



Invitation to Qualify for the Cyber Security Procurement Vehicle

AMD 002

Solicitation No.	BPM006672	Date	May 12, 2022
-------------------------	-----------	-------------	--------------

This ITQ Amendment No. 002 is raised to:

1. Publish Canada's answers to Supplier questions received during the question period.

1. Publish Canada's answers to Supplier questions received during the question period.

The following table will be updated with the respective Amendment No. and Q&A No. that will form a Q&A repository for Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) for the Cyber Security Procurement Vehicle (CSPV), BPM006672 – Event 8.

AMD 001 – Questions 1 – 12

AMD 002 – Questions 13 to 23

Q&A No.	AMD No.	Question	Answer
1	001	We received this invitation but are already qualified under the CSPV based on the 2019 solicitation. Are we required to respond to this ITQ to maintain our Qualified Respondent status?	No. If you are already a Qualified Respondent under the CSPV you do not need to respond to this ITQ. This is a refresh on the qualification process to allow more vendors the opportunity to be on the CSPV.
2	001	There appear to be discrepancies in the close date , The cover page of the ITQ document states the close date is May 13 however text within the ITQ document in Section 1.2 f) states May 27. Can you please clarify and issue an amendment as appropriate ?	As detailed in Section 1.2 Introduction, article f) – This ITQ has an ongoing qualification process. There are 'waves' in which suppliers can submit their Phase 1 responses to the ITQ. The first closing date or 'wave' is May 13, 2022. The second is May 27, 2022, followed by November 28, 2022 and finishing with May 26, 2023.



Q&A No.	AMD No.	Question	Answer
			<p>This ensures that there are multiple opportunities for suppliers to respond to the ITQ across a longer period of time. For example, if a supplier is unable to have their response submitted by May 13, 2022, they have another opportunity to submit on May 27, 2022 or any of the other dates listed in 1.2 f).</p>
3	001	<p>Do these previously-qualified QRs need to re-compete for QR status, through this 2022 QR, or is this for new qualifiers? 2. If this is a re-compete, when would QR status from 2019 expire?</p>	<p>No, any vendors who are already deemed Qualified Respondents under the CSPV do not need to submit a response to the ITQ.</p> <p>There is no expiration date for a Qualified Respondent status under the CSPV.</p> <p>However, previously qualified QR will be receiving an amendment through SSC's P2P portal which must be signed to remain a QR.</p>
4	001	<p>This morning B&S posted TWO (2) SSC ITQs with the following RFX#s.</p> <p>SSC (ITQ) Cyber Security Procurement Vehicle (CSPV) (BPM006672)</p> <p>SSC (ITQ) Cyber Security Procurement Vehicle (CSP) (BPM006672/19111)</p> <p>Could the Crown please advise if they are SEPARATE ITQs or if they are one and the same?</p> <p>The system will not allow me to download RSS feeds for the second one as it is identifying them as the same.</p>	<p>Our apologies for the confusion.</p> <p>They are the same process.</p> <p>The most accurate posting, with appropriate document attachments, etc. is the following:</p> <p>EN:</p> <p>Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) for the Cyber Security Procurement Vehicle (CSPV) (BPM006672) - Buyandsell.gc.ca</p> <p>FR:</p> <p>Invitation à se Qualifier (ISQ) pour le Mécanisme d'approvisionnement en matière de cybersécurité (MAMC) (BPM006672) - Achatsetventes.gc.ca</p>
5	001	<p>I was unable to download the bid submission form ... and I'm running the latest version of Adobe Reader</p>	<p>If you are having trouble opening any documents, you can try switching web browsers (Chrome, Edge). Alternatively, ensure that you are downloading the</p>

Q&A No.	AMD No.	Question	Answer
			document and opening it using the most up to date version of the Adobe desktop application.
6	001	Can you confirm that the only document to return for Phase 1 is Form 1 (Response Submission Form)	<p>As detailed in Section 3.2 Content of Response:</p> <p>Respondents must complete and submit Form 1 (Response Submission Form) as well as any attachments or other documentation required to demonstrate your compliance with the mandatory requirements in Annex A.</p> <p>Please also note that Appendix 1 to Annex E – Rules of Engagement is also required as part of your preliminary response – as defined in Section 1.1 Definitions c) “Preliminary Response”</p>
7	001	I have 2 vendors we work with that I would like to add under us, however this doesn't appear to be the right venue to do this, as it is different from the last ITQ witch was BPM00XXXX, where we added several vendors.	<p>All interested vendors or suppliers need to qualify on their own under the CSPV and cannot be incorporated under a current CSPV Qualified Respondent.</p> <p>Please do refer to Section 2.4 in the ITQ for further details on "related entities", should that be applicable in this instance.</p>
8	001	<p>I noticed that this RQ is due on May 13 – 2 pm</p> <p>Would it be possible to get an extension on this item ? I ask since it was released on Friday 29 and we lost valuable days over the weekend to review.</p>	<p>At this time, an extension will not be granted for the first closing date of the ITQ Phase 1 Response Submissions.</p> <p>As detailed in Question/Answer 2 above, there is another opportunity for vendors to respond to the ITQ, closing on May 27, 2022, along with two other closing dates beyond that.</p>
9	001	Does the vehicle and Secure Supplier Ecosystem allow for the use of local resellers? We would be interested in participating but we only go to market through our authorized Partner Network. We have several local partners who meet the security requirements in	Any supplier must be a QR to be able to respond and/or Bid any CSPV procurements. This is case, your partner network, i.e. local resellers, would need to be a QR under CSPV. While OEMs are welcome to qualify under CSPV as well,

Q&A No.	AMD No.	Question	Answer
		the SRCL but wanted to confirm that the vehicle would allow for that in competed and/or directed procurements.	they aren't able to choose to 'direct' business to partners who aren't qualified under CSPV.
10	001	Can you please confirm the due date for Phase 1 is May 13, 2022 @ 14:00 EST and that Phase 1 includes all mandatory and rated requirements as outlined in Annex A and Annex B?	<p>As part of an ongoing qualification process, the first closing date for Phase 1 responses is May 13, 2022. Should a respondent not meet that deadline, there are more opportunities to submit Phase 1 responses as outlined in Section 1.2 Introduction – Article f). Phase 2 presentations will be scheduled based on results from Phase 1 evaluation.</p> <p>Annex B does not need to be completed by the Phase 1 submission date(s). Respondents are required to acknowledge the rated requirements in Form 1 – Bid Submission Form, however not required to answer them until Phase 2 begins.</p> <p>Be advised that there is no penalty for not submitting on the first closing date of the ongoing qualification process.</p>
11	001	That Attachment 2.1 to Part 2 - SSC Standard Instructions v1.4 section 1.1(b) which states: "...all questions and comments regarding the solicitation must be submitted by email to the Contracting Authority no later than 10 Federal Government Working Days...before the closing date" be amended to provide time to pose clarification questions. From the time of issuance of this ITQ on Friday, April 29, the 10 FWDs notification window had already elapsed.	<p>As stated in Section 2.3 Questions and Comments a) i. "Questions can be submitted at any time to the Contracting Authority using the P2P portal and may be answered as soon as possible."</p> <p>Therefore, this section of the SSC Standard Instructions v1.4 will not be amended.</p>
12	001	Our understanding after having read through the documents is that the respondent would upload a response to P2P specific to phase 1 (response submission form) only at this time .	<p>See Q/A No. 6 to answer what is required at Phase 1 closing.</p> <p>Yes, you are correct that Phase 1 submissions are required at the closing date(s). Following Phase 1 evaluation,</p>

Q&A No.	AMD No.	Question	Answer
		Once that is reviewed and accepted, we would be contacted to move into phase 2.	respondents will be contacted to proceed to Phase 2.
13	002	<p>Response is via the SSC P2P portal. As far as I can tell, the only documents required for responding in Phase I are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CSPV Form 1 Response Submission (PDF) 2. Org chart/shareholders/directors info as per Mandatory Criteria 3 3. Certifications: please clarify what is expected regarding a & b below, where to find the appropriate documentation, and what the form & structure of the response should take. I've been looking in https://buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/standard-acquisition-clauses-and-conditions-manual/1 to try to understand these certification requirements. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity Certification (not required for Preliminary Response) b. Former Public Servants Certification (not required for Preliminary Response) <p>... is this correct?</p>	Please refer to Q/A No. 6.
14	002	What is the Solicitation No. field at the top of the form?	<p>The Solicitation Number is a unique number to identify a specific sourcing project.</p> <p>In this case BPM006672 is the solicitation number to identify the Invitation to Qualify to the Cyber Security Procurement Vehicle, specifically in P2P.</p>

Q&A No.	AMD No.	Question	Answer
15	002	Under the Mandatory Criteria M1 section, only one function/service can be selected. Since we are compliant in more than one of the Technical Subcategories, can/should we substantiate each one in our response?	Respondents only have to select one of the items from M1 to demonstrate their compliance.
16	002	Under the Mandatory Criteria M3 section, we have hundreds of thousands of customers - are we expected to demonstrate this?	Canada assumes that this question is related to M2, not M3. Related to M2, Respondents only have to demonstrate a), b), or c). If b) is selected, then only 5 customers need to be listed.
17	002	Is it acceptable to simply respond to these requirements in Form 1 without the need to submit a separate document?	In Form 1 – Bid Submission form, there is no text box to respond to M2 and M3 as a text box would not be able to accurately capture the nature of the response. It is suggested that additional documentation be provided to substantiate M2 and M3 fully and be deemed compliant.
18	002	Is it possible to get clarification whether the ITQ is for Information Technology (IT) or also includes Operation Technology (OT) / Industrial Control Systems (ICS)?	This ITQ is intended to assist Shared Services Canada provide SSC, and its partners, with Cyber and Information Technology Security capabilities.
19	002	There is a restriction on the number of categories a company can submit on the response submission form, 10. If we are submitting additional streams is the total number which can be submitted include those already submitted i.e. 10 – the previously submitted and approved or whether it can be 10 additional.	<p>If a vendor is already considered a Qualified Respondent, they do not need to submit a response to the ITQ with different Technical Components selected.</p> <p>The 'Respondent Expertise in Cyber Security' section of the Response Submission Form is not a list of streams to qualify for. QRs will not be excluded from procurement activities if they successfully qualify for the Secure Supplier Ecosystem.</p>
20	002	We have noticed that additional technical items have been added to the Technical Components section on the CSPV Response Submission Form, but only 10 can be selected. If we select 10 different 'Technical Component'	<p>Please refer to Q/A 19 above.</p> <p>You do not need to re-submit a response to the ITQ with different Technical Components selected.</p>

Q&A No.	AMD No.	Question	Answer
		items, does this preclude us from the technical items we submitted in 2019?	If you qualify for the SSE then you have access to all CSPV procurement activities and can respond at your discretion, it is not based on your selections in the 'Respondent Expertise in Cyber Security' section of the Response Submission Form.
21	002	Could you please provide us a summary of past awards, value of contracts issued under CSPV, and any pending initiatives?	In the interest of maintaining the integrity of the Secure Supplier Ecosystem, Canada will not disclose this sensitive information. However, Canada intends to host a CSPV Industry Day with newly, and previously, qualified vendors to discuss past, and pending initiatives.
22	002	In Annex C, can the Crown please clarify if 7c) (protected A & B) are mandatory or rated requirements?	<p>For the purpose of the ITQ, that section is neither a mandatory or a rated requirement.</p> <p>As outlined in Section 2.5 Security Clearance Requirement:</p> <p>"There is no security clearance requirement for the ITQ. There may, however, be a security clearance requirement for phase 3 and there will be a security clearance requirement for Phase 4."</p> <p>Please review this section of the ITQ for further information regarding the preliminary SRCL in Annex C.</p>
23	002	<p>I have a clarification question regarding the Response Submission Form for this ITQ:</p> <p>→ Under Mandatory Criteria 1 of the Response Submission Form, we can only select one option from the list. Is Shared Services Canada asking proponents to respond to only one option under Mandatory Criteria 1, or are we allowed to respond to multiple options? If we can respond to multiple, do we need to submit one form per option?</p>	Please refer to Q/A No. 15 above.

Q&A No.	AMD No.	Question	Answer
24	002	<p>Since this ITQ has an ongoing qualification process, if we submit for May27th, when could we expect to be qualified?</p>	<p>This is dependent on multiple factors, including how many Phase 1 submissions need to be evaluated at each submission date, how many respondents are required to present Phase 2, evaluator availability, etc..</p> <p>Unfortunately, we cannot commit to a timeframe at this point but hope to qualify respondents as quickly as possible.</p>