

## **NIH-AG-00-10**

### **Technical Evaluation Criteria**

#### 1. GENERAL

The technical proposal will receive paramount consideration in the selection of the Contractor(s) for this acquisition. All evaluation factors, other than cost or price, when combined are significantly more important than cost or price. However, cost/price may become a critical factor in a source selection in the event that two or more offerors are determined to be essentially equal following the evaluation of all factors other than cost or price. In any event, the Government reserves the right to make an award(s) to that offeror(s) whose proposal provides the best overall value to the Government.

The evaluation will be based on the demonstrated capabilities of the prospective Contractors in relation to the needs of the project as set forth in the RFP. The merits of each proposal will be evaluated carefully. Each proposal must document the feasibility of successful implementation of the requirements of the RFP. Offerors must submit information sufficient to evaluate their proposals based on the detailed criteria listed below.

#### 2. TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

##### 1. Technical Approach and Awareness:

- a. Adequacy of the offeror's technical approach, as demonstrated by the soundness, practicality and feasibility of the plans to accomplish the tasks in the Statement of Work, including collecting and preserving tissue for biological analysis and maintaining inventory control.
- b. Demonstrated understanding of health concerns involved in receiving live animals and in housing and maintaining live animals.
- c. Evidence of knowledge specific to pathological assessment and health status of aged mice and rats. Evidence (e.g. publication, training, prior experience) specific to aged rodents should be provided.
- d. Understanding of the scope and purpose of the contract, demonstrated awareness of rodent diseases, tissue collection and handling protocols, and the experimental protocols in which the tissue will be used, and adequacy of discussion of problems likely to occur in performance of this work including plans to address and correct the problems.

##### 2. Personnel:

Documented experience of the proposed Principal Investigator(s), as well as all other proposed staff, in handling of mice and rats, with specific experience in collection and cryopreservation of rodent tissue for biological analysis.

##### 3. Facilities:

Suitability of facilities for short-term maintenance of animals prior to tissue collection. Effectiveness of the proposed system to protect these animals from contamination by other animals passing through facility. Demonstrated competence in laboratory quality control through such measures as quality control procedures and history of reliability.