

Questions and Answers

Question 1: The set-aside code is “total small business”. Does this mean that if I am not a small business that I will need to partner with a small business to qualify?

Answer: To be eligible to receive an award, an offer must be from a responsible small business with North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code 541330 Engineering Services and a size standard of \$15M. For the most part, size standards are the average annual receipts or the average employment of a firm. Partnering with a small business is acceptable.

Question 2: We will need to purchase some equipment, corresponding hardware/software, and some other items. It is not a problem including these items in the offer. However, would such a funding request for equipment reduce the competitiveness of the proposal?

Answer: All offerors may structure their price as they wish. Evaluation of all offers will be performed in accordance with the solicitation which states:

The Government will award a contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror whose offer conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the Government, price and other factors considered. The following factors shall be used to evaluate offers: (i) technical approach to meet the Government requirement;(ii) price; and (iii) past performance (see FAR 15.304). Technical approach is significantly more important than Past Performance. Technical and Past Performance, when combined, are significantly more important than Price. Proposals will be evaluated in accordance with FAR 52.212-2, Evaluation-Commercial Items (JAN 1999).

Question 3: What are the specific requirements for responses, other than the SF1449 form and completed Representations and Certifications? Is there a page limit or preferred format for the "technical approach" and "past performance" responses?

Answer: The solicitation states:

Offers shall be specific, detailed, and comprehensive enough to clearly and fully demonstrate your understanding of the requirements. Offers will be evaluated on the completeness and quality of the information provided to demonstrate the offeror's qualifications in terms of experience, capability, and proposed approaches to meet all of the requirements of the SOW.