

Questions and Responses  
Flight Opportunities Program Final Solicitation  
April 6, 2014

1. Reference: 3.c.i. Base price for the first task order for a standard payload of the offeror's choice including full manifest price and/or payload slot price assuming only one flight will be purchased for each year for each flight vehicle or family of vehicles. Question: Does "first" task order refer to the first of each year? And if so, is that why pricing is required for each year?

No, "first task order" refers to the first task order issued against the contract. Each task order can be awarded for any number of years depending on the requirement. The solicitation uses a scenario where the first task order is awarded for 3 years, but again, the first task order can be any length of time depending on the requirement. Successful offerors are only guaranteed the minimum IDIQ value. Pricing is required for each year to allow NASA to purchase future flights at pre-established prices.

2. Reference 3.c.ii: Price of two option year full manifests and/or payload slot assuming only one flight will be purchased for each year for each flight vehicle or family of vehicles. Please assume that the base year will take place in Calendar Year (CY) 2015, and the next two option years will be CY 2016 and CY 2017, respectively. Question: Please confirm that we: (a) Provide one base price for the first flight in years 2015, 2016, and 2017. (Per 3.c.i.) and (b) Provide one option price for an additional flight only in years 2016, and 2017.

Statement (a) is incorrect since the "base price" is referring to the base year as opposed to the "option years." The base year is Calendar Year 2015 (CY15) while CY16 and CY17 are "option years." NASA reserves the right to exercise CY16 and CY17 options. Statement (b) is not correct because the option years are only for one flight, not two.

3. For physical submission of proposal documents, is the May 8th due date a requirement for postmark or must all documents be received by NASA by the May 8th date?

All documents must be received by NASA on the due date AND time in the designated time zone in accordance with the Solicitation. This date and time is now 1630 PST on May 16, 2014.

4. Can physical proposal documents be delivered in person? What is the procedure for on-site submission?

Documents may be delivered in person, but no special treatment will be afforded to any offeror who chooses to deliver in person due to the competitive nature of this procurement. "Special treatment" includes sponsoring contractors on base for the purpose of delivering the proposal, meeting contractors at a specified location for delivery of the proposal, and opportunities to explain the proposal in person when it is hand-delivered. To avoid any appearance of favoritism, contractors will either be directed to the warehouse (pursuant to the specific instructions to offerors in the RFP) or asked to mail the proposal. None of the source selection team will be available to meet in person starting several days prior to the submittal due date. No exceptions will be made.

## FOP Responses to Final RFP Questions

5. The Technical Proposal is limited to no more than 15 pages. Does front matter such as a title page, table of contents, list of tables, and list of figures, all of which contain no technical information, count toward this 15 page limit?

Pursuant to the RFP, Amendment 2, clarification has been made that the items mentioned do not count towards the total page limitation. Furthermore, each additional flight profile that the offeror is proposing allows for 5 additional pages on the technical proposal.

6. If the list of subcontractors identified in a proposal for payload integration or other services are modified during the contract's period of performance, what is NASA's procedure for removing, modifying, or adding subcontractors in support of this contract?

NASA is only evaluating the use of subcontractors to verify both the soundness of each offeror's technical approach to accomplishing the mission and to analyze the past performance confidence level. Since this is a commercial procurement, NASA will not be tracking subcontractors after award.

7. What is the timing for submission, negotiation and acceptance of a contractor's small business subcontracting plan, if any is required?

The small business subcontracting plan is not required as part of this proposal submission. If a contractor is successful in receiving a contract and is larger than 1500 employees, they will be contacted after award. The timeframe for this has not been determined.

8. Please provide further clarification on how task orders will be issued. Are task orders issued for individual full manifest flights and/or payload slots, or will task orders possibly include orders for multiple full manifest flights and/or payload slots?

Task orders will be issued for one or both depending on the requirement. The minimum guarantee is a task order for 1 payload slot at the time of award for successful offerors.

9. What activities are assumed to be completed for the Technical Interchange and Payload Analysis (Milestone Payment #1) What constitutes proof, from the Government's perspective, that this milestone has been achieved?

The Technical Interchange and Payload Analysis is usually a meeting led by the contractor with all payload providers after the Manifest Requirements Document (MRD) has been issued. However, proof of exchange of information in the form of Payload Requirements Documents (PRDs) and interchange with individual payload providers will suffice. The minimum requirement is that the campaign manager can verify that meetings with each payload to be manifested based on the MRD has been discussed with payload provider.

10. Can the contractor propose alternate Milestones and associated percentage payments?

Alternate milestones will not be considered.

11. When does the Government anticipate an award of contracts under this procurement?

Currently, NASA is anticipating a July timeframe, but this is subject to change based on a variety of internal factors.

12. DRD-1 says that the The Payload User's Guide (PUG) is required to be submitted in draft form "30 Days from Task Order Award. Shouldn't PUGs for all Qualified Vehicles be submitted to NASA 30 days from Contract award instead of waiting for a specific task order award?

The contract and the first task order will be issued concurrently.

13. Pages 31-32 of the RFP reference two different FARs. The Evaluation Factors for Award are stated as "listed below under "ADDENDUM to FAR 52.212-5, BASIS FOR CONTRACT AWARD". The referenced addendum on the following page is identified as an "ADDENDUM to FAR 52.212-2 – EVALUATION; COMMERCIAL ITEMS, BASIS FOR CONTRACT AWARD". Is the reference to FAR 52.212-5 in error, rather it should reference FAR 52.212-2?

The NASA Flight Opportunities Program (FOP) team believes that this question was intended to read "two different FAR clauses," and not "two different FARs." These are in fact referring to the same clause and the ambiguous references were corrected in the most recent amendment to the RFP.

14. What scenarios would the Government envision using CLIN 101 and CLIN 102? How does CLIN 102 differ from CLIN 002?

CLIN 102 is simply the FY15 version of CLIN 002. This nomenclature was chosen to differentiate the year of performance for contract administration.

15. Why is there a request for 3 year pricing on a 5 year contract?

Organizations may provide any options, including pricing for services beyond three calendar years, but they will not be evaluated against other offerors. NASA's intent is to be able to compete MRDs at the task order level with contractors who are in the payload provider pool by the time this contract has been in place for three years.

16. What is the selection criteria for task orders that can be technically provided by multiple flight providers?

This will be determined at the task order level and may be different for each competitive task order.

17. How will current FOP flight providers account for their past performance on the current contract?

All past performance information that is available to the contracting officer can be used to determine a past performance confidence level, including that of the current IDIQ.