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Base Notice: Professional and Technical Services - RFI-DOC-PROTECH2012

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Notice Information

Solicitation:

RFI-DOC-PROTECH2012

Agency/Office:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Location:

Acquisition and Grants Office

Title:

Professional and Technical Services

Description(s):

Added: Sep 29, 2012 4:06 pm

THIS IS A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) ONLY - Solicitations are not available at this time; however, a draft solicitation is attached to assist in the development of information in response to this RFI. REQUEST FOR A SOLICITATION WILL NOT RECEIVE A RESPONSE.

The Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Acquisition and Grants Office is seeking to exchange information with industry in order to improve the Industry's understanding of the Government requirements for professional and technical support services. It is also the Government's goal to understand industry's capabilities in performance of professional and technical services contracts during the entire procurement cycle (i.e. proposal preparation through contract performance). The intent of the RFI is to allow potential vendors to determine whether or how they can satisfy this requirement and to permit NOAA to obtain the highest quality of professional and technical services at a reasonable price while meeting the agency's established goals.

NOAA is seeking information, to structure an Agency-wide acquisition program for support services that are both technical and professional. The intent of the acquisition program is to reduce the overall costs of services, maintain or increase the level of small business participation and increase the overall quality of services acquired. The Agency challenges are some of the most significant facing our Nation. From daily weather forecasts, severe storm warnings and climate monitoring to fisheries management, coastal restoration and supporting marine commerce, NOAA's products and services support economic vitality and affect more than one-third of America's gross domestic product. NOAA is interested in excellence. The professional and technical service contracts are intended to help us obtain the service of only the best.

Potential offerors should provide comments and or recommendations to the following:

PROCUREMENT NOTICE INFO

Created: September 28, 2012 7:11 pm

By: [Michael Blumenfeld](#)

Modified: September 29, 2012 4:06 pm

By: [Michael Blumenfeld](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Notice Type:

Special Notice

Posted Date:

September 29, 2012

Response Date:

Oct 26, 2012 12:00 pm Eastern

Archiving Policy:

Manual Archive

Archive Date:

-

Classification Code:

R -- Professional, administrative, and management support services

NAICS Code:

541 -- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services/541712 -- Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Biotechnology)

NOTICE HISTORY

Original Notice: [RFI-DOC-PROTECH2012](#) (Sep 29, 2012)

FILES

[DRAFT RFP](#) 

Sep 29, 2012

[DOCPROTECH2012_DRAFT..](#)

Small Business Participation

1. It is the goal of Agency to maintain or increase the current level of Small Business participation while seeking the best solutions/results from all available sources. How can NOAA better structure the solicitation to encourage Large Business / Small Business teaming arrangements? Multiple Small Businesses teaming arrangements?
2. How should the solicitation be structured to allow firms to differentiate themselves and their capabilities? Please address what requirements should be stated in the solicitation to allow NOAA to identify those firms that have the most expertise to help NOAA meet mission requirements?
3. What is an adequate response time for receipt of proposals in order for potential offerors to seek/consummate teaming arrangements?
4. Prospective offerors must be capable of providing the full spectrum of services identified within a particular Domain. Provide your business size and the number of domains (specialties) in the "draft" statement of work your firm has the capability to support. Your response should include the geographical locations within the 48 contiguous U.S. states in which you are capable of performance. Your capability statement should also address examples of the largest size contract(s) obtained by your firm for similar professional and technical services. Be specific about the dollar value and scope of support work provided and if your firm was the prime or subcontractor.

Technical and Professional Support

1. The attached "draft" request for proposal includes a statement of work which identifies five service domains: Fisheries, Oceans, Satellite, Weather and Enterprise Operations. With the exception of the Enterprise Operations domain, all are science related services. While all of the science related domains have common labor categories (i.e. Data Analyst, Researcher, etc.), each has expertise unique to their domain. Please identify the labor titles in your organization for each domain of interest as well as the "common categories" that may perform in all domains.
2. Do you consider the information contained within this solicitation an effective acquisition strategy for acquiring professional and technical services that traverse multiple departments such as those identified in the Section C - NOAA Statement of Work? If not, please elaborate on any different approach.
3. What would you consider an effective technical and price evaluation approach for establishing prime contractors under this program? Discuss any additions or recommended changes to the draft solicitation language.
4. Can your organization support on-site (your facility) and off-site (Government Facility) services simultaneously?

Cost Effectiveness

1. Reducing overall costs through effectively managing this program during the post award phase is a one of the goals of the agency. Based upon the draft request for proposal attached, what structure would you recommend for program management to include the use acquisition technology?
2. Should the number of contract awards be limited overall? Per domain?
3. What limitations will your firm experience to offering the full array task order level contract types? Cost-reimbursable, time and materials, labor hour or fixed -price? Please provide comments on the potential benefit or drawback to use of Performance based statements of work for long-term comprehensive programs?

4. How do we reward effective performance (costs and quality)? Ineffective performance?

The vendor's response to the RFI should reflect an understanding of the NOAA requirements and the mission of the Agency without divulging proprietary information, if possible. If proprietary information is provided in a response, it should be clearly identified. All information submitted by respondents to this RFI, including appropriately marked proprietary information will be safeguard and protected from unauthorized disclosure. The Government reserves the right to conduct further one to one communications with respondents in order to fully understand their recommendations/feedback.

All potential sources are invited and encouraged to submit a response to RFI. The response should include addressing the above questions/comments as well as a description of their capabilities and experience as it relates to professional and technical services. Please include information regarding the type of business, (i.e. large, small, Woman-owned, Veteran or Disadvantaged business concern). The North American Industry Classification system (NAICS) code for this RFI includes 541712 Research and Development Physical, Engineering, Life Sciences (except Biotechnology), however the final RFP may also include but not limited to 54190-All Other Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; 541611-Administrative Management and General Management Consulting Services and 541690-Other Scientific and Technical Consulting Services. All firms responding should state their status for the appropriate NAICS codes. The NAICS codes cited in the RFI are for internal business size stratification purposes only. Other than the domain entitled "Enterprise Operations" this RFI is not restricted to small businesses.

Vendor responses should identify a point of contact including the representative's name, company, email address, mailing address and telephone number both in an email and within the body of the submitted document. Please limit your response to this RFI to 25 pages or less.

Submission of Response should be directed to the following email address not later than October 26, 2012 at 12:00PM: Michael Blumenfeld, Contracting Officer, michael.blumenfeld@noaa.gov.

Industry Day

The government intends to conduct an industry day to publically address comments and questions regarding this RFI and draft RFP.

The Industry Day will be held:

Date: December 10, 2012

Time: 9:00 AM EST

Location: NOAA Auditorium, 1301 East-West Hwy, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Please note the following regarding the Industry Day:

1. Limited parking is available at Montgomery County Parking Facilities
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dpkmpl.asp?url=/content/dot/parking/index.asp>
2. Arrive 15 minutes early to allow time to clear security.
3. Bring your identification
4. The closest metro stop is Silver Spring.
5. Attendance is limited to a maximum of 3 people per company. Email your attendees to michael.blumenfeld@noaa.gov by close of business November 30, 2012.
6. Tape recorders and videos are prohibited.
7. All briefing materials and synopsis of questions and answers from Industry Day will be posted on www.fedbizopps.gov Website approximately 2 weeks after the Industry Day.

- 8. Any additional information regarding this RFI, Industry Day or the Protech program will be made publicly available via www.Fedbizopps.gov Website.
- 9. Potential offerors need not respond to the draft RFP or participate in Industry Day as a prerequisite for responding to the final RFP.

ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO THIS RFI WILL BE USED FOR INFORMATIONAL AND PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY. ALL INFORMATION SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS VOLUNTARY. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL NOT PAY FOR INFORMATION REQUESTED NOR WILL IT COMPENSATE ANY RESPONDENT FOR ANY COST INCURRED IN DEVELOPING INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

Primary Point of Contact.:

Michael Blumenfeld

Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
United States

Contracting Office Address:

SSMC2 - 11th floor /OFA61
1325 East West Highway, 11th Floor

Place of Contract Performance:

Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
United States

Allow Vendors To Add/Remove From Interested Vendors:

Yes

Allow Vendors To View Interested Vendors List:

Yes

Recovery and Reinvestment Act Action:

No

Solicitation External Reference:

<https://www.fbo.gov/spg/DOC/NOAA/AGAMD/RFI-DOC-PROTECH2012/listing.html>

Solicitation External Reference To Packages:

<https://www.fbo.gov/spg/DOC/NOAA/AGAMD/RFI-DOC-PROTECH2012/packages.html>

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