

ADVANCED CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE

RE: LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC JOURNALS FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA

REFERENCE # 01B68-15-0028

BACKGROUND:

The ASM is the world's largest scientific society of individuals interested in the microbiological sciences. The mission of the American Society for Microbiology is to advance the microbiological sciences as a vehicle for understanding life processes and to apply and communicate this knowledge for the improvement of health, and environmental and economic well-being worldwide. To this end, ASM publishes journals covering research on infectious diseases, recombinant DNA technology, alternative methods of energy production and waste recycling, new sources of food and new drug development.

SCOPE OF WORK:

The American Society for Microbiology will license and deliver web access to the full-text content of 13 electronic journals published by the Society for the time period specified in the license agreement, to provide the following;

- Provide AAFC and portfolio clients with department-wide web-based access to the ASM electronic journals via a secure network, using IP authentication.
- Ensure that the server has adequate capacity and bandwidth to support the usage of the licensee at a level commensurate with the standards of availability for information services of similar scope operating via the World Wide Web.
- Use all reasonable endeavors to make the licensed material available to the licensee and authorized users at all times and on a twenty-four hour basis, save for scheduled routine maintenance, and to restore access to the licensed materials as soon as possible in the event of an interruption or suspension of the service.
- Provide adequate and competent technical support and assistance to enable the licensee to make proper use of the licensed material.

Special Features

- Provision of monthly COUNTER-compliant usage statistics.
- Provision of table of contents and citation alerting services.
- Clients can set up individual accounts to bookmark favourite journals, articles and searches.
- Customer administration functionality to manage IP registration and usage statistics.
- Functionality that allows clients to search for similar articles within a specific journal.
- Functionality that allows clients to run a search for similar articles in the PubMed database.
- Indexed in Google Scholar and other databases.

- Capability to export citations to EndNote, the AAFC standard for reference management software.
- Powerful database search engine and title browse capability.
- Capability to interface with link resolvers, particularly TOURResolver from TDNet and 360Link from ProQuest
- Walk-in users shall have access to the full content of the 3 online journals while consulting resources within the Library premises.

GENERAL:

The purpose of this Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) is to signal the government's intention to award a contract for these services to American Society for Microbiology. This contract will be for a period of one year with two one year option periods. Before awarding a contract, however, the government would like to provide other suppliers with the opportunity to demonstrate that they are capable of satisfying the requirements set out in this Notice, by submitting a statement of capabilities during the 15 calendar day posting period.

If other potential suppliers submit a statement of capabilities during the 15 calendar day posting period that meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the government will proceed to a full tendering process on either the government's electronic tendering service or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a statement of capabilities meeting the requirements set out in the ACAN, a contract will be awarded to the pre-selected supplier.

The estimated value of the contract is **\$161,085.00 CAD** (all inclusive).

MINIMUM ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

- To fulfill the requirements of the contract the person or firm must be able to license and deliver web access to the full-text content of the subscribed electronic journals published by the Society for the time period specified.

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PRE-SELECTED SUPPLIER:

The Treasury Board's Government Contract Regulations, Part 10.2.1 Section 6 states there are four exceptions that permit the contracting authority to set aside the requirement to solicit bids. This includes:

- d. "only one supplier person or firm is capable of performing the contract."

The rationale for a non-competitive contract is that American Society for Microbiology owns all copyright in and to the ASM Journals Online, as compilations, and is authorized to publish all material therein. ASM is the sole entity which can license access to these electronic journals.

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to meet the specified requirements may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the Contracting Authority identified in this Notice (**electronic or facsimile submissions will not be accepted**) on or before the closing date of this Notice. Enquiries and issues must be received by the Contracting Authority no later than three (3) calendar days prior to the ACAN closing date specified herein to allow sufficient time to provide a response. Enquiries or issues received after that time may not be able to be answered prior to the solicitation closing date.

The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements, **both technical and financial**.

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is

December 29, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. EST.

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

David Hickman
Senior Contracting Officer
Professional Services Contracting Unit
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Tower 5 , Floor 2, Room 339
OTTAWA ON K1A 0C5
Email: david.hickman@agr.gc.ca

POLICY INFORMATION:

Government Contracts Regulations (GCRs) _____

_____ Subject to WTO-AGP - _____

_____ Subject to NAFTA - _____

_____ Subject to AIT - _____

_____ Subject to CKTEA - _____

_____ Subject to Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement(s)

_____ Set-aside under the Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business