF offers are in landscape page orientation).