

Set #1 of Questions Received on 2013 RFSO for RDSP Outreach

Question 1:

I understand there is no formal application form to complete. As such, am I correct that the way to proceed is to respond to all of the questions/descriptions contained in the Evaluation Criteria section on pages 27-34?

Response 1:

Yes. It is important to note that the Solicitation Document attached to the Request for Standing Offer posting is crucial in the development of a proposal:

https://buyandsell.gc.ca/cds/public/2013/06/04/e5f21062dc20c918dc52d5bb897b86b4/rfp_9985-12-0018_outreach_e.pdf

The Evaluation Criteria section of the Terms of Reference, which begins on page 16 and, in fact, includes the information referred to as “Section F” in item 2A of Section B, outlines the mandatory and rated criteria which must be documented within the proposal:

Mandatory Requirements

The mandatory requirement will be evaluated on a compliant / non-compliant basis. Proposals that fail to meet the mandatory requirement will be disqualified at this stage without further consideration.

Rated Criteria

Bidders are advised to address these requirements in the order presented, where possible, and with sufficient depth to permit a thorough assessment. Each proposal will be evaluated solely on content contained within. An item not addressed in the proposal will be given zero (0) points under the point rated system.

Only those proposals that are compliant with the Mandatory Requirement and that achieve a score of sixty per cent (60%) or better overall in the Rated Requirements Evaluation will be considered for SOA award.

Question 2:

Are we required to provide the names and resumes of any staff or contractors that may be involved in the work when we apply or only if we are selected to do the work?

Response 2:

If you are selected to do the work, you will be required to complete a security screening form for any team members and sub-contractors who could potentially come in contact with personal PROTECTED information because each must hold a valid Reliability Security Status at all times during the performance of the contract.

However, such information is not required as part of the proposal.

Question 3:

Where can I find more information about/access to Section G (Security Requirements)?

Response 3:

Since we are not asking for enhanced reliability at this time, the security requirements referred to as "Section G" in item 2C of Section B is not required. The only relevant security clauses are those outlined in the Security Requirements (item 11) of the Terms of Reference, which begins on page 16.

Question 4:

Please confirm that we are not required to submit a financial proposal with the application.

Response 4:

It is correct that only a technical proposal is being sought at this time, and no financial proposal is required. However, it is important to note that the submission of a proposal constitutes acceptance of the financial parameters and processes outlined within this Request for Standing Offer (for example, item 8 of the Terms of Reference Section and section D). The specific scope, timeline and deliverables will be negotiated and defined within each call up issued under the terms and conditions of the Standing Offer Arrangement.

Question 5:

I am interested in providing a standing offer. However, I am not completely clear on the process from the instructions provided on the website. In particular, what is to go in the technical proposal?

Response 5:

To reiterate, the Solicitation Document attached to the Request for Standing Offer posting is crucial in the development of a proposal:

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The Evaluation Criteria section of the Terms of Reference, which begins on page 16 and, in fact, includes the “Section F” referred to in item 2A of Section B, outlines the mandatory and rated criteria which must be documented within the proposal.

Question 6:

Are we to designate communities where we would target presentations, or will that be given to us upon acceptance of the standing offer and a show of interest from the community?

Response 6:

The Department has chosen to divide the provinces and territories into five (5) geographical regions. Bidders may bid on a single geographical region or parts thereof, multiple geographical regions or parts thereof or all geographical regions or parts thereof. Regardless of the number of geographical regions for which the Bidder wishes to be considered, only submit one proposal. However, **the proposal must clearly indicate for which geographical region(s) the Bidder wishes to be considered.**

As well, as per R-4 of the rated criteria, bidders should clearly **demonstrate the capacity necessary to provide service in the geographical regions(s) or part(s) thereof outlined within their proposal.**

In addition, HRSDC reserves the right to allow for expanded Outreach after Standing Offer Arrangement award should a Standing Offer Arrangement holder demonstrate increased capacity. In other words, HRSDC has the right to negotiate with SOA holders to deliver in areas beyond the area(s) included in the proposal.