

INDUSTRY DAY QUESTIONS

- 1) Why will the new contract have a 2 year period of performance versus the standard 4 to 5 year period of performance? The use of a multiple award contract would be mandated for a larger requirement. The 2 year period of performance was established because the Scientific Services Program could not be awarded as a multiple award contract due to the nature of the program. As a result, the new award can not exceed \$100M.
- 2) Do I need to propose all subcontractors at time of proposal submission? The offeror must propose all anticipated subcontractors at the time of proposal submission for CLIN 0001. The requirement for subcontractors under CLIN 0002 will not be known at the time of proposal submission.
- 3) Will any 6.1 costs be used to pay 0001? Basic Research funds (6.1) will be used to pay CLIN 0001 costs.
- 4) Does the Limitation of Funds clause apply to subcontractors? The 35% limitation on indirect costs only applies to the prime contractor.
- 5) Are you only paying on a per task order basis for CLIN 0001? CLIN 0001 will be paid on a per task basis. The final solicitation reflects an estimated 500 tasks to be issued during the two year period of performance.
- 6) Does CLIN 0001 have to have a Top Secret (TS) Clearance? Except for the program manager, the personnel working under CLIN 0001 are not required to have a Top Secret Clearance.
- 7) How many task orders have required TS? Based on historical data, about 5% of all task orders may require a Top Secret clearance.
- 8) What fraction of the tasks will have foreign nationals? Based on historical data, about 2% may have foreign nationals involved on the task orders.
- 9) Is the contractor only limited to the individuals in the database? The contractor is not limited to the individuals in the database. There may be times when government agencies may provide a recommended source for a task order.
- 10) Do you have to go to the prime for the data base? The incumbent contractor currently has the database, but the database is property of the government. Therefore, when the new contract is issued, the database will be transferred to the successful offeror.
- 11) Is the data base available for review? The database is not currently available for review.
- 12) Are we allowed to propose fee for subcontractors under CLIN 0002? Fee is not allowed for subcontractors under CLIN 0002. The risk associated with managing a subcontractor should be proposed under CLIN 0001.
- 13) Are task orders spread all over the country? Yes, the place of performance for a task order depends on the government's requirement. Therefore, the location could vary from task to task.
- 14) How is performance monitored for the SB participation plan? Performance is monitored for the Small Business Participation Plan by the submission of the individual subcontracting report located on the electronic subcontracting reporting system (eSRS). <http://www.esrs.gov/>. In addition, if the contractor is not meeting the goals, they may have to pay an amount equal to the actual dollar amount by which they failed to achieve each subcontract goal in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 19.705-7.

- 15) Is there a preference for non profit organization? There is not a preference for a non profit organization.
- 16) Are there samples of SOW and task orders? Sample SOWs and Task Orders will be provided at the Reference Library at the following link
<http://www.arl.army.mil/www/default.cfm?Action=6&Page=8>
- 17) Will facilities be considered in the technical capability evaluation? Facilities will be considered in the technical capability evaluation. See section M.3 (Evaluation Factors) of the Solicitation.
- 18) Will the prime contractor be required to have a local office? The prime contractor is not required to have a local office.
- 19) Will any work be performed at the government site? Work may be required at the government site depending on the requirements of the task order.
- 20) Will work be performed in the Research Triangle Park area? Work may be performed in the Research Triangle Park area depending on the requirement at the task order level. It may also depend on the location of the prime contractor's office.
- 21) What is the NAICS Code for this solicitation? The NAICS Code is 541712.
- 22) Is there a procedure in place for bringing aboard (or approving) new analysts/consultants to be added to the database? The procedure can be found at the following link
<http://www.arl.army.mil/www/default.cfm?Action=29&page=260>
- 23) How many hard copies are required for submission? 6 hard copies are required for submission.
- 24) Regarding CLIN 0001 pricing: Is the understanding correct that, although STAS pricing will vary based on work performed, the Administrative Management unit cost should be level-loaded in the cost proposal regardless of the size of the task? This is correct, an amount must be proposed per unit regardless of the size of the task.
- 25) Regarding CLIN 0003 pricing: Can pricing for this item be rolled into CLIN 0001? The final Solicitation provides CLIN 0003 as a not to exceed CLIN in the amount of \$1,000.00.
- 26) What is the timeframe of the RFP? When are proposals due? What is the expected award timeframe? The RFP will be issued on July 20, and proposals will be due on Monday, August 23, 2010, 2:00 Eastern Standard Time. An award is anticipated by 01 October 2010.
- 27) Draft RFP pg 39 of 42, Section M.3 Evaluation Factors states: "Technical Capability will be evaluated as follows: (a) Research and Development Performance Capability: The offeror must demonstrate that its corporate affiliates employs technical personnel covering a broad range of specialties as those listed in paragraph C.1 of the Statement of Work so the offeror can execute 35% of the SSP task orders that may be placed in a typical year." Please define "corporate affiliates" and clarify what it means in context of this paragraph. Corporate Affiliate means any companies that are subsidiaries of the offeror's company. In the final solicitation there is language that states the offeror must demonstrate that its company or corporate affiliates employs technical personnel...

- 28) For work performed by the Prime Contractor on CLIN0002 work, what will be the basis for determining the fee that is to be negotiated prior to task award? The fee will be determined by applying the Weighted Guidelines method in accordance with the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) 215.404-40.
- 29) Under Draft RFP Section H.4 -- LIMITATION OF PAYMENTS FOR INDIRECT COSTS Will 6.1 funded tasks be identified when the STAS RFP is sent to the Contractor? The 35% limitation of funds only applies to the prime contractor. If the prime contractor is performing the task, 6.1 funded tasks will be identified in the STAS RFP.
- 30) Will the prime contractor be able to flow this requirement down to subcontractors executing Task Orders under CLIN0002? In other words, will the prime contractor be able to limit (to thirty-five percent) reimbursement for indirect costs on subcontracts funded with 6.1 funds? The 35% limitation only applies to the prime contractor, not subcontractors.
- 31) Draft RFP CRDL 0005 Advertisement Plan, Section B Supplies or Services and Prices, Item 0001 states: "the unit price is the price to manage a single task order and reports through completion and close out." CDRL 0005 is an advertizing plan for the ARO-SSP. The development and revisions to this plan are captured in CLIN 0001. Which CLIN are the actual costs for advertizing to be placed? The costs for advertizing should be placed under CLIN 0001. How many conferences/symposia will the contractor be required to attend? Where (geographic location)? The contractor must develop a plan to advertise the program. The number of conferences and the location is up to the discretion of the contractor, subject to review by the program's COR. Will a "booth" be contractor furnished or government furnished? The booth will be contractor furnished.
- 32) Draft RFP Section C.8: What is the significant of the 1st paragraph? Are these the requirements that will be captured under CLIN 0003? The significance of the first paragraph is to identify the type of contracts that the manpower reporting applies to. The language in C.8 identifies the requirements captured under CLIN 0003.
- 33) Are the small business targets only applicable to CLIN 0002 activities? The small business targets are applicable to both CLIN 0001 and CLIN 0002 activities.
- 34) Is performance under CLIN 0002 intermittent in nature? Performance could be intermittent in nature. It depends on the government's requirement.
- 35) Does "Affiliation" with a university count for the contractor possessing the capability to conduct 35% of the STAS requirements? Affiliation with a university does not count for the 35% requirement. The solicitation states that the contractor must possess the capability to conduct 35% of the STAS requirements by using its own facilities and staff not an affiliate.
- 36) How can I learn more about the Scientific Services Program? To learn more about the Scientific Services Program click on the link below and scroll down to the end of the page and click on the section entitled additional links. Those links contain sample statement of work information, database information and much more. The link is <http://www.arl.army.mil/www/default.cfm?Action=29&Page=254>