

RFP QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. **PLEASE CLARIFY:** What information from any proposal will be made public?

RESPONSE:

It is the Government's intent to conduct business with integrity, fairness, and openness; and in a manner above reproach and, except as authorized by statute or regulation, with complete impartiality and with preferential treatment for none in accordance with FAR 1.102(3) and FAR 3.101-1.

As such, proposals will be handled in accordance with FAR 3.104-4, which states, "Contractor bid or proposal information and source selection information must be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR [14.401](#), FAR [15.207](#), applicable law, and agency regulations."

Additionally FAR 24.202 states, "a proposal in the possession or control of the Government, submitted in response to a competitive solicitation, shall not be made available to any person under the Freedom of Information Act. However this prohibition does not apply to a proposal, or any part of a proposal, that is set forth or incorporated by reference in a contract between the Government and the contractor that submitted the proposal. (See 10 U.S.C. 2305(g) and 41 U.S.C. 4702.)"

Offerors that include data in their proposals that they do not want disclosed to the public for any purpose, or used by the Government except for evaluation purposes, shall mark their proposal in accordance with FAR 52.215-1(e) Restriction On Disclosure And Use Of Data.

Upon award, general information will be released to the public and may include the following:

- Title of Contract and Identification of the Action
- Name and Full Address of Awardee
- Detailed Description of Work (including Program and/or Project) for example:
Contractor will provide mission assurance, engineering, and risk assessment in the disciplines of safety, reliability, and quality at all responsible sites.
- Contract Value
- Contract Type
- Period of Performance
- Place of Performance
- Awardee's point of contact
- Significant Subcontractors & Addresses, if applicable

During contract administration and upon completion, the Government asserts specific unlimited rights in accordance with FAR 52.227-14, which allows the Government to use data first produced and delivered in the performance of this contract. Use of any information obtained during contract performance will be in accordance with the FAR, and the Government is not relinquishing any such rights.

SECTION 1

2. **PLEASE CLARIFY:** Are there any U-Class Payloads (UCPs) larger than 12Us? Are there any UCPs conforming to non-traditional CubeSat forms (e.g. L-shaped payloads)?

RFP Reference: Section 1.1 Contract Pricing

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RESPONSE:

With the ever increasing development of the CubeSat form factor, the exact size and form that will be manifested on these missions is undefined. NASA is aware that 1U through 6U UCPs are currently on the CubeSat Launch Initiative list; however, there may be a size beyond the 6U that will need to be flown.

SECTION 4

3. **PLEASE CLARIFY:** Is the government willing to entertain a modified payment structure for this effort based on established commercial practices?

RFP Reference: Section 4 Special Contract Requirements, Table 4-1

RESPONSE:

Offerors must provide a proposal that meets the requirements of the RFP. However, Offerors may also submit an alternative offer presenting other terms and conditions for satisfying the requirements of this solicitation provided a responsive proposal has been submitted. Alternative offers will be evaluated separately.

4. **PLEASE CLARIFY:** Are we only able to use American Launch Vehicles sourced from American Launch Vehicle Providers?

RFP Reference: Section 4.3(c) Domestic Source Criteria

RESPONSE:

RFP Section 4.3(c) Domestic Source Criteria states the requirements must comply with the domestic source criteria.

5. **PLEASE CLARIFY:** In the past the government seemed to prefer domestic UCP dispensers even if the 50% requirement was met. Will the government accept foreign-provided UCP dispensers for this effort? Will offers proposing the use of domestic UCP dispensers be met more favorably regardless of price?

RFP Reference: RFP Section 4.3(c) Domestic Source Criteria

RESPONSE:

The goal of this acquisition is to acquire a service from a Commercial Launch Broker (CLB) capable of integrating and launching UCP with a Launch Vehicle Provider (LVP). The CLB submitting a proposal must comply with the domestic source criteria identified in Section 4.3.

SECTION 8

6. **PLEASE CLARIFY:** Can Offerors provide unit pricing based on launch vehicle type, UCP dimensions and deployer options (i.e. 3U, 6U and 12U?)

RFP Reference: Section 8.1

RESPONSE:

Yes, the Government, is pursuing this acquisition on a best value basis. As stated in Section 8 of the RFP, the Government will award a firm fixed price 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 proposal will be evaluated for management and technical approach, past performance, compliance with solicitation requirements, as well as price.

All factors other than price, when combined, are significantly more important than price.

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ATTACHMENT 01

7. **PLEASE CLARIFY:** What orbital inclinations does NASA require for deployment of its UCPs?

RFP Reference: Attachment 01 - SOW Ground Rules & Assumptions – CLB 9

RESPONSE:

The expected orbital inclinations are between 28 to 98 degrees, with a majority of deployments being greater than 40 degrees.

8. **PLEASE CLARIFY:** Is there any other spectrum coordination or licensing efforts required of the CLB other than FCC applications (i.e. IARU, NOAA, NTIA, etc.)?

RFP Reference: Attachment 01 - SOW Ground Rules & Assumptions – CLB 9

RESPONSE:

At this time no other spectrum coordination or licensing efforts are required of the CLB other than FCC applications. However, as part of the integration, it is known that the CLB will need to ensure that the CubeSat has the required FCC licensing.