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SOLICITATION AMENDMENT MODIFICATION DE L'INVITATION

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions of the Solicitation remain the same.

Ce document est par la présente révisé; sauf indication contraire, les modalités de l'invitation demeurent les mêmes.

Comments - Commentaires

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Raison sociale et adresse du
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Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution

Informatics Professional Services - EL Division/Services
professionnels en informatique - division EL
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Title - Sujet Professional Services - TBIPS 2	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation 08915-170500/B	Amendment No. - N° modif. 012
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client 20170500	Date 2019-07-12
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$EL-618-35796	
File No. - N° de dossier 634el.08915-170500	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2019-07-19	
Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT	
F.O.B. - F.A.B. Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Durigan, Angela	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 634el
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (613) 859-0753 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX () -
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Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm (type or print) Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/ de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)	
Signature	Date

The Request for Proposal (RFP) Amendment 012 is raised to answer questions received from Bidders and amend the RFP accordingly.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question: 108

In the latest amendment 010, Q & A number 87 has confirmed that only stream 2 has been modified allowing 4 contracts per category.

Stream 2 has 7 categories and a total of 13000 billable days, whereas Stream 4 has 6 categories and over 20000 billable days which is substantially higher to be able to demonstrate this experience in ONLY 4 contracts in total and not 4 contracts per category.

Would the Crown reconsider amending M4 for all workstreams to be 4 contracts per category

Answer: 108

The change to Stream 2 was affected taking into consideration the number of resource categories required.

See RFP amendment 21 for streams 1, 3, 4 and 5. The number of contracts required to meet the billed days has been increased to a maximum of five (5) per workstream.

Question: 109

The Crown's response to Question #41 amended criteria M3/R5 of Workstream 2, allowing four (4) contracts to be used for each resource category rather than four (4) contracts per stream. In Amendment 10, the Crown's response to Questions 87, 88, 92, and 102 clarified that only Stream 2 was subject to the change resulting from Question #41 and the billable days for all other Workstreams must be demonstrated using a total of four (4) contracts for the whole stream.

The total number of billed days required to be demonstrated for the 5 workstreams to meet mandatory M4 and score full points in rated criteria R5 are as follows:

- Stream 1: 17,800
- Stream 2: 13,000
- Stream 3: 19,000
- Stream 4: 20,400
- Stream 5: 14,400

It is unclear what the rationale is behind the Crown's decision to amend only the Workstream with the fewest required billable days to meet M4/R5 and not making this change across all five (5) workstreams. Typically, in large bids with multiple workstreams such as this one, the evaluation criteria (and subsequent changes made in RFP amendments) would be consistent across the entire RFP.

Given this, we would like to respectfully request that the Crown either:

- a) Amend M4/R5 in Workstream 2 to restrict Bidders to use a maximum of four (4) contracts across the whole workstream, thereby aligning it with the M4/R5 requirements of Workstreams 1, 3, 4 and 5; OR
- b) Amend M4/R5 in Workstreams 1, 3, 4 and 5 to allow Bidders to use a maximum of four (4) contracts per resource category, thereby aligning it with the M4/R5 requirements of Workstream 2.

Answer: 109

See response at 108

Question: 110

In Workstreams 1, 3, 4 and 5, Mandatory Criteria M4 and Rated Criteria R5 require the bidder to demonstrate a series of billable days for the delivery of Informatics Professional Services using no more than four (4) contracts, two (2) of which must have been for resources at the level of Secret or higher. Evaluation Criteria M4/R5 make it clear that Bidders must provide a minimum of two (2) contracts for the provision of resources at the level of Secret for each Workstream, regardless of the number of contracts required to meet the billable days requirement.

However, in some cases, it may be possible for Bidders to demonstrate the required number of billable days using only one (1) contract. In these situations, where the Bidder can achieve compliance using only 1 contract, would the Crown please clarify whether billed days demonstrated by the Secret contracts need to directly support one (1) or more of the resource categories in the particular stream, or whether the two (2) Secret contracts can be provided without having any relevant billed days?

Answer: 110

Bidders may submit 1 contract to demonstrate billed days, however that contract must include a minimum of one (1) resource category at the secret level. In cases where the bidder only needs 1 contract to meet the billed days, a 2nd contract can be submitted to meet the requirement of having 2 contracts for resources at the level of secret level or higher with no associated billed days.

Question: 111

Reference 1: RFP Annex B – Basis of Payment, Firm Per Diem Rate column, for all Workstreams (pages 69 to 80 of 245)

Question 1: Would the Crown please confirm that Bidders are required to fill in the per diem rate cells for Level 3 only?

Answer: 111

Confirmed. However, Bidders must submit their financial bid in accordance with the Pricing Schedule provided in Attachment “3” and not Annex B – Basis of Payment.

Question: 112

Reference 2: Amendment 009, Questions and Answers 78 and 79: “...bidders must still demonstrate that the years of experience are a minimum of ten (10) years...”

Question 2: Would the Crown please describe in detail how Bidders are to demonstrate 10 years (or more) of experience for these individual resources without providing individual resumes? Your reference to Bidders' ongoing queries (for example, Amendment 010 – Question and Answer 89) points to Questions and Answers 78 and 79 which do not provide information as to how to demonstrate a resource's 10 years (or more) of experience. Of note, a recent Government of Canada RFP asking for similar substantiation had to withdraw this condition due to Bidders' concerns.

Answer: 112

To clarify, DFATD is not asking for demonstration of experience of individual resources, the bidder must demonstrate its project experience providing Level 3 resources by mapping to a minimum of 50% of the associated tasks listed in Annex A – Statement of Work for the resource categories.

Question: 113

There have been numerous changes to the requirements across 11 amendments and some changes have not been applied to all appropriate requirements. For example, Answer #19 produced a change to M1 but the logical corresponding change to R1 was not applied. Answer #104 confirmed a material change to M1 but no written change was made to the requirement. Bidders have largely been left to interpret and apply their own changes. In the interest of preserving a fair procurement process, please

grant a one-week extension to the closing date and provide a complete set of updated requirements in Attachment 2 to ensure that all bidders are being evaluated fairly against the exact same requirements.

Answer: 113

It is the Bidders responsibility to track all amendments and changes to the RFP during the solicitation period. The solicitation period will not be extended.

RFP AMENDMENT

21. At ATTACHMENT 2 BID EVALUATION CRITERIA, Corporate Mandatory Evaluation Criteria – M4^{PB} Workstreams 1, 3, 4 and 5:

DELETE:

- 4) The billed days must have been provided under a maximum of four (4) contracts;

INSERT:

- 4) The billed days must have been provided under a maximum of five (5) contracts;

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED.